

**MINUTES – BOARD MEETING
October 2, 2007**

Submitted for: Action.

Summary: Minutes of the October 2, 2007, meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education held in Ballroom D of the Student Center at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois.

Action Requested: That the Illinois Board of Higher Education approve the minutes of the October 2, 2007 meeting.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

MINUTES - BOARD MEETING
October 2, 2007

A meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education was called to order at 8:05 a.m. in Ballroom D, located on the second floor of the Student Center at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois.

Carrie J. Hightman, Chairwoman, presided.
Linda Oseland was Secretary for the meeting.

The following Board Members were present:

Guy Alongi	Gilbert L. Rutman
Ashley Dearborn	Lucy A. Sloan
Matt DeRosa	Elmer L. Washington
John P. Minogue	Addison E. Woodward, Jr.
Proshanta K. Nandi	

Also present by invitation of the Board were:

Judy Erwin, Executive Director, Illinois Board of Higher Education
Joyce Karon, Board member, Illinois State Board of Education
Andy Davis, Executive Director, Illinois Student Assistance Commission

Presidents and Chancellors

Al Bowman	William Perry
Elnora Daniel	Glenn Poshard
Alvin Goldfarb	Fernando Treviño
Sharon Hahs	Vaughn Vandegrift
Max McGee	Joseph White
Elaine Maimon	

Advisory Committee Chairpersons

Jerry Dill, Proprietary College and University Presidents	Jason Wallace, Student Advisory Committee
Bob Mees, Community College Presidents Council	Curtis White, Faculty Advisory Council
Dave Tretter, Private College and University Presidents	

1. Call Meeting to Order, Chairwoman Carrie J. Hightman

Chairwoman Hightman said, "The Board will go into executive session. Under the Open Meetings Act, there must be a motion in open session to authorize this executive session. A quorum must be present and a motion must be approved by a majority of the quorum with a recorded vote. The Chairwoman observes that a quorum is present.

"Is there a motion and second to authorize executive session?"

Ms. Sloan said, "I move that the Board of Higher Education go into executive session at 8:05 a.m. on Tuesday, October 2, 2007 for the purpose of discussing employment issues, pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "Is there a second?"

Dr. Woodward said, "I second the motion."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "I will ask the Secretary for a roll call vote to go into executive session."

The roll call vote was as follows: Yes -- Alongi, Dearborn, DeRosa, Hightman, Minogue, Nandi, Rutman, Sloan, Washington, and Woodward. No -- none.

Chairwoman Hightman said, "We will go into Executive Session and re-convene at 9:00 a.m."

2. Executive Session

Chairwoman Hightman said, "Is there a motion and second to come out of executive session?"

Ms. Sloan said, "I move that the Board of Higher Education come out of executive session at 9:20 a.m. on Tuesday, October 2, 2007 and proceed with the regularly-scheduled meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education beginning at 9:30 a.m."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "Is there a second?"

Dr. Washington said, "I second the motion."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "I will ask the secretary for a roll call vote to come out of executive session."

The roll call vote was as follows: Yes -- Alongi, Dearborn, DeRosa, Hightman, Minogue, Nandi, Rutman, Sloan, Washington, and Woodward. No -- none.

3. Announcements and Remarks, Chairwoman Carrie J. Hightman

Chairwoman Hightman said, "It is great to be here in southern Illinois and I want to express my gratitude and the gratitude of the Board to President Poshard and Chancellor Treviño and their staff for hosting this Board meeting and for their hospitality at the reception last night. We also had a meeting at John A. Logan and had a great tour of its Community Health Education Complex that was better than some of the facilities in Chicago. It was very impressive. Bob Mees was a great host, and we are really

enjoying our visit down here.

“I want to also congratulate President Poshard and Chancellor Treviño on the great strides you are making to enhance educational opportunity for the people of this region and for the entire state. You are really doing a great job. Thank you very much.

“Also, President Mees is pinch-hitting for Terry Bruce, so we have you in a couple of different capacities over these two days. Again, thank you very much for being here as representative of the community college presidents council.

“Welcome to one of our new university presidents for his first meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education -- Dr. William Perry, the President of Eastern Illinois University. This is your first meeting, and we want to welcome you as is our tradition.

“Since our last Board meeting, I am pleased to announce that Governor Blagojevich has signed HB1648, which establishes the P-20 Council for Illinois. We view this as extremely important legislation for the state of Illinois. Nothing happens by accident, as all of you know, so I want to thank our education partners, particularly the Illinois Community College Board, the Illinois State Board of Education, the Business Roundtable, and all of the other important stakeholders, who worked so hard to get this bill passed. We are also very grateful to the sponsors, Representative Jerry Mitchell and Senator Deanna Demuzio for their foresight in proposing this legislation.

“The P-20 Council, along with our master planning process, will surely make the P-20 path more seamless for a greater number of Illinois citizens, and that is good for the state of Illinois. It is also essential for us to ensure that we are doing what we need to do to further the goals of degree completion and affordability, just to name a few. I look forward to implementing this important legislation and to this additional step to move the ball forward on education in Illinois.

