

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

Meeting at Midwestern University, September 18, 2015

Minutes approved October 16,2015

FAC members/alternates attending and their institutions:

Abbas Aminmansour (UIUC)
Sonya Armstrong (NIU)
Daniel Beach (at-large, Dominican University)
John Bennett (at large, Lake Land College)
Paul Bialek (Trinity International)
Darcel Brady (Olivet Nazarene University)
Vicki Childs (UIS)
Terry Clark (SIUC)
John D'Anca (at-large, Oakton College)
Diane Dean (ISU)
Marie Donovan (at-large, DePaul)
Mike Gizzi (ISU)
Ellen Hay (Augustana College)
Stan Hatfield (Southwestern Illinois College)
Luisette Hernandez (Daley College)
Irene Jacobsen (EIU)
Marjorie Johnson-Hilliard (Northwestern)
Rick Jones (South Suburban College)
Lisa Knecht-Sabres (Midwestern University)
James Marshall (Illinois College)
Alex Meyer (Midwestern)
Dawn Munson (Elgin)
Lucy Park (UIC)
Devi Potluri (CSU)
Steven Rock (WIU)
Shawn Schumacher (DeVry)
Sara Ray Stoelinga (University of Chicago)
Raymond Torralba (Truman College)
Adam Tournier (McKendree)
Susan Wiediger (SIUE)
Renee Wright (Triton)

Representatives/Institutions not present:

Dan Cortese (GSU)
Steve DePasquale (at-large, Kankakee Community College)
Hope Essien (Malcolm X)
Lisa Hollis-Sawyer (NEIU)
Andy Howard (at-large, IIT)
Matthew Hurt (Parkland College)
Kevin Weston (Rend Lake College)

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am. Marie passed out a sheet of information on the four IBHE Action Teams and indicated that FAC members would be able to participate on these. We were joined by Karen Nichols, who is Dean of the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine at Midwestern. She talked about the history of Osteopathic medicine and the Chicago College, highlighting some of the differences between MDs and DOs. Midwestern now has 10 colleges, 2 campuses, and 6500 students. They are sponsoring the first annual One Health Day Conference on October 8 and a brochure about this was passed out.

Gretchen Lohman from IBHE reported that they are beginning the formation of the Commission on the Future of the Work Force, which will formally start in January. Jim Applegate will chair. All three college sectors will be represented. The Commission relates to Goal 3 of the Public Agenda. There are a couple of new items on the IBHE web site. One involves the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA); this establishes comparable national standards for interstate offering of postsecondary distance education courses and programs. The second item is a federal requirement, the Online Complaint System involving institutions. The Faculty Fellows program is on hold pending a budget resolution. There is also going to be a report on low performing programs that don't meet selected thresholds (using a five year average) at institutions; they will be given an opportunity to respond.

Candace Mueller from IBHE noted no movement on the budget and that higher education funding and MAP grants do not fall under any court orders. The Senate Higher Education Committee will hold hearings over the next couple of weeks at various campuses. The next IBHE meeting will be October 6 at Roosevelt University.

Marie informed us that the IBHE intersected with our public comments and concerns about the new teacher licensing requirements (edTPA). ISBE is now aware and willing to investigate. On August 12, the FAC Executive Committee met to consider agenda planning for the year. One initiative is to increase interaction with the Student Advisory Committee. As a start, Marie and Devi will go to their first meeting on October 3rd. The SAC is interested in textbook costs. Another idea is a public relations campaign to improve our image. Devi has a contact at the Chicago Tribune. We need to get the word out about the importance of higher education, the innovations that have been spawned, and the social benefits. We should work with Candace (Government Relations at IBHE). We need a way to juice up the message to be of interest to readership. All the public hears now are the scandals and the outrageous perks for a few.

The continuing issue of prior learning assessment for military personnel was noted. A report on how and what our institutions are doing will be distributed soon. A Task Force on this subject requires faculty and our caucuses will be asked to find volunteers. We are also looking to have faculty participation on the IBHE Action Teams. Some members of our Executive Committee plan to meet with Executive Director Applegate the day before the next IBHE meeting.

Shawn will prepare the Doodle poll for our upcoming meetings. Hosts should let him know details on meals, transportation, and hotel as early as possible. We are all asked to respond to the polls when requested.

Abbas informed us that UIUC has instituted criminal background checks for all new employees. Other institutions are implementing these as well. This might be extended to graduate students.

For the Public Caucus, Devi noted the following volunteers for Action Teams: Advocacy--Vicki, Affordability--Steve and Diane, Attainment Gaps--Devi. For the IBHE seat for a current public university faculty member the following are proposed: Devi, Terry, and Diane. There was a discussion of whether to just put forth one name, three names, and/or rank them. Issues of interest to the Caucus include: academic freedom and the need to look at and tighten the FAC mission to be more effective and efficient. For the latter, we might look for a facilitator; perhaps someone on the IBHE staff could help. It was suggested that advocacy needs to be student centered.

For the Community College Caucus, John D. offered the following volunteers: Attainment Gaps--Renee, Advocacy--Luisette, Affordability--John D. For prior learning assessment for military, Renee suggested Julie Gilbert from her campus. The Caucus suggested highlighting the social benefits of higher education, as we previously heard from Walter McMahon. How do we package our message for a non-academic audience? Social media is needed. One current issue identified was shared governance and its role in decision making on issues such as consolidation of programs at community colleges.

For the Private Caucus, Adam nominated as volunteers: Attainment Gap--Sara, Increasing Non-Traditional and Adult Degree Completion--Shawn. Adam was interested in prior learning assessment for military. Andy was elected as caucus chair. Issues of interest include reaching out for public relations purposes, branding/image challenge, and social media ideas. Who is our intended audience? What is unique about higher education in Illinois? Devi noted that the Publics may have restrictions on using social media.

Names for others interested in participating on the Action Teams can be sent to Marie.

Steve R., who was recently elected as a Trustee for SURS, gave a presentation on the state of the retirement system and the challenges ahead.

The minutes from our June 19th meeting were approved. Abbas was thanked for hosting our web site until now. Devi has received permission to host our web site at CSU and is in the process of setting it up.

Thanks were extended to Alex, Lisa, and Midwestern University for hosting. The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Rock
FAC Secretary