

ILLINOIS BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION
FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting at Bradley University, April 19, 2019
Minutes Approved May 17, 2019

FAC members/alternates attending and their institutions:

Paul Bialek	at-large (Trinity International University) (via Zoom)
Cynthia Boyce	Lincoln Trail College
Amy Carr	Western Illinois University
Julie Clemens	Illinois Central College
Diane Dean	Illinois State University
Thomas Dowd	Harper College
Randall Egdorf	John Wood Community College
Rick Jones	at-large (South Suburban College)
Meghan Kessler	University of Illinois - Springfield
C. Lucy Park	University of Illinois - Chicago
Mike Philips	Illinois Valley Community College
Devi Potluri	Chicago State University
Linda Saborio	Northern Illinois University
Patricia Saleeby	Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Shawn Shumacher	DeVry University
Kevin Sullivan	Illinois Wesleyan University
Mat Timm	Bradley University
Adam Tournier	at-large (McKendree University)
Larry White	Eastern Illinois University (via Zoom)
Susan Wiediger	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Representatives/Institutions not present:

Michael Bathgate	St. Xavier University
Jasmine Chen	Governor's State University
John D'Anca	at-large (Oakton College)
Steve DePasquale	Kankakee Community College
Marie Donovan	DePaul University
Doug Dowell	Heartland Community College
Carol Gayle	Lake Forest College
Merry Mayer	Wilbur Wright College
Nick Menhart	Illinois Institute of Technology
Gay Miller	University of Illinois - Urbana-Champaign
Lanette Poteete-Young	Judson University
Phyllis Soybel	College of Lake County
Brian Vivona	Northeastern Illinois University
	Lincoln Land Community College

Meeting was called to order at 9:06 by Shawn Schumacher. Mat Timm (host) thanked the folks at BU that assisted with setting up the meeting.

Bradley University Provost Walter Zakahi welcomed us to “the Hilltop” and shared excitement about new construction on campus and the recent win by the speech team (their 42nd national championship). BU’s approach to shared governance and program prioritization started with a new strategic plan. The development of that plan began in Fall 2016 and underwent iterations until all questions were resolved. After approval by Faculty Senate and Board of Trustees, an implementation plan was developed in 2017 and they are currently working on program prioritization. All data and results have been available to the campus on an internally facing website. During discussion, he indicated that program may get closed; they are looking at the upcoming drop in high school graduates as something to be planned for. Criteria for prioritization included demand, centrality to mission, student success, efficiency, productivity, and financial viability. In response to a question about whether ACE fellowships (part of Provost Zakahi’s experience) might lead to groupthink for administrators, the Provost indicated that while possible, this might also be an indicator of the current times leading to common concerns.

Illinois State Senator Dave Koehler (D-46) talked about his path to the legislature and the committees he currently engaged with (education and health care). He stated that we don’t manage healthcare in Illinois – we manage healthcare financing. The teacher shortage is related to supply and demand – pay what folks are worth and you’ll have enough good teachers. He hopes we are now on track for some improvements but it will take time. Things that aren’t in the budget aren’t priorities. Topics during open Q&A:

Regarding Dual Credit – why the burden on K-12 is being increase, and Senate Bill 1501, DK said that folks are seeking short-term fixes that are inexpensive, rather than long term fixes that involve money. Not much is being heard about the dual credit issues that could force community colleges to choose between state law and accreditation. Senate Bill 1501 is dead (although things can always come back). He suggested that IFT or IEA are helpful with some of these issues; more pushback needs to be heard from higher ed. They hear from school board alliances and K-12, but not as much from higher ed – figure out who has that voice and strengthen it.

Regarding the related need for appointments and leadership at IBHE, DK agreed that administration has been slow to appoint. He encouraged that, as an advisory board, we start advising and emphasizing the urgency. There is a bias against big government/institutions and an idea that the local community can solve issues without money.

Talking about funding and the damage that can be done by short-term fixes, DK said the biggest issue coming up with be the fair tax constitutional amendment, which goes on the ballot November 2020. This will be the focus for all good and bad related to government; his view is that Illinois is trying to do what neighboring states like Iowa and Wisconsin have been doing for years. Without revenue for our priorities, how will we reach them? However, the state may need to prioritize what it wants to do and be creative about revenue. DK supports doubling the gas tax, for example.

There was discussion about the proposed pension change bill. The state doesn’t allow municipalities to miss pension payments, but the state does. Have to look forward; comments that this is detrimental to new folks that pay the cost.

Regarding healthcare, DK feels the focus on patient quality outcome (part of Affordable Care Act and Illinois' SMART Act) is the right focus to have. A financially motivated system exacerbates the haves and have-nots.