“I want to make one quick comment on master planning. All of you who regularly attend our Board meetings have heard me talk about master planning at every meeting. At our last Board meeting, I was so happy, we had our \$200,000 put into the state budget. And I said, ‘Great. We can move forward. It shows that everyone is behind this.’ I am unhappy to have to report that since our last Board meeting, that money was vetoed out of the state budget, but we are still working on ways to be able to move forward and to get the resources we need to actually engage in master planning, and we are taking the steps anyway. We had our working session of the Board yesterday at which our IBHE staff presented to us portions of the draft RFP for the consultant that we will use. One of the directions we gave to Judy and the staff was we want to move forward and identify possible candidates for membership on the task force that will work on the master planning project because we want to be well positioned to move forward when it is time to move forward. I do not want there to be any delays. This is very, very important. So, I want to assure everybody that we are doing the behind-the-scenes work to be able to begin the process. We will keep you posted on the issue of funding for the consultant for master planning, but I do not want anyone to doubt our commitment to move forward and to engage in a master planning process and to understand that the P-20 Council is just a piece of what we will be doing as we engage in master planning.

“At each of these Board meetings, I also update you on the continuing meetings I have with stakeholders in higher education and our partners in the education arena. I attended the most recent meeting of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, and it was really interesting to watch a sister agency in action. In my comments to that agency, I let the Commission know what this Board is working on, what our priorities are -- master planning, baccalaureate completion, P-20, student preparation, and

affordability. Don McNeil runs a great meeting, and what was really striking to me was just how much more technical the issues are that ISAC deals with -- the financial issues. It was pretty interesting to me to observe the meeting. I was very impressed. Some of it I understood; some of it I did not understand. Obviously, ISAC is in good hands with Andy Davis and with Don McNeil, and I want to thank them for allowing me to participate.

“ISAC met at the College of DuPage, and President Sunil Chand and Kathy Tressel, one of the COD trustees who chairs the Illinois Community College Trustees Association, were hosts for a luncheon also attended by Dr. Washington, Judy Erwin, and myself. Everybody has said that I should go to the College of DuPage, and I am glad that I was able to. It was a very impressive facility and they were great hosts. We had a great, productive discussion of mutual interests, and I think we can forge some great partnerships with respect to our common goals of baccalaureate completion, successful articulation and transfer, and student preparation. It reminds me why it is so important for us to get out and meet one-on-one with all of you. You know that I am trying to do that to the extent that I can. It is a big state and there are lots of institutions, but these meetings are very fruitful.

“I also met with the leadership of the Illinois State Board of Education. I met with Chairman Jessie Ruiz, Superintendent Chris Koch, and Joyce Karon, our liaison who is always with us at our meetings. We had a great discussion about our successful efforts to partner on issues of importance in Illinois and ways in which we can further that partnership. And, this too, was a very useful discussion of mutual interests and goals and we look forward to future discussions and partnerships and working with them on this P-20 Council and the student pipeline issues that we have talked about in the past.

“I have also asked that either Chris Koch or Jessie Ruiz, or both of them, come to one of our upcoming IBHE Board meetings so that we can have a public discussion of some of the issues that we are jointly tackling. It is nice to have the private discussions, but it is also nice to have these discussions in public at our Board meetings, and obviously, they are happy to do so. When I look at these different Boards and how they operate, by way of comparison, the State Board of Education meets every month and their meetings last a day and a half, two days. I thought to myself, if we even thought about that, I would be fired from this thing in a minute, but knowing what I know now about how active they are and how much work is involved, I have to thank Joyce Karon again for her contributions to the state of Illinois, both P-12 and higher education, because she devotes a lot of time and effort, obviously, to this issue of importance -- her passion. So, thank you, Joyce.

“Finally, I had the chance to meet with the Executive Committee of the Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities at Loyola University, and I want to thank Dave Tretter for the invitation to that event. We had a very fruitful discussion on a wide variety of topics that are on our agenda. So, that is great as well.

“Moving on to another development relating to the Campus Security Task Force, we recently posted on our website an announcement of regional training sessions for colleges and universities for their personnel on all-hazard emergency planning. These regional meetings will be held at five locations around the state in October and November and will assist participants in planning for natural disasters, technological hazards, and man-made catastrophic events. As you all know, the task force was created in the wake of the tragedy at Virginia Tech. These training sessions are a tangible outgrowth of the work of the task force. I want to commend the Governor’s office, our IBHE staff, the other state agencies involved, and, of course, all of the other higher education institutions for their hard work in making these valuable opportunities available. I think it is very important.

“At this point, I just want to say a couple of words about the budget process for our agency going forward for 2009. As the Board knows, we recently completed a series of conference calls to discuss priorities for the FY09 budget. We are waiting word on what form the final FY08 budget will take, but we cannot wait for that to be done to start our work on FY09. We have had some very productive conversations. This is, obviously, an ongoing process, and I want to assure everybody here that we are very interested in hearing your views, hearing about your needs, and hearing your suggestions as we prepare a higher education budget for FY09. As we work with the Governor’s office and the legislature on the 2009 budget, we will make the strongest case possible to demonstrate the vital role higher education plays in our state’s economic future, which will hopefully pay off in terms of dollars allocated to higher education. This is going to be a process; we are all committed; we look forward to working with you.

“We have two presentations scheduled for this morning, and we welcome our guests who will provide information and thought-provoking insights on two topics. First is SI-Connect, which is a partnership between SIU Carbondale and Man-Tra-Con to spur economic development in a 20-county region through readily available and affordable broadband Internet service -- an issue near and dear to my heart. The presenter will be Kathy Lively, who is the executive director of Man Tra-Con. As many of you know, she is the former associate dean of adult basic/secondary education at John A. Logan College and past president of the Illinois Adult and Continuing Educators Association.

“The other presentation will be about Southern Illinois University community college service centers. These are offices that are staffed by Southern Illinois University personnel on community college campuses that offer a variety of services to students to assist their transfer beyond community college -- an issue we talk about often. We look forward to President Poshard’s presentation on this important initiative.

