

**ILLINOIS BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION**  
**FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
Meeting at Illinois Association of School Boards, May 17, 2019  
**Minutes Approved June 6, 2019**

**FAC members/alternates attending and their institutions:**

Michael Bathgate	St. Xavier University
Paul Bialek	at-large (Trinity International University)
Amy Carr	Western Illinois University
John D’Anca	at-large (Oakton College)
Diane Dean	Illinois State University
Steve DePasquale	Kankakee Community College
Marie Donovan	DePaul University
Randall Egdorf	John Wood Community College
Rick Jones	at-large (South Suburban College)
Meghan Kessler	University of Illinois - Springfield
Nick Menhart	Illinois Institute of Technology
Jeanne Okrasinski	Eastern Illinois University
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
Mat Timm	Bradley University
Adam Tournier	at-large (McKendree University)
Brian Vivona	Northeastern Illinois University
Susan Wiediger	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

**Representatives/Institutions not present:**

Cynthia Boyce	Lincoln Trail College
Jasmine Chen	Governor’s State University
Julie Clemens	Illinois Central College
Thomas Dowd	Harper College
Doug Dowell	Heartland Community College
Carol Gayle	Lake Forest College
Merry Mayer	Wilbur Wright College
Gay Miller	University of Illinois - Urbana-Champaign
Lanette Poteete-Young	Judson University
Phyllis Soybel	College of Lake County
Kevin Sullivan	Illinois Wesleyan University
	Lincoln Land Community College

**From IBHE:**

Malinda Aiello, Sophia Gehlhausen Anderson, Stephanie Bernoteit, Gretchen Lohman, Nyle Robinson, Amy Spies

Meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Marie Donovan.

Nyle Robinson, Interim Executive Director, IBHE, expressed hope about the proposed budget. Aim High has started to have an impact and improve perceptions. Most concerns have started to fade. Several priorities:

- 1) Time to rework the master plan. Budget impasse changes the perception of things. Need to work to restore our powerful system with so many options (2yr, 4yr, public, private, etc.). Without funding it is hard to know how to move forward. Would like a lot of input, like last time, but they are thinking about written input, which is less expensive than some other options (public hearings, outside consultants)
- 2) Rebuilding coalition for higher education. During impasse, revolved around “need to fund higher ed”. Group fizzled as impasse ended. Nationwide problem about perception of higher ed, may be particularly bad in Illinois. Looking at a catch-phrase like “check Illinois first” to encourage students to consider Illinois schools. Stakeholders are ready to get involved. They want to have a set of principles for September/October, when there is a meeting of HS counselors (to change that advice to get out of the state).

A related issue is the problem with the Truth in Tuition law, and how that caused universities to increase tuitions by about 10%. We might have the highest freshman tuition and lowest senior. When this started in 2011, it was also a time of financial instability, so that contributed to the problem. For example, Iowa State is #2 in recruiting Illinois students. They set their freshman tuition low, but this year raised tuition by >4%.

The impact of higher ed in Illinois was estimated as 50 billion dollars, and we know that’s low. Getting more out of messaging is needed, as is, work with ISAC

- 3) Work with publics to improve recruitment and retention, modernize forms of delivery (online, competency based education). Will have to be a coalition of the willing. Governor’s office is throwing out the numbers of 65% by 2025 (and we weren’t making enough progress toward the 60% by 2025). Need to improve performance in areas such as URM’s and rural areas. Asian population already above 60%, whites will be at that number in a few years, so...all that progress should, for equity, be from black and Hispanic/Latino. Current overall credential rate is at 51.2%.

Stephanie Bernoteit Deputy Director of Academic Affairs, IBHE, talked about the negotiated rule making process for DOE (federal level). This process requires unanimous agreement on all rules from the stakeholders – and this happened, April 3<sup>rd</sup> this year. There were discussions about: what types of entities accredit (HLC might get reduced in size and scope, but regional accreditation will be retained); faith based institutions and their access; and innovation in education. That latter included considerations of removing the tie to the credit hour and focusing on learning in terms of competencies, but concerns about bad actors suggest that the risks in such an approach are too great at this time. However, there was agreement to allow more room to manage and monitor learning with reference to a “Dear Colleague” letter from President Obama. Rules should be released sometime this summer, with public comment to follow. Once public comments are completed, the DOE must respond to every comment. Implementation could be July or September of 2020.

IBHE staff are also following conversations about reauthorizing the higher education act and associated revisions to the 90/10 rule, which speaks to how institutions of higher ed can access and use federal aid (including veteran benefits) — must have no more than 90% of income from federal sources. Who has access to federal funds was also a thread; stakeholders are interested in alternative ways to get post-secondary credentials (e.g. coding boot camps that use job income percentage to pay tuition after the training).

