

**ILLINOIS BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION
FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Meeting at Lincoln Land Community College, April 7, 2015

Minutes approved May 15, 2015

FAC members/alternates attending and their institutions:

Sonya Armstrong (NIU)
John Bennett (at large, Lake Land College)
Darcel Brady (Olivet Nazarene University)
Amy Carr (WIU)
Vicki Childs (UIS)
Steve DePasquale (at-large, Kankakee Community College)
Stan Hatfield (Southwestern Illinois College)
Andy Howard (at-large, IIT)
Irene Jacobsen (EIU)
Rick Jones (South Suburban College)
Alejandro Mayer (Midwestern University)
Patricia McNicholas (Robert Morris University)
Dawn Munson (Elgin)
Lucy Park (UIC)
Devi Potluri (CSU)
Steven Rock (WIU)
Shawn Schumacher (DeVry)
Raymond Torralba (Truman College)
Adam Tournier (McKendree)
Kevin Weston (Rend Lake College)
Christopher Whitt (Augustana College)
Susan Wiediger (SIUE)
Amanda Winters (IBHE)
Renee Wright (Triton)

Representatives/Institutions not present:

Abbas Aminmansour (UIUC)
Daniel Beach (at-large, Dominican University)
Terry Clark (SIUC)
Dan Cortese (GSU)
John D'Anca (at-large, Oakton College)
Marie Donovan (at-large, DePaul)
Hope Essien (Malcolm X)
Michael Gizzi (ISU)
Luisette Hernandez-Medina (Daley College)
Lisa Hollis-Sawyer (NEIU)
Marjorie Johnson-Hilliard (Northwestern)
Ray Meredith (Parkland College)
Duce McCune (Eureka)
Sara Ray Stoelinga (University of Chicago)

IBHE Staff Members present:

Gretchen Lohman

Amanda Winters

Steve Rock called the meeting to order at 9:06am and asked Andy Howard to serve as secretary for the meeting. Marie Donovan, vice-chair, was unable to attend, so her report was delayed. Steve had nothing to report as secretary.

Gretchen Lohman provided the IBHE staff report. In the Academic Affairs office one recent internal hire occurred, and Kevin Schoebin has been appointed to the role of Deputy Director for Fiscal Affairs. She noted that the move from the old offices to the new is nearly complete, but phone and email connectivity is still somewhat problematic. She said that her non-state email address, Gretchen.Lohman@gmail.com, is functional. The new offices are at 1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 333; the phone numbers for all the staff have been preserved. The new offices are more spacious and nicer than the old ones, and the rent is cheaper. She noted that questions related to dual credit will be discussed at the IBHE meeting on the day of this meeting. The Faculty Fellow for the upcoming term has been selected: she is Prof. Patricia Saleeby, an assistant professor of social work at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, and will be studying issues related to students with disabilities. As such she will be interacting with the FAC and with the Disability Advisory Council.

Steve called on Steve DePasquale to present the report of the FAC Nominating Committee. Steve DePasquale noted that Marie Donovan has been nominated for the position of Chair; Devi Potluri and Shawn Schumacher are running for Vice-Chair; and Steve has been nominated as secretary. Steve explained the voting procedure, under which each represented college or university gets one vote, as do the at-large delegates. Voting is by email to him with cc to Sonya Armstrong, and will be open during a one-week period that will begin once he (Steve) has a reliable list of members—probably about a week after this meeting. He noted that these votes are often close, and encouraged everyone to vote.

The candidates made brief statements. Devi proposed an increasing emphasis on public relations, dealing with reductions in force, and summarized his own experience at Chicago State and in the FAC. Shawn noted that he has been with the FAC for seven years and has been active from the beginning. He proposed a continued emphasis on issues related to teacher preparation and access to higher education. He has enjoyed working with Steve DePasquale, Sonya Armstrong, and others in his role as Caucus Chair and in overseeing the Faculty Fellows project. He understands the logistic aspects of being vice-chair. He believes the most significant issues in the near future will be accessibility and affordability.