“Later this morning we are also going to consider some changes to the DFI Program Board. As all of you know, since I joined the Board earlier this year, we have made some important changes related to diversity, the most important of which was the creation of the diversity position that Terry Nunn now holds. Today, we will be voting on the appointment of a new member to the DFI Program Board and a new chairman effective January 1, 2008.

“This is a time of significant transition for the DFI program. We have worked very closely with Southern Illinois University and with the DFI Board in recent months to articulate a future for this program that will move it to even greater levels of effectiveness in meeting its charge to improve faculty diversity in Illinois higher education. One particular way in which we have done this is by negotiating a detailed contract under which Southern Illinois University will administer the DFI program. This contract is a very important step in the direction of improved effectiveness of the DFI program.

“As I reflect on the progress that we are making and the changes that are happening on the DFI Board during the past few years, there is one essential ingredient that I want to acknowledge -- and that is the work of Dr. Seymour Bryson. I think it is important to acknowledge the hard work and effort of Dr. Bryson. He currently serves as chairperson of the DFI Program Board and has served on the Board for several years. It is under his leadership and direction that the DFI Board has been able to turn the corner and take important steps toward improving program quality and increasing accountability. During his tenure as Chair of the Board, 316 fellowships have been awarded, and 143 of those students have graduated with a master’s or doctoral degree. Seventy-five percent of those graduates have faculty and staff positions in higher education, bringing greater diversity to our campuses.

“I want to thank Seymour for his leadership, wisdom, and commitment to diversity, not only here at Southern Illinois University, but also throughout the state of Illinois. I also want to thank him for his willingness to work through a transition period over the next few months to enable the incoming Chair to get up to speed -- that is Jerry Blakemore. Seymour has done a great job, as Jerry will, with the assistance of Seymour. We look forward to continued collaboration with the new Chairman and the DFI Board to realize our expectations for this very vital endeavor.

“There is one matter of unfinished business from our August meeting that our Board Secretary has brought to my attention, and that relates to No Child Left Behind grants. A question was raised at our last Board meeting regarding how the grants are evaluated and what data are used to determine whether the grant programs are accomplishing what they set out to do. The staff has contacted many of the grantees, and received preliminary information about the programs. Final evaluations are underway for the programs that have received renewal grants, and the staff will report to the Board via a follow-up memo when those reports are analyzed. But I hate to think that the public hears these questions being raised and thinks that we are just leaving them hanging and not responding. The Illinois Board of Higher Education staff makes sure that nothing is left hanging, and that we complete all of the work that we are supposed to, and that we address the issues that are raised at the Board meetings.

“One final note -- I plan to alter our meeting format and give a more prominent role to the many groups and other interested parties that serve in an advisory role to the Board. Beginning with our December meeting, we will give our advisory committees an opportunity to give a presentation to the Board at the meeting and then join Board members for lunch afterwards to continue the discussion in a more informal way. We have five advisory committees and then the disabilities committee, and what we are going to do is highlight one at each Board meeting. We have six meetings a year; that works out perfectly. We will start with the Disabilities Advisory Committee in December, which was already scheduled to give its annual report to the Board.

“We learned at the lunch that we had after our last Board meeting with our Student Advisory Committee -- we had such a great, interesting conversation about textbook costs and other things, that it occurred to us that everyone should hear the conversation. So, that is what really got this idea going, and so, thank you, Student Advisory Committee for making us think about this and helping us improve the way we run these Board meetings and work with the advisory committees.

“We are going to release soon the schedule of meetings for 2008, and I look forward to a very productive meeting today. Thank you all for being here. The next Board meeting is on December 4 at Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago.”

4. Welcome: Southern Illinois University

Chancellor Fernando Treviño welcomed everyone to the Southern Illinois University Campus and briefly highlighted the accomplishments of the Carbondale campus.

5. Remarks by Judy Erwin, Executive Director

Ms. Erwin said, “I want to thank President Poshard and President Mees for your hospitality and welcome here. The legislative session that will not end is consuming a large part of the agency’s work in trying to direct activities towards better funding higher education. The House will convene today at 1:00 p.m. and consider override motions on the FY08 budget. We are told, although it is not a public document, there may be some higher education overrides. We are just not sure. So, we will let you know as soon as we know.

“I want to thank all of the colleges, universities, the UPI, IEA, IFT, trustees, all of our partners in higher education, for your help in trying to gain support for the capital bill. We know that there are funds being diverted from student and faculty needs into physical needs of your universities, so it is critical that we pass that. I do not think it is going to happen this week. I understand that October 18 is the Speaker’s first hearing on the capital gaming portion to that. So, thank you for your help.

“I want to thank Dr. Elaine Johnson, Geoff Orbzut, and Dr. Karen Hunter Anderson for the work that the Community College Board is doing with us, as well as my colleague Andy Davis at the Illinois Student Assistance Commission. The Governor’s office has an economic development sub-cabinet, which is a great opportunity. While we all know there is more to higher education than just the economics of it and employment, anything that we can get the administration and others engaged in, we will take. So, we are looking at pipeline issues in critical skills shortages, we are focusing initially on nursing, picked out two regions in the state to drill down on -- the southern Illinois region is one and the other is the northeastern part of the state. So, you will be hearing more about nursing issues and how we can do a better job with that.

“There is an item on the agenda, unlike the master planning that our Chairwoman has discussed, seeking approval from the Board for an agency strategic plan to help give greater focus to the work that the agency does. I think many of you will remember *The Illinois Commitment*, which lays out the vision of where we need to go. This strategic plan is the road map to where we are going.