More locally, they are following conversations about bills — remediation, alternative credits. Have an opportunity to study how to thoughtfully continue improvements to support for all students, without selecting one strategy and mandating a one-size-fits-all option. Some proposals would not work for all, so IBHE wants to recognize all the different models that are being used at various institutions. IBHE staff are always grateful to FAC and our colleagues for providing expert advice when needed for these state and national conversations. IBHE staff, particularly Gretchen, also continue to deal with the catastrophic closing of Argosy earlier this year.

During Q&A, there was more discussion of modernizing forms of instruction. SB indicated that competency based instruction is not a new thing, but resources are an issue. When cost, quality, and access are considered, you typically cannot improve all three. One question is whether we can modularize key learning outcomes to make learning more transparent to students and provide more robust prior learning assessment, particularly to provide a more personalized line of study for the working adult to streamline their degree. Some nationwide institutions that have maximized this have enrollments as large as 100,000. Illinois has some examples and is really exploring this for the early childhood field. The issue of early faculty involvement is well illustrated by this area, where forty faculty fellow from across the state (including Marie Donovan) are working on early childhood competency assessments, after a process that worked with employers and faculty to define robust competencies. Concerns were expressed about students who struggle to move ahead or have fundamental issues (such as English) that may prevent them moving ahead in areas where they have more potential experience/competence, and how keeping up with and supporting those students can become an institutional burden. While we hear about the competent adult finishing quickly, that is more the exception than the typical experience – in a competency model, most students take longer and thus requires changing the way we do our work to stay with that student longer.

Working groups shared summaries of their work with the IBHE staff. *Paul Bialek* talked about *This We Believe's* information about outmigration and money; IBHE staff provided some updated numbers. *Linda Saborio* indicated that collection of data about community P20 interactions continues. *Nick Menhart* talked about the *IAI* survey and the need for more comprehensive data rather than anecdote about problems and successes. This led to some discussion about Illinois' excellen completion after transfer from CC and whether that can be considered in retention and success for four-year institutions. Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) is putting a General Education Common Core (GECC) credential on transcripts now, which will count as a completion for the CC and help at receiving institutions. *Steve DePasquale* talked about how the rapidly changing status of *Dual Credit* legislation; IBHE staff explained that the HS endorsement for Dual Credit would not change the expectations but would put that information on a HS teacher's record. *Amy Carr* discussed *program prioritization and consolidation* as well as the *support of the liberal arts*. This led to discussion of how

competencies related to general education (e.g. critical thinking) can be better expressed. Another issue raised was the idea of another paper discussing the implications and economics of cancelling small classes.

#### Working groups met.

During lunch, Ray Schroeder of University of Illinois – Springfield joined the FAC for information conversation about online initiatives and educational technology. He maintains a curated reading list at his website, [rayschroeder.com](http://rayschroeder.com), which also includes a link to his legacy Google site where many presentations are accessible.

Malinda Aiello, Academic Affairs Associate Director, IBHE, updated the FAC on the Transitional Math (TM) courses ([www.iltransitionalmath.org](http://www.iltransitionalmath.org)). The statewide implementation plan should be adopted by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and ICCB at their June Board meetings. Offering TM courses is not required until the fall of 2020, but several high schools will begin offering in fall of 2019 – so colleges could see folks with the transitional math courses as early as Fall 2020. Using IAI as a model, the statewide Transitional Math Portability Panel has been established. TM courses will be submitted to the panel using an iPlacement system ([www.iplacement.org](http://www.iplacement.org)) similar to the IAI iManage system. High school math teachers along with college and university math faculty will review course submissions to determine alignment to the state’s criteria for approval as a portable transitional course. Successful completion of these courses will be indicated on the student’s high school transcript, however high school transcripts do not have a statewide format so it may be more difficult to show portability for the time being. IAI course approval criteria are broad in order to prevent panel over-reach and ensure flexibility in terms of course content, instructional approaches, and delivery methods at the college / university level; core competencies, grading policies, instructional requirements, etc. are narrowly and clearly defined for TM courses because these are high school courses. IBHE is working to formalize acceptance of TM courses for placement by four-year schools, which are not required by law to accept the courses. The State will begin working on development and implementation of transitional English courses this summer and fall. This is a more difficult issue than math, since IL students are required to take only three years of math but already take four years of English.

During discussion, some concern was expressed about the success of the program, and a comment was made that the transitional math program is already affecting math secondary education programs.

