



MINUTES

IBHE FAC Meeting
May 14th-15th, 2026

State Capital (May 14th)
Illinois Association of School Boards (May 15th)
2921 Baker Drive
Springfield, Illinois 62703

FAC members/alternates attending and their institutions

In person:

Patrick Crawford	Augustana College
Dan Hrozencik	Chicago State University
Marie Donovan	DePaul University
Shawn Schumacher	DeVry University
Nicole Zeller	Eastern Illinois University
Shaalein Lopez	Governors State University
Nkechi Onwuameza	IBHE Director of Academic Strategy and Quality
Greg Ferrence	Illinois State University
Mike Phillips	Illinois Valley Community College (at-large)
Lara Hernandez Corkrey	Moraine Valley Community College
Jason Edgar	Morton College
Juan Martinez	Northeastern Illinois University
Tiffany Puckett	Northern Illinois University
Paul Bialek	Oakton Community College
Kristina Burgess	Rosalind Franklin University
Lichang Wang	Southern Illinois University-Carbondale
Sue Wiediger	Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville
Tena Helton	University of Illinois- Springfield
Amy Carr	Western Illinois University

Absent:

Mary Laundry	Adler University
Daniel J. Coles	Aurora University
Patricia Saleeby	Bradley University
Stacy Kosier	Carl Sandburg College
Allison Douglas	Elgin Community College

Andy Howard	Illinois Institute of Technology
Jack Haines	Joliet Junior College
Matt Landrus	Lake Land College
Cynthia Boyce	Lincoln Trail College (at-large)
Jessica McDonald	Olney Central College
James Marshall	Rockford University
Mary Ellen Schiller	Roosevelt University
John Cooksey	Truman College, City College of Chicago
Tyrone Forman	University of Illinois-Chicago
Gay Miller	University of Illinois- Urbana Champaign
Tosha Baker	Wabash Valley College

- 9:00 **Chair Dan Hrozencik (CSU)**, Call to order and Introduction of Ginger Ostro, Executive Director at the IBHE. She begins talking about one-click college admit program, in hopes that it becomes more of a matching process between the student and the institution. This would also work for transfer students. To date, thousands of students have used the process with success. The big focus is for the campus to work with the students and get them to the campus in the Fall. She then transitioned to data housing, an updated dashboard, and student needs. She said that she ties all of this because of funding in the form of grants. She said that grant money has increased for fiscal 2027.
- 9:11 **Mike Phillips (IVCC)** asked a question about the funding formula and she said she didn't know what to expect, but updated modeling has been sent to the sponsors. She says work has continued through the legislative process. **Tiffany Pickett (NIU)** asked if there were any questions or concerns about enrollment funding or increase in enrollment. Ginger said they are paying attention to trends and that first-year enrollment is up. Funding hasn't been a challenge except at institutions with not enough dorms for students. There are increases overall in acceptance, especially in minority and rural student. **Sue Wiediger (SIUE)** said they may already be seeing these numbers. She wondered if its possible that students are enrolling in more than one school. Ginger said they can accept multiple offers but to be counted as enrolled they must go through the complete enrollment process. **Amy Carr (WIU)** asked about the deferred maintenance and whether it has changed from last year. Ginger discussed that and capital renewal. In the last two weeks, the Governor's Office of Management and Budget has released the remaining capital funds, with those dollars going to design for those projects. She talked about the different types of projects that included HVAC and roofing.
- 9:23 **Mike Phillips (IVCC)** talked about the FAC at the Capital, and said that UIUC puts a brick on a lot of educational policy, and asked her thoughts on UIUC having a large amount of pull on a number of policies. Ginger said there is always a dynamic with the larger institutions. She said that there are benefits in large groups that can counter balance a large voice. **Chair Dan Hrozencik (CSU)** asked about bachelor's degrees being offered at community colleges and she said it is still in the legislative process and that anything can happen in last two weeks of May.

9:28 **Greg Ferrence (ISU)** gave a report from the technology working group, saying that the group is working on an AI paper that would help the IBHE with multiple areas intertwined in the topic area. He asked Ginger what they should focus on because the AI topic is so vast, and she said focusing on the workplace and employers and how they are using AI and making sure the students are prepared for that real world.

9:40 **Juan Martinez (NEIU)** spoke for the student needs group and said they are putting together a survey and shared the contents of that survey. **Amy Carr (WIU)** spoke for the early college group and that they are working on NACEP; Ginger said that early college is always on the mind of IBHE. **Marie Donovan (DePaul)** discussed PLA. **Paul Bialek (Oakton)** discussed accommodations, and **Sue Wiediger (SIUE)** asked about A Thriving Illinois. Ginger discussed the policy and said that there were three key areas: pathways to completion, affordability, and talent/workforce development.

BREAK

10:10 **Chair Dan Hrozencik (CSU)** brought the meeting back to order by discussing the meeting on June 17th and mentioned that the meeting will also include lunch with IBHE. **Jason Edgar (Morton)** said he would have the RSVP list by May 28th to Trish and the FAC executives. He also asked about getting their working group papers to him by that date as well. He then transitioned to next year's schedule.

10:24 **Secretary Jason Edgar (Morton College)** discussed the new hosting obligations document, the posting of the April minutes online along with other finalized draft minutes, and a resolution acknowledging the contributions of Chair Dr. Daniel Hrozencik upon his retirement from the council, attached at the conclusion of these minutes. SS moved for approval of the resolution. Motion passed by unanimous consent.

10:32 **Legislative Liaison Mike Phillips, IVCC**, reflected on their day at the capital. They started with nine FAC members and ended with seven. They talked with multiple legislators both in meetings and hallway interactions, including with Senator Castro. He discussed the views of some legislators, including more help on transferring from the institutions themselves. He said the funding bill is still active. He said there are a few bills moving on academic freedom and student support. He said that a lot of legislators are interested in 90 degree bachelor's degree, which led to a rapid discussion about the issues concerning three year degrees and 90 credit degrees.

10:58 Nkechi Onwuameza, IBHE Director of Academic Strategy and Quality, gave a report from the IBHE.

LUNCH BREAK

12:30 Caucus Meetings

1:15 Working Groups

2:00 Reports

Technology working group- discussed their wrap up paper for the year regarding AI.

Equity working group- discussed accommodations are great if they are used. They also discussed how accommodation officers are not responsible for whether or not their accommodation are working towards their careers.

Faculty and Student Mental Health working group- working on drafting a lit review over the summer.

Early College Credit working group- working on a comparison between NACEP and the dual credit quality act.

Student Needs working group- they are continuing to work on the basic needs survey.

Two-Year Caucus- discussed TRIO funding, ADA compliance, that Moraine Valley may host in the Spring 2028, and that the next meeting may have a Tuesday dinner.

Independent Schools Caucus- worked on the paper being presented to the IBHE

Public Institutions Caucus- discussed their paper being presented to the IBHE, along with ADA compliance

2:21 Chair Dan Hrozencik, CSU, sought a motion to adjourn. GF with the second. Unanimous consent.

Minutes respectfully submitted by *Secretary Jason Edgar, Morton College*

Submitted Items: Resolution regarding Dan's tenure at FAC