“We will also be approving today funding for Innovation Grants. As you will recall, we have changed the focus of Innovation Grants to be the entrepreneurial fire that stokes some innovative programs. Our concentration is on baccalaureate completion with low-income minority students. I will apologize in advance that we had many more great applications, I am happy to say, than dollars, and we are using external evaluation on these grants than we had funding for. So, thank you for all who have submitted those.

“Finally, I would like for you to welcome Matt Berry. Matt is a great addition to our fiscal staff. He most recently served on Senate President Emil Jones’ staff.”

6. Board Meeting Minutes - August 14, 2007

The Illinois Board of Higher Education, on motion made by Ms. Sloan and seconded by Mr. Alongi, unanimously approved the minutes of the August 14, 2007 meeting.

7. Financial Report

The Illinois Board of Higher Education, on motion made by Dr. Nandi and seconded by Dr. Washington, unanimously approved financial report Item Nos. 7a and 7b dated, August 31, 2007.

8. Advisory Committee Reports

Jason Wallace, representing the Student Advisory Committee, presented his report to the Board (see attached). There was no discussion following his report.

Curtis White, representing the Faculty Advisory Council, presented his report to the Board (see attached). There was no discussion following his report.

Jerry Dill, representing the Proprietary Advisory Committee, presented his report to the Board (see attached). There was no discussion following his report.

Bob Mees, representing the Council of Community College Presidents, presented his report to the Board (see attached). There was no discussion following his report.

Dave Tretter, representing the Private College and University Advisory Committee, presented his report to the Board (see attached). There was no discussion following his report.

9. Southern Illinois University Presentation: Community College Service Centers

President Poshard presented a report on Community College Service Centers. After his presentation, the Board had the following discussion:

Mr. Alongi said, "On behalf of the Illinois Community College Board, I want to thank you for this program. I know that all of the Illinois community colleges down here in the south will be cooperative in your effort, and we look forward to working with Southern Illinois University. The program needs to be applauded. It sets goals for other universities throughout the state to do the same type of program, and I hope that other universities follow in your lead."

President Poshard said, "Thank you, sir. I appreciate that."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "Is the transfer only to the Carbondale campus or also to Edwardsville?"

President Poshard said, "No. It is also to Edwardsville campuses. The three campuses at Centralia, Southwestern Illinois, and Rend Lake will all be promoting universities because they will be feeding both universities and their service areas."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "So, it sounds like this is a great model. Maybe some of the other four-year institutions might want to look at this for their regions of the state."

President Poshard said, "Well, hopefully, it is an antidote for us to halt our declining enrollment. We could not do it without our community college partners. They have been so amenable to supply all the logistical support for us and the encouragement to make this partnership possible. So, we are very thankful for that."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "Thank you for a great presentation and for doing a great job."

10. Innovative Regional Collaboration: Connect SI, Presentation by Kathy Lively, Executive Director, Man-Tra-Con

Kathy Lively gave an informative presentation regarding broadband connectivity throughout the southern Illinois region. Following her presentation, the Board had the following comments:

Chairwoman Hightman said, "What a great presentation."

Ms. Erwin said, "I know as the Governor's economic development sub-cabinet moves forward, your work, particularly in the health care and nursing critical shortages, will be really important as we try to fill the gaps in the breaks in that pipeline."

Ms. Lively said, "So, we might be getting that pilot grant that you are looking at?"

Ms. Erwin said, "We are delighted to work with all of you on that."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "What I think is interesting is that -- your presentation, Dr. Poshard's presentation -- to see that you have unique issues here in this part of the state and you are coming up with very creative, innovative ways to address the problems that you have here. I applaud you on those efforts. I think it is great."

Ms. Lively said, "It is a privilege to work with the leaders of this area. Thank you."

11. *IBHE 2011: A Strategic Plan for the Illinois Board of Higher Education*

Ms. Erwin briefly outlined the contents of this item. After her presentation, the Board had the following discussion:

Dr. Washington said, "I would like to make reference to the mission statement. It seems to me that there is an additional word that is needed here. The statement is: 'The Illinois Board of Higher Education is dedicated to providing greater access and affordability to a quality postsecondary education for all Illinois residents in an efficient manner.' I would like to suggest that we have *effective and efficient* there to meet the needs of the State."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "Nobody can argue with that addition. I think it is a good addition and that seems appropriate."

Dr. Washington said, "Under the coordination authority under the Vision Statement, we have: 'to foster the unique mission and focus of postsecondary institutions, to strengthen P-20 coordination by education level and sector, and to collect and analyze data to increase educational attainment and improve student performance.' I would to change the last part of that to: and improve student performance *and institutional performance*."

Ms. Erwin said, "Well taken. That is a good point. This is an evolutionary document, as you can see. I think all strategic plans give you focus but are evolving. So, thank you, Dr. Washington; those are good points."

Ms. Dearborn said, "My comments are under Goal III where it speaks of diversity. There are a number of areas under Budget and Coordination where you talk about improving educational attainment for minority students and disabled students. It is mentioned several times. I would like to also include nontraditional students in those sections."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "I want to make sure I totally understand the changes. You are on Page 46?"

Ms. Dearborn said, "I am on Page 46. The first place would be under the Budget and three bullet points down. It says, 'Direct resources to programs demonstrated to improve educational attainment for minority students,' and I would like to add *nontraditional students*. And there are several places in the document that this happens."

Chairwoman Hightman said, “So, wherever it says minority, you want to add in nontraditional. Is that basically the gist of it?”

Ms. Dearborn said, “Basically, yes.”