Amy Spies, Academic Affairs Assistant Director, IBHE, discussed the Illinois Open Education Resource initiative. She provided a handout with information about open textbooks that included some peer-reviewed collections; the goal is to create a curated list of OER for the entire General Education curriculum in Illinois. Faculty volunteers are sought to help develop the repository, starting this fall. Initially this will mean a once-a-month meeting, probably as a conference call, and working to review existing materials. To volunteer, contact Amy Spies, [spies@ibhe.org](mailto:spies@ibhe.org), 271-557-7356. Community College faculty could also volunteer through Jeff Newell, Deputy Director for Information Technology at ICCB, [jeff.newell@illinois.gov](mailto:jeff.newell@illinois.gov), 217-558-2066.

Sophia Gehlhausen Anderson, Academic Affairs Assistant Director, IBHE, discussed responses to the Teach Illinois report and ISBE proposed rule changes to part 25. Among the main areas of concern are 1) allowing an endorsement to be added to an existing license by just passing a content exam rather than requiring any additional coursework; and 2) removing requirements of testing and student teaching prior to granting permission to teach in Illinois to someone licensed in another state. She shared a handout that listed some serious concerns expressed about the proposed Teach Illinois recommendations by various K-12 and higher education focused groups (including the letter from the FAC). ISBE's Board supported the proposed rule changes presented by the staff and now the proposed changes have moved forward for public comment. The new Governor appointed an entirely new set of Board members to ISBE since the rules were proposed. Comments from concerned citizens expressing their views to the new Board could be important; public comments are still open through May 27<sup>th</sup> and should be sent to [rules@isbe.net](mailto:rules@isbe.net).

#### Caucuses met.

Marie Donovan (FAC Chair) discussed logistics for June. The Board is planning a very short meeting in June, due to not yet having a new chair and lacking board members. More time-sensitive boards such as university boards of trustees were filled by the Governor Pritzker prior to IBHE spots. FAC is on the agenda for 5-7 minutes with one speaker, which will be Marie. Working groups should send the most recent document or a summary of their work to Maire before the end of next week. The December IBHE meeting is at DePaul. Shawn Schumacher (FAC Vice-Chair) said that Linda Saborio has provided hotel information for June and that will go out soon; using Metro will require some transportation coordination to get to campus. Susan Wiediger (FAC Secretary) said several hosts for next year have volunteered; anyone else interested should get in touch, the sooner the better. All three officers expressed gratitude for re-election

Minutes from the 19 April 2019 meeting at Bradley University were approved.

Discussion of bylaws changes: The Two-year caucus proposes four at-large members with no term limits, with all twelve members of the caucus serving staggered three year terms. The Private and Independent caucus proposes four at-large members with at least one from a not-for-profit and one from a proprietary, with all twelve caucus members serving staggered four year terms. They are working out a rotation that would consider Carnegie classification and well as geographical location.

In additional caucus reports: *Private and Independents* (Adam Tournier) discussed bylaws and whether there were topics on the legislative agenda of particular interest to private and proprietary institutions. They also discussed that there is no reason why private, proprietary, and community colleges could not apply for the open public seats on the IBHE. *Publics* (Diane Dean) shared campus news and brainstormed ideas for next year, such as metrics for retention, STEM enrollments, and a narrative about why students should stay in Illinois. *Two-years* (John

D’Anca) talked primarily about the bylaws, but also nominated John D’Anca for chair for next year. Decisions about at-large seats has to wait on the bylaws decision next month.

Mike Philips (Legislative Liaison), reviewed the conversations that folks were able to have yesterday with an array of legislators: Kelly Burke; Laura Ellman; Carol Ammons (new chair of higher ed committee from Champaign); Dan McConchie; Chris Welch; La Shawn Ford; Bob Morgan; Norine Hammond and Dan Brady; Ed Barberton; Sam Yingling; Elgie Simms, Jr., plus Jesse Ruiz, Assoc Gov; Larry Dietz (president ISU); and dropped info off at a few other offices. Brady specifically invited FAC folks to speak with Higher Ed Working group over the summer, Laura Ellman would like to come to one of our meetings; and Ruiz requested a two-hour meeting over the summer, likely in the Chicago area – Marie will follow up when she sends the CVs for faculty reps to the IBHE. Had 11 folks present yesterday, which is pretty good out of 36. Thanks were extended to Mike for coordinating the scheduling.

Thanks were extended to IASB for hosting us.

The meeting adjourned at 2:39 p.m (Rick Jones motion, John D’Anca second).

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Wiediger, FAC Secretary