Regarding updating the Public Agenda as well as the faculty seat on the IBHE, DK asked about our liaison to the Governor's office and whether we can advise the legislature directly. He indicated he would talk to Pat McGuire about the bill to match faculty representation to student representation language.

Shawn Schumacher (FAC Vice-Chair) noted that the next meeting is in Springfield, May 17 and several IBHE staff will be present such as Nyle Robinson and Stephanie Bernoteit. The day before for folks who are down early enough, there will be meetings with legislators. The May meeting is not sponsored, so lunch is on our own. There is a block of rooms at the Drury arranged by Gretchen, the meeting will be at the Illinois Association of School Boards, and dinner will be at Abe's Hideout. Susan Wiediger (FAC Secretary) asked people to think about hosting next year. Mike Philips (Legislative Liaison), explained the format for Thursday May 16 and said he will send out a schedule. Dress is business formal but shod for walking a lot. Information from the working groups can be handed out if approved.

Caucuses met until lunchtime. After lunch we reconvened for about fifteen minutes of feedback on the three draft documents from working groups: Program Prioritization and Consolidation white paper draft – mostly positive comments; This We Believe document “Higher Education Benefits All of Us” – a little wordsmithing, and a suggestion for a future paper on faculty perspective; Dual Credit document “A position paper on Amendments...” – discussion about refocusing on the concerns plus some wordsmithing ideas. Then working groups met until about 2 p.m. when the Business Meeting began.

Minutes from the 22 March 2019 meeting at St. Xavier University were approved.

Bylaws discussion. *Private and Independents* (Adam Tournier) would like to simplify the bylaws language and put information about how representatives are invited into a procedure document that would be easier to amend. They are considering four at-large members without limits on terms, eight members rotating, with all on three-year rotations (although they might go to four if the other caucuses are both at four). They are developing a list that considers geographical and Carnegie classifications to provide balanced perspectives, but there are many institutions in the state that are marked and unresponsive, which complicates planning. *Community Colleges* (Mike Philips) proposed four at larges with staggered terms and a limit of two terms, eight rotating positions and four year terms for all. They worked out a list of invitation order considering various factors including geography, with the idea that if you say no you do not get another invitation until the next time your name comes up. Information about how openings get communicated and when could be added.

There is still some uncertainty about the process for changing the bylaws.

Caucuses reported out. *Private and Independents* (Adam Tournier) primarily discussed bylaws. Adam Tournier was nominated to serve as caucus chair for next year. *Community Colleges*

(Mike Philips) discussed rotations and bylaws. Need to consult with folks not present before at-larges and caucus chair can be decided. *Publics* (Diane Dean) discussed bylaw changes but feel none are necessary for the Public Caucus at this time. Three names are being put forward for the IBHE faculty seat: Devi Potluri, Diane Dean, and Amy Carr. Diane Dean was selected as caucus chair with vice chair Amy Carr. Some issues of internal interest were also discussed.

Working group reports and discussion. *P20* (Linda Saborio): we should each have received an email with requests, which we are expected to forward to the appropriate folks at our institutions. A new copy with an updated due date will be sent as well. They are working on contacting institutions not on the Council. *Program Prioritization and Consolidation* (Amy Carr) shared some ideas as discussion items. Their white paper is done but for any proofreading, and Tom Dowd has put together a PowerPoint based on the points in that document. *IAI* (Patricia Saleeby) has a survey going through Institutional Review at SIUC that will go through Gretchen for distribution once approved. *Dual Credit* (Cynthia Boyce) did a lot of wordsmithing in response to the feedback received; the revision will be shared with the working group members not present and reflected upon prior to sending out for a vote. *This We Believe* (Adam Tournier) did some minor proofreading but otherwise the document is complete. There is some work on a video also. They asked about where the documents go now.

Two members having had to leave, the FAC did not have a quorum to approve the documents presented prior to the meeting.

Adam Tournier made a motion to suspend the quorum rule for the purpose of approving the three documents from the working groups; Julie Clemens seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Adam Tournier made a motion to approve the two documents from This We Believe and the Program Prioritization and Consolidation groups, seconded by Mike Philips. The motion passed unanimously.

Cynthia Boyce made a motion that the dual credit paper, once approved by the working group, be approved electronically; seconded by Rick Jones. The motion passed unanimously.

Sharing the documents with the IBHE before we distribute them is recommended as a courtesy.

Election results from the Elections Committee were read into the record by Adam Tournier: Chair: Marie Donovan; Vice-Chair: Shawn Schumacher; Secretary: Susan Wiediger.

Shawn Schumacher extended thanks to Mat Timm and Bradley University for hosting. The meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Wiediger, FAC Secretary