The Illinois Board of Higher Education, on motion made by Mr. Alongi and seconded by Ms. Sloan, unanimously approved, the adoption of IBHE 2011: A Strategic Plan for the Illinois Board of Higher Education as the official strategic plan for the Board and staff amended as follows:

In reference to the mission statement, that the word ‘effective’ be added to read as: The Illinois Board of Higher Education is dedicated to providing greater access and affordability to a quality postsecondary education for all Illinois residents in an effective and efficient manner.

In reference to the coordination authority under the Vision Statement, that the words ‘and institutional performance’ be added at the end of the statement.

Wherever reference is made to improving educational attainment for minority students and disabled students, that the words ‘non-traditional students’ be added.

The staff shall report annually to the Board on activities undertaken and results in achieving the goals outlined in the strategic plan.

Chairwoman Hightman said, “This is the product of work that preceded my coming onto this Board, and I think it is a great statement of what we are trying to accomplish. It is nice to have this in place as we begin the master planning process for the state.”

Dr. Washington said, “I would like to make the comment that when we started this process, we did not have the kind of focus that we needed, and the process evolved in such a way that we ended up with a document I think that we can all be proud of.”

Ms. Erwin said, “Thank you. And thank you for the many, many meetings the Board sat through on this topic.”

12. Recommendations of the Institutional and Program Approval Working Group

Dr. Alexander and Dr. Washington briefly outlined the contents of this item. After their presentation, the Board had the following discussion:

Father Minogue said, “Since it is my job to deal with the devil, No. 3 -- it seems to me that it is a no-brainer to simply have a data system that schools must report their enrollments and their graduation rates and simply set triggers in the system to flag numbers that are out of line -- no enrollments or no graduations. It seems to me this is one of the few pieces of things I have seen in this operation where we truly do have a part of the anatomy that gets hearts and minds to follow. And, it seems to me, you would have to have enough teeth to do something. So, the word *may* up at the end of the first sentence there is, I think, removing all teeth. I think this review -- I mean God bless free enterprise; try any program you want. But, after five years or three years, there has to be some kind of -- and it could be very simple -- triggers that would say these programs are crazy, they are not getting any students in, or they are not graduating any students. It seems to me that those are important issues.”

Dr. Alexander said, “So, you would recommend that we change *may* to *shall*?”

Father Minogue said, "Yes. Then invent the system that keeps the workloads more automated than not. Let us assume most of these programs do work. Great, filter those quickly, and get to the ones that are triggering problems."

Dr. Alexander said, "I believe we could do that."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "I thought there was a concern you did not want to have *may* because the way it is worded right now, it is about the staff going and doing something. But you are changing it so it is not the burden on us, it is a burden on them to give us the data. Right?"

Father Minogue said, "Well, it would seem that if you play with the system a little bit, you could make this a little less burdensome on the staff."

Dr. Alexander said, "Yes, the *may* was thinking in terms of staff, but what I understand you are requesting is we should be able to develop a more efficient way to query?"

Chairwoman Hightman said, "Yes. So, I think the wording needs to be changed more than just changing *may* to *shall*."

Dr. Alexander said, "We would accept a friendly amendment, if that is agreeable."

Ms. Erwin said, "If I can just note the second sentence -- 'the fifth year review shall include.' So, there is a little more teeth in the second section, but I think as we are struggling in trying to develop a student unit record system in this state that will do exactly what you are saying -- tell us what is going on, how we are helping students, in what sectors program areas are not efficient -- and the funding probably should not support them if they are not."

Father Minogue said, "Because this, with ISAC and other state funds going to students -- if they are not graduating, if they are not enrolling, that is not using money very efficiently."

Dr. Washington said, "I think the other point here is that this is not intended to replace the reporting mechanisms that we already have in place, nor to inhibit those that we are planning on putting in place. But in reference to this particular passage here, it has to do with simply a concern over the level of work that is required of staff, and they could do every one of them. It could be shelved, I have no problem with that. Our only concern was just the level of staff involvement in a required fashion."

Dr. Alexander said, "I believe we could develop a system to accomplish that."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "So, are we clear on what we are doing to meet the concerns he raised?"

Dr. Alexander said, "Yes."

Dr. Woodward said, "Part of what Father Minogue is saying is related to a question I have. One of the issues the working group was asked to examine was if our criterion procedures related to closing a program and/or institutions are adequate. If not, how may they be improved? And, I am not sure where that is explicitly addressed in the recommendations."

Dr. Alexander said, "It is not explicitly in the recommendations. We are working on the rules

that will have to go with this, and one of the issues we do have criteria for is refusal of continuation to operate. So, we are looking at that in the context of this. But you are correct; it is not explicitly in the recommendations.

“And one of the reasons we did not bring the rules before you at this meeting is after we consulted with Bill Feurer, we wanted to be careful in crafting those so that we can be certain that they do what we want, and that that issue will be addressed. I will give you a copy of that.”

Dr. Glenn Poshard said, “Madam Chairwoman and members of the Board, I just want to congratulate Dr. Washington, and Gary Alexander, and this committee on this very difficult issue and this undertaking. These are issues about which many of us have been concerned for a long time, and this committee has brought great clarification to some very difficult issues here. I hope that in the master planning that is to be developed in the future, this will continue to be elaborated upon and clarified even more, but thank you for the work that you have done. We appreciate it.”

Chairwoman Hightman said, “Let me just say a couple of things. First off, my understanding is that we will take the necessary steps to implement these changes, many of which will involve, if not all will involve, administrative code provision changes.”

