

ILLINOIS BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION
FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting via Zoom, October 16, 2020
Minutes Approved November 20, 2020

FAC members/alternates attending and their institutions:

Paul Bialek	at-large (Trinity International University)
Cynthia Boyce	Lincoln Trail College
Amy Carr	Western Illinois University
Julie Clemens	Illinois Central College
Marlon Cummings	Governor's State University
John D'Anca	at-large (Oakton College)
Diane Dean	Illinois State University
Marie Donovan	DePaul University
Thomas Dowd	Harper College
Pennie Gray	Illinois Wesleyan University
Andy Howard	Illinois Institute of Technology
Dan Hrozencik	Chicago State University
Rick Jones	at-large (South Suburban College)
Jennifer Martin	University of Illinois – Springfield
Nataka Moore	Adler University
Mellette Pearce	Black Hawk College
C. Lucy Park	University of Illinois – Chicago
Mike Philips	Illinois Valley Community College
Linda Saborio	Northern Illinois University
Shawn Schumacher	DeVry University
Peter Seely	Benedictine University
Tatiana Tatum	St. Xavier University
Brian Vivona	Northeastern Illinois University
Lichang Wang	Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Larry White	Eastern Illinois University
Susan Wiediger	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

IBHE Members and Staff

Gretchen Lohman, FAC Liaison and Senior Associate Director, Academic Affairs, IBHE
Jaimee Ray, Senior Associate Director, Legislative Affairs, IBHE
Jennifer Delaney, IBHE member

Representatives/Institutions not present:

Steve DePasquale	Kankakee Community College
Jose Lozano	Bradley University
Gay Miller	University of Illinois - Urbana-Champaign

Meeting was called to order at 9:01 by Shawn Schumacher, FAC Chair. Shawn reviewed the agenda and requested feedback about timing for when the meetings are focused on caucuses and working groups. After introductions, Shawn reviewed the questions he planned to discuss with Ginger Ostro (IBHE Executive Director) when they would be able to meet (faculty work related to the strategic plan; Covid-loss; tuition memo; and diversity suspensions related to the President's executive order), and also gave some topics for discussion during caucus meetings. Julie Clemens, FAC Vice-Chair, reported Northeastern Illinois University will be our virtual host next month – Brian Vivona will be sharing his intern research as part of that. Sue Wiediger, FAC Secretary, reported that there were no adjustments to minutes as sent; corrections to working group or membership lists are always welcomed.

Gretchen Lohman, Senior Associate Director for Academic Affairs and IBHE liaison, reported that invitations have been sent to four private and four community college institutions – one response so far (welcome Peter from Benedictine!) and hope to hear from the others before the November meeting. Faculty senate members or chairs were cc'd along with the top administrator.

Gretchen was able to discuss a couple of Shawn's questions with Ginger Ostro. Strategic plan: sent out survey to share – deadline is extended to the 30th. Meeting to review those results has been postponed until later in October. When they have that meeting, it would be like a public board meeting – which means we could request public comment, as at any board meeting, but otherwise it is for the board. Please share the survey broadly – it can go to anyone. A question was asked about what opportunities there might be for broader input, and whether we can see the entire survey.

Covid-loss is a topic of interest to the P20 council. The FAC might help with that topic, perhaps through a white paper on the faculty perspective. Covid-loss refers to the HS-college transition problems due to the loss of spring semester – of course, there are also other issues, such as losses in reading skills, etc. Such a document would need to be quick – by the end of November. Even if information is anecdotal, what losses are being seen and what is being done to try and deal with those losses, whether to bridge gap or aid in completion of degrees.

Did not get to the other two items due to limited time; the next Board meeting is December the 8th. However, regarding the executive order, an important comment is that the IBHE remains committed to diversity and equity, and that hasn't changed. Trying to think about affordability, equity, access, and a plan for the state.

Jaimee Ray, IBHE Senior Associate Director, reported that she has been in fall budget meetings. ISAC and ICCB are testifying as are special interest groups such as the partnership for college completion. Meetings are happening at the request of black caucus and there are also criminal justice meetings.