Andy noted that Marie had sent in a Vice-chair's report and a Candidate's statement: he read both to the Council. In her Vice-chair's report, she noted that student governments and their institutional administrative teams around the state are preparing for a MAP rally and lobby day in Springfield on April 20th. FAFSA filings by Illinois HS seniors climbed

to over 51%, as of early March, a continued and significant increase. Student Government Associations across the state met at UIUC on 3/27 to discuss their issues and concerns about textbooks—costs, formats, and relevance. SGAs would like faculty support and advice as they move forward with this initiative. She encouraged FAC members to volunteer to join this effort, and emphasized that she is still unsure of the students' specific needs, so a statement of interest now will not imply a commitment. The College Changes Everything 2015 conference will be held in Tinley Park on 16 July. This is now an annual event: it brings together 2- and 4-year institutions, ISAC, and other agencies. She will send an email to everyone on the Council about this. She ended by recognizing the many contributions of Abbas Aminmansour, who recently resigned as chair of the FAC; she encouraged the Council to join her in thanking Abbas.

In her candidate's statement, Marie emphasized shared governance and faculty activism. She noted that we are facing many challenges that require our attention, and noted that the FAC is the ideal group to do the work necessary to educate and guide the Agency and the Board in the difficult decisions ahead. She asked for the support of the Council for her and for her desire to lead the group in actualizing the influence we hold for ensuring shared governance in Illinois' institutions of higher education.

Steve Rock gave a brief statement regarding his fitness for the secretary's job.

The Council then split up for Caucus meetings, where the emphasis will be on preparing questions to bring to the IBHE's attention in their afternoon meeting.

When the FAC reconvened, Steve explained the plans for the lunch with the Board. Sue Wiediger noted that the Doodle Poll for the May meeting has not been posted yet. The meeting will be Friday 15 May at SIUE, with lodging at the Country Hearth Inn & Suites in Edwardsville. Plans for dinner will be provided soon. She said a significant issue will be transportation. The nearest Amtrak station is 20 miles away, so she will need to know if anyone wants a ride from that station. Similarly, flying to Lambert Field in St Louis is feasible, but there is no public transport to Edwardsville from there; again, she'll try to arrange for transport if anyone needs it. The Illinois Education Research Council is headquartered at SIUE and will send a representative to give a report on their recent activities at the May meeting.

Shawn gave the Independent Caucus's report: he will ask the Board about continuing and perhaps expanding the Faculty Fellows program, and about the FAC's desire to have the Staff Liaison attend more than one or two meetings per year.

Steve DePasquale said the Community College Caucus's questions would relate to dual credit and transfer issues. The Council discussed these issues briefly, and Amanda explained what the Board would be discussing that afternoon about dual credit.

Sue gave the public 4-year Caucus's report. She said she would begin by emphasizing the faculty perspective on the budget issues. She will note the difficulties that students have in getting the classes they need, and the resulting difficulties they have in finishing

degrees on time. She also noted the difficulties that arise from the universities' cash-flow problems: lab classes have to be modified because universities cannot pay their bills for supplies. These kinds of problems lead to degradation of academic quality and increase the likelihood of brain drain. All of this makes the possibility of "60 by 2025" more remote. She noted that the FAC needs to find ways to get that story out.

The Council then held a brief business meeting. The March meeting minutes were addressed: it was noted that the graduation rates presented there were college graduation rates, not high school graduation rates. Steve DePasquale moved for approval of those minutes, and Pat McNicholas seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Council members were encouraged to attend at least part of the IBHE meeting after the luncheon: a number did so. The FAC then adjourned and joined the IBHE for a lunch meeting. At that meeting, IBHE Chair Lindsay Anderson introduced Steve Rock, and he called on Dr. Applegate, Shawn Schumacher, and Sue Wiediger to present their reports and questions. Dr. Applegate asked if the FAC could assemble a brief paper describing the impact of budget cuts on students' educational experiences. Steve assured him that the FAC is assembling such a document now.

Lindsay then introduced Chris Wiseman, President of St Xavier University and a member of the Higher Education Consortium. Dr. Wiseman noted that education has lost control of the conversation about budgets and needs to invite itself back in.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Howard, Acting Secretary