Dr. Alexander said, “We are working on that.”

Chairwoman Hightman said, “Yes. So, then there is the whole public process for that, which you will all be able to participate in to the extent that you deem it necessary.

“As far as the advisory committee goes, that is part of the recommendation. I am assuming that the members of Dr. Washington’s committee will continue on in the capacity as advisory committee members, but we can work on that. But that is what I would hope would be the case, especially in light of the effort that you have made and the history you now have on these issues. So, I am hoping that will be the case, and if any other Board member wants to participate in that advisory committee, just let me know.

“As somebody in a prior life who was at the mercy of a state agency for lots of business issues, I want to say that I am particularly proud of what we are doing here because it is causing us to operate more efficiently, which will help all of the stakeholders here that are impacted by what we do. And I think that is good for a state agency. I always believe that state agencies can be more effective, more efficient, and be better public servants; and this is a step in that direction and so I think that is a great thing.

“I also think that the policy changes, and eventually the rule changes, are good because they provide needed flexibility. I hate when I see a state agency that is just so rigid -- they claim you have to do it this way because we always did. Well, here, we are saying no. We might have always done it a certain way, but now this is a way to improve things. I also think that these changes are good because they enhance our efforts to meet consumer protection obligations that we have, and that is very important as well.

“As far as the fee proposal goes, I have already heard a little bit of background static on this. We do not know what we are going to do. It might be a good opportunity for us. As an agency, we are always pinched when it comes to funding. I am not sure if we are going to be able to really make it work because it is so complicated and I think raises some interesting political issues. We will see, but that is something else we will have to look at going forward. But for all the reasons I have said, I think this is great. I am pleased that you have all done this work and presented it to us in the form that you have and I am fully supportive of it.”

The Illinois Board of Higher Education, on motion made by Father Minogue and seconded by Dr. Rutman, unanimously granted approval to adopt the following recommendations amended as follows: in reference to No. 3, that the word shall be changed to may in the first sentence, and directs staff to initiate the necessary steps to incorporate the recommendations into administrative rules as set forth in the Illinois Administrative Code where this is required.

1. Application and Approval Process

- 1.a. Staff shall develop an expedited application process for institutions in all sectors that meet the following minimal criteria: (1) have been authorized to operate in Illinois for at least three years; (2) have received IBHE degree program approval within the past two years; and (3) provide evidence that the institution has no outstanding accreditation issues. Institutions new to Illinois will continue to be required to undergo the full review process.*
- 1.b. Staff shall develop an expedited application process for Illinois institutions seeking approval to offer programs approved for their home campus in a region other than their home region.*
- 1.c. Institutions offering programs at recognized consortial graduate study centers (i.e., such as the University Center of Lake County and the Quad-Cities Graduate Center) shall not be required to seek IBHE approval when offering programs approved for their home campus. For these institutions, the graduate study center shall be treated as part of their home campus. Centers, however, will continue to report annually to IBHE on the new programs introduced in the previous year.*
- 1.d. Staff will offer an orientation session on a regular basis to inform candidate institutions of the application process and the expectations of Board staff.*
- 1.e. Staff shall require that original application materials include copies of institutional enrollment agreements where appropriate.*
- 1.f. Staff shall develop approval criteria for determining those institutions that have a "limited physical presence" in Illinois (e.g., seminars not to exceed a determined number of days, in-person testing). Institutions falling in this category would be required to register their presence with the IBHE and describe the nature of that presence.*

2. Authorization to Operate

- 2.a. Initial authorization to operate in Illinois for institutions new to the state shall be for three years. In the third year of its operation, the institution shall request continuation of its initial approval based on its record of performance to that time.*
- 2.b. All institutions making application for authorization to operate in Illinois must specify their accreditation status. New institutions without accreditation from an accrediting authority recognized by the U.S. Department of Education must provide a clearly defined plan, with specific milestones, outlining their plan to receive accreditation.*
- 2.c. Require that all associate degree institutions seeking authorization to operate or new*

program approval provide evidence of existing baccalaureate completion options, where applicable, and of the process for informing the institution's students of those options.

3. *Reporting Requirement*

Require that, in the fifth year of the new program's existence, Board staff may review the program, in cooperation with institutional staff, to ensure that it is viable and continues to meet the original conditions of approval. This fifth year review shall include information on improvements in the institution's capacity to efficiently and effectively deliver programs using technological innovation and comprehensive data system. Retain the current requirement for a brief report on the status of a program in the third year of its operation.

4. *Consumer Protection*

4.a. *Require that all institutions approved to operate in Illinois include in program materials provided to students the following information: (1) a statement of the nature of transfer, including the fact that the decision to accept transfer credits is currently made by receiving institutions; and (2) a statement of how it advises students on the nature of the transfer process, including the importance of consulting with institutions to which the student may seek to transfer.*

4.b. *As part of the institution's regularly scheduled program review, it shall be required to include information on improvements to its capacity to efficiently and effectively deliver programs using technological innovation and comprehensive data systems.*

4.c. *Require that institutions provide evidence of provisions for articulation with institutional counterparts, where these articulations are appropriate.*

5. *Academic Affairs Committee*

Establish a standing Academic Affairs Committee to advise staff on general academic issues and questions that arise in the review of new program proposals.

6. *Fee Structure*

Staff is directed to further examine the implications and possible mechanisms for instituting a fee structure for processing institutional and new program applications in the independent and proprietary sectors. Staff will report back to the full Board in spring 2008.

7. *Diversity Information*

As part of new institutional and program applications, institutions will be asked to provide information on the gender and race/ethnicity of: (a) all faculty, including full- and part-time; (b) staff; and (c) students.

