

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

Meeting at Governors State University, October 17, 2014

**Minutes approved November 21, 2014**

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

Abbas Aminmansour (UIUC)  
Daniel Beach (at-large, Dominican University)  
John Bennett (at large, Lake Land College)  
Darcel Brady (Olivet Nazarene University)  
Victoria Childs (UIS)  
Terry Clark (SIUC)  
Dan Cortese (GSU)  
John D'Anca (at-large, Oakton College)  
Steve Depasquale (at-large, Kankakee Community College)  
Marie Donovan (at-large, DePaul)  
Stan Hatfield (Southwestern Illinois College)  
Ellen Hay (Augustana College)  
Luisette Hernandex-Medina (Daley College)  
Lisa Hollis-Sawyer (NEIU)  
Andy Howard (at-large, IIT)  
Dan Hrozencik (CSU)  
Matthew Hurt (Parkland College)  
Marjorie Johnson-Hilliard (Northwestern)  
Rick Jones (South Suburban College)  
Alejandro Mayer (Midwestern University)  
Patricia McNicholas (Robert Morris University)  
Dawn Munson (Elgin)  
C. Lucy Park (UIC)  
Devi Potluri (CSU)  
Steven Rock (WIU)  
Shawn Schumacher (DeVry)  
Paul Stoddard (NIU)  
Raymond Torralba (Truman College)  
Adam Tournier (McKendree)  
Susan Wiediger (SIUE)

**Representatives/Institutions not present:**

Hope Essien (Malcolm X)  
Theresa Gilbert (Rock Valley)  
Mike Gizzi (ISU)  
Les Hyder (EIU)  
Duce McCune (Eureka)  
Sara Ray Stoelinga (University of Chicago)  
Kevin Weston (Rend Lake College)  
Renee Wright (Triton)

**From IBHE:**

Ocheng Jany

The meeting began at 9:05 a.m. Dan welcomed us to campus and introduced Provost Deborah Bordelon, who is in her second year. Previously, she was Dean of the College of Education and Graduate Studies. GSU was founded in 1969 as a baccalaureate completion institution with graduate programs. This year, it has expanded with a freshman class of 242 students; it is a unique program with a cohort model and utilizing best practices. Its first residential housing facility (Prairie Place) has opened. Many GSU students come from community colleges and seamless transitions are the goal. A question and answer session followed:

Marie: Is anyone studying the way you are changing?

Bordelon: Not yet, but links are being established.

Dan B.: How have community colleges reacted to your adding freshmen?

Bordelon: We had the full support of community colleges. We will not recruit from them. 270 freshmen is the current limit.

Pat: Will you award Associates degrees?

Bordelon: No, it is a four year program.

Ocheng: Illinois public universities do not offer two year degrees except in very limited cases.

Marjorie: Where are your students coming from who are in the health field?

Bordelon: Some have their bachelors, some start here.

Lucy: What about your tuition and funding?

Bordelon: We did not raise tuition this year. Classes are now being offered in the daytime; headcount and course loads have increased. The financial grounding is solid. We have the lowest tuition and fees for public Illinois universities.

Darcel: How have the faculty adapted?

Bordelon: Very positively. The campus is much more vibrant.

Dan C.: There were some issues with faculty now teaching 18 and 19 year old students.

Bordelon: Some new faculty have been hired to cover the Gen Ed courses.

Raymund: How are the cohorts structured?

Bordelon: As a learning community centered around themes with continuity and flexibility.

Abbas reported that he was on a plane with IBHE Executive Director Applegate and they discussed higher education funding.

Marie attended the last IBHE meeting; there, Ocheng was recognized for his 33 years at IBHE. The program approval backlog has been reduced. There are three working groups considering affordability, increases in nontraditional learners, and advocacy.

Michael joined us by phone. Open positions in Academic Affairs at IBHE are being recruited for and filled. The December 12<sup>th</sup> FAC meeting will be hosted by IBHE in Springfield. There is a need to solicit applicants for the Faculty Fellows positions, especially for the spring semester. Dan C. asked if those faculty need to be on sabbatical.

Michael indicated they do not; however there is currently only a \$2500 stipend for a Fellow. Ocheng added that an institution could provide support such as release time.

We were next joined by a member of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee at Chicago State University, Robert Bionaz. He outlined the situation leading up to the recent Board of Trustees non-recognition of their Senate. In September 2011, the University reorganized without faculty input. Their Senate decided to change their membership structure as a result. In September 2013, the administration began to question the legitimacy of the Senate and its structure. The Senate held an election in early 2014 which the administration alleges had irregularities. Last month, the Board informed the Senate that it was no longer recognized. A letter has been sent from the Senate to the Board answering most of their questions. The current situation is in limbo. The Faculty Senate has voted no confidence in the President and Provost twice, from which there has been no response. The national AAUP has written a letter, but no one is listening. The Board has a recent history of ignoring faculty. Legislators, the media, the Higher Learning Commission, and the Governor don't seem to care. Students are apathetic. Enrollment is dropping. The FAC discussed what it might be able to do or recommend about the situation.

Abbas indicated that UIUC is still discussing the Salaita case. There is much concern and the faculty is split. Apparently, the Board is willing to settle. The national AAUP has weighed in. A Faculty Senate Committee is further investigating.

Caucuses met.

Dan introduced President Elaine Maimon, who is in her eighth year. She is a Professor of English and a faculty member at heart. She wants to see students be independent writers and thinkers. GSU has set up a planning and budgeting council that is transparent. A strategic plan was also developed and the two are linked. GSU matches their mission with fiscal planning, taking account the needs of underserved students. They have worked out better communication and linkages with community colleges. Substantial research and planning went into their decision to bring in freshmen.

A resolution of appreciation for Ocheng Jany's service to the IBHE and the FAC was read. Ocheng is retiring at the end of the month. He was presented with a framed photograph of him taken at a previous FAC meeting.

Following lunch, the Caucuses reported. Dan B. stated for the Privates that David Tretter will be invited to our December meeting. They talked about MAP funding and are planning on writing a white paper on the subject. John D. indicated the community colleges discussed the situation at CSU, the continuity of leadership at our faculty governance bodies, student counseling being faced with reduced funding and the absence of mental health professionals on campus (especially for veterans), and the impact of requiring a baccalaureate requirement for nursing. For the Publics, Devi mentioned an interest in shared governance and looking at a previous FAC paper on the subject. Also of interest was keeping up the quality of education with declining funding and still

supporting the Public Agenda. John B. noted the importance of identifying best practices and areas of concern with shared governance.

The minutes from our September 19<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved with two abstentions. There is a need for us to get active in soliciting applications for the Faculty Fellowship positions. Those who applied in the past and were not selected could reapply. It might be helpful to note on the application that IBHE would work with institutions to provide support. Can we get IBHE to communicate with Presidents and Chief Academic Officers to agree to provide support for the program? We could send a list of the topics IBHE is interested in; these are listed on their web site. We could write a grant to the Gates Foundation for support. The FAC members of the selection committee are: Ellen, Renee, and Aida.

Ideas for our December meeting include: the impact of the election on higher education, Guided Pathways for Success, dialog on issues such as shared governance, and how can we better advise the IBHE.

Thanks were extended to Dan C. and GSU for hosting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Rock,  
FAC Secretary