Mike Philips, FAC Legislative Liaison, mentioned that Senator Pat McGuire is retiring at the end of this term. Mike encourages faculty and students to vote – more voters means more attention, since legislators know what groups vote – and it doesn't matter what/who they voted for, since the legislators don't know that. Marie Donovan added that there is a national model of mini-grants to universities to pay students to become knowledgeable about online voter registration

and processes for voting to educate their fellow students and encourage voting through initiative such as videos in classrooms.

Caucuses met and reported out:

Community College Caucus: (Cyndi Boyce) Regarding the topic of dual credit, there are definitely problems but may be important to narrow focus to what we can do, and pay attention to the intersection with the working group white paper. With regard to President Trump's executive order related to diversity training, the focus of that is on federal funds.

Public Caucus: (Amy Carr) People are gathering information but are not sure how it will be used for the strategic plan. Dan Hrozencik is going to review the existing strategic plan. Dual credit is probably pending the strategic plan, since that is a logical area to provide the information that was gathered last year. For voter registration, might also look to Political Science departments and existing programs. There was some general discussion of enrollment and union contract-negotiated issues related to the pandemic.

Private Caucus: (Paul Bialek) Some resources (such as the Society for the Advancement of Biology Education Research unit on equity in biology and biology education, https://saberbio.wildapricot.org/Diversity_Inclusion) related to equity and diversity were shared; there was also the point made that diversity in administration is also important, in addition to faculty and students. When Black students ask for something, the result is often better for all students, not only Black students. Once the election is over, there is hope for the result to be accepted and that there will be opportunities for critical thinking related to impacts and issues.

Working groups met and reported out:

Dual Credit/Transfer/Online & Remote Learning: (Amy Carr, Dual Credit; Andy Howard, Transfer, Gay Miller, Online & Remote Learning). Transfer is less of an issue now because the questions that had been raised are mostly addressed already. Focus this meeting was on dual credit. Melette Pearce's work on the document was recognized, and the document should come out in a couple of weeks for people to comment on so that it can be voted on at the November meeting.

Performance Based Funding: (Mike Philips). Group members have divided up the 50 states and DC and are looking at what is in place in every state. What is next is looking at key metrics, such as enrollment, progress towards degrees, retention, workforce development, sometimes pulling out underserved groups, and other issues. In general, not much money is involved; does this lead to people ignoring the expectations or is compliance seen as part of mission fulfilment? The group is watching for unintended consequences.

Student Mental Health: (Sue Wiediger). Great focus group info from Nataka regarding peer mentoring and role models being better than the peer support that is specified in the bill. Shifting model from provider/student ratios to specifying a minimum level of care provided could be beneficial. The group talked through our topics and created an updated document for further work in November. Then, hopefully, the document can be shared with IBHE Staff (Gretchen and Jaimee) to get input about how to frame it to be useful to legislators.

Equity: Racial issues: (Julie Clemens) They have identified three goals for the year, in addition to reading "Equity Talk to Equity Walk": 1st: create a repository for books, articles, videos, etc.,

related to equity and higher education. 2nd: Compose a position statement regarding protection of faculty and staff in higher education who do racial equity and justice work. Tenure committees, administrators, and also boards of trustees need to assure faculty and staff will be safe if they engage in activist and justice-related work on their campuses or in their communities. 3rd: Based on a request from Stephanie Bernoteit, contributing to a database dashboard on IBHE's website relating to equity information -- what kind of data and how would we make that accessible to faculty, to make choices and decisions to reduce equity gaps?

P20: (Pennie Gray) Work on the heat map continues. They've seen a sample and it looks good, so still working on that.

There was a short discussion of upcoming meetings, including a clarification that the November meeting is still virtual – NEIU hosting is a virtual hosting, during which they will provide a presentation and we can learn about some of their initiatives. Shawn asked for feedback about the format for this month's meeting, with the extended caucus and working group times.

Meeting adjourned 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Wiediger, FAC Secretary