13. *Fiscal Year 2008 Appropriations for Higher Education, Governor's Action*

Dr. Baumgartner briefly outlined the contents of this item. After his presentation, the Board had

the following discussion:

Father Minogue said, "An interesting ten-year chart would be the level of state funding increases to higher education and the relationship to tuition increases in the state schools to see how the last ten years have been built into funding higher education and where it is coming from. I think more and more of it is coming from the private -- that is a wild guess -- but, I mean tuition increases."

Dr. Baumgartner said, "In the budget context paper, we do have a graph that looks at that."

Father Minogue said, "It goes right up against affordability as our number one priority."

Dr. Rutman said, "You have that in the chart from 2002 to the present. The interesting thing is that now the income fund is just about the same share as general revenue fund."

Dr. Baumgartner said, "It is getting very close. And for some institutions, it is an equal share."

Ms. Sloan said, "How many dollars were lost -- community college equalization grants?"

Mr. Alongi said, "Well, actually, there was an additional \$10 million put into the budget, which was \$7 million for base operating and \$3.2 million for student success grants. Those were eliminated, but we got the veterans grant for \$7 million, so, actually, we got the veterans grants, but they are going to take away from equalization. The student success grants are a crucial issue for all of us."

Dr. Alexander said, "I would like to update you on the number of applications we have received in August/September of 2007. We have received a total of 36 application inquiries, up by four from 32 in the previous period. We have received 25 new notices of intent, up one from the previous period. Of our overall totals, we have on record a total of 17 notices of intent, which have yet to provide an application, and we have a total of 192 active applications, down from one from the last period. We are bringing 33 programs to the Board today."

14. New Units of Instruction at Public Community Colleges

Dr. Alexander briefly outlined the contents of this item. After his presentation, the Board had the following discussion:

Chairwoman Hightman said, "Have all of these already been approved by the Illinois Community College Board?"

Dr. Alexander said, "That is my understanding. And, you are underscoring an issue that we have unearthed, and we are working to resolve relative to the order in which these programs are brought for approval."

The Illinois Board of Higher Education, on motion made by Mr. Alongi and seconded by Dr. Washington, unanimously granted authority to Carl Sandburg College to offer the Associate of Arts in Teaching (A.A.T.) in Secondary Math subject to the institution's maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.

And granted authority to the College of Lake County to offer the Associate of Arts in Teaching (A.A.T.) in Special Education subject to the institution's maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.

And granted authority to Illinois Valley Community College to offer the Associate of Arts in Teaching (A.A.T.) in Early Childhood Education subject to the institution's maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.

And granted authority to Joliet Junior College to offer the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Orthotics and Prosthetics Technology subject to the institution's maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.

And granted authority to Kankakee Community College to offer the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) Construction Craft Laborer subject to the institution's maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.

And granted authority to Lewis and Clark Community College to offer the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Exercise Science and the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Industrial Pipefitting subject to the institution's maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.

And granted authority to McHenry County College to offer the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Registered Nursing subject to the institution's maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.

And granted authority to Richland Community College to offer the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Welding Technology – Industrial and Equipment Specialty subject to the institution's maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.

And granted authority to Sauk Valley Community College to offer the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Emergency Medical Services subject to the institution's maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.

15. New Operating and/or Degree-Granting Authority for Independent Institutions

Dr. Alexander briefly outlined the contents of this item. There was no discussion following his presentation.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education, on motion made by Dr. Nandi and seconded by Dr. Washington, unanimously granted to ITT Technical Institute at Mount Prospect Authorization to Grant the Bachelor of Applied Science in Construction Management, the Bachelor of Applied Science in Criminal Justice, the Bachelor of Applied Science in Data Communication Systems Technology, and the Bachelor of Applied Science in Digital Entertainment and Game Design in Region 1, the North Suburban Region subject to the institution's maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.

And granted to ITT Technical Institute at Orland Park Authorization to Grant the Bachelor of Applied Science in Construction Management, the Bachelor of Applied Science in Criminal Justice, and the Bachelor of Applied Science in Electronics and Communications Engineering Technology in Region 6, the South Metropolitan Region subject to the institution's maintenance of the conditions that were

presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.

And granted to ITT Technical Institute at Burr Ridge, Authorization to Grant the Bachelor of Applied Science in Construction Management, the Bachelor of Applied Science in Criminal Justice, the Bachelor of Applied Science in Electronics and Communications Engineering Technology, and the Associate of Applied Science in Computer Drafting and Design in Region 3, the West Suburban Region subject to the institution's maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.

And granted to Rasmussen College Authorization to Grant the Associate of Applied Science Accounting, the Associate of Applied Science Health Information Technician, the Associate of Applied Science Massage Therapy, the Associate of Applied Science Medical Transcriptionist, the Associate of Applied Science Pharmacy Technician, the Associate of Applied Science Business Management, the Associate of Applied Science Criminal Justice, the Associate of Applied Science Multimedia Technologies, and the Associate of Applied Science Information Systems Management in Region 6, the South Metropolitan Region subject to the institution's maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.

And granted to Kaplan University Authorization to Grant the Associate of Applied Science in Medical Assisting, the Associate of Applied Science in Medical Office Management, the Associate of Applied Science in Medical Transcription, the Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal Studies, the Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice, the Associate of Applied Science in Computer Information Systems and the Associate of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies in Region 10, the Chicago Region subject to the institution's maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which these authorizations are granted.

16. New Units of Instruction, Public Service, and Research at Public Universities

Dr. Alexander briefly outlined the contents of this item. There was no discussion following his presentation.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education, on motion made by Dr. Washington and seconded by Dr. Nandi, unanimously granted to the University of Illinois at Chicago Authorization to Grant the Master of Science in Architecture in Health Design in Region 10, the Chicago Region, subject to the institution's maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And granted to the University of Illinois at Chicago, Authorization to Grant the Doctor of Pharmacy in Region 2, the Fox Valley Region, subject to the institution's maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And granted to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Authorization to Grant the Bachelor of Fine Arts in New Media in Region 7, the Prairie Region, subject to the institution's maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And granted to Illinois State University Authorization to Grant the Bachelor of Science in Renewable Energy in Region 5, the Central Region, subject to the institution's maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And granted to Southern Illinois University at Carbondale Authorization to Grant the Master of Science in Medical Dosimetry in Region 9, the Southern Region, subject to the institution's maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And granted to Western Illinois University Authorization to Grant the Master of Liberal Arts and Sciences in Region 4, the Western Region, subject to the institution's maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted

17. Higher Education Cooperation Act, Innovation Grants, Fiscal Year 2008 Grant Allocations

Dr. Baumgartner briefly outlined the contents of this item. After his presentation, the Board had the following discussion:

Mr. Alongi said, "This year I am extremely happy that there are 26 HECA grants here to be approved and 20 of those are co-op where the community colleges are operating as a fiscal agent for these grants. I want to commend the staff for their review; the community colleges throughout the state appreciate that very much."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "I want to make sure, and I am assuming that you have already assured yourself that this is not an issue, that when we reduce the amount of the grants from an amount requested to an amount that we say is appropriate, you do not want to end up reducing the effectiveness of the program by taking away too much money. I would rather give enough money to fewer programs than reduce a bunch of programs. I want to make sure that when we make these recommendations for amounts that are less than what they have asked for, that we are not going to end up gutting the programs."

Dr. Baumgartner said, "I believe that we have kept the levels high enough to avoid that. We have funded 80 - 90 percent. We have had to do that typically in the past as well, and we have better experience with the renewal grants because we had the three-year plans. We know where they are. We have had interim evaluations for them and have a better idea. For the other, we just tried to bring it up as high as we could and still get enough of the grants."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "Do we confirm with the grantees that the amount that they are getting would be sufficient for them to do what they are trying to do?"

Dr. Baumgartner said, "No, not for the new ones."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "But you are comfortable."

Dr. Baumgartner said, "Yes."

Ms. Erwin said, "Trying to get the level of the grant to the amount that is effective to do whatever the program is, is something that came up in the HECA Review Committee, which many members of this Board participated in. In addition, there are some campus-based folks who made this very point. We were apparently trying to make many more people happy, but in some instances reducing the grant down to about one-third or one-quarter of what they had asked for. So, when asked, 'what did we learn from that,' the answer was, 'well, how could we have done what we said we were going to do; you did not give us enough money.' Last year we gave almost full funding to everybody. So, in the renewal grants, we are trying to keep it up as high as we can. As indicated, there were two critical programs -- the data

integration graduate program that is housed here at Southern Illinois University was supposed to have been a separate line and the Course Applicability System was supposed to be a separate line. These amounts would have been higher had the Governor's office not reduced those other two. It is a point very well taken, and I think we are trying to be much more sensitive. If the applicant says they can accomplish something with a work plan in an amount of money, it makes no sense to reduce it by half and think they can still do the same thing. So, we are trying very hard not to do that."

Dr. Baumgartner said, "They will send a revised budget to us based on the amounts that are approved as well. So, they will begin working on it at this point and that is part of the final approval before the money goes out to them."

The Illinois Board of Higher Education, on motion made by Mr. Alongi and seconded by Ms. Sloan, unanimously approved the fiscal year 2008 allocation totaling \$3.9 million for Higher Education Cooperation Act grants, including \$220,000 for the Quad Cities Graduate Center, as shown in Table 2. Payment of grants is subject to the receipt of all required documentation. The Board authorizes the Executive Director to withhold payment or adjust a grant allocation, if necessary, to conform to existing statute, rule, or available funding or to assure compliance with any previous grant agreements.

18. General Grants, Fiscal Year 2008 Allocations

Dr. Baumgartner briefly outlined the contents of this item. After his presentation, the Board had the following discussion:

Father Minogue said, "The University Center -- the universities that are participating -- they are making money on the tuition. Why are we underwriting it for \$3 million?"

Dr. Baumgartner said, "For the staff, for the facility, for the maintenance, for program development, for counseling. They have counselors and admissions personnel there who are separate from the institutional counselors or admissions people who will get students coming from across the street from the College of Lake County or from anywhere else in Lake County, who say, 'I want to take this course; what do you have?' This is somebody to help them walk through that process. They do charge some very limited fees to participating institutions, but it is basically to maintain the buildings, keep the centralized staff there."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "Overhead. Is it overhead?"

Dr. Baumgartner said, "Yes, for the most part."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "Your question is, should we be paying or should they be paying?"

Father Minogue said, "If we opened a satellite operation, we had to pay for the space. We had to wire the place. We had to pay for the professors. This one is free?"

Dr. Baumgartner said, "It is not completely free."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "But isn't part of it to provide an incentive for these universities to locate there to be able to meet the baccalaureate completion objective that we have?"

Father Minogue said, "These universities have every incentive in the world -- it is called profit."

Ms. Erwin said, "This preceded me. Although I was in the Legislature when this was debated, but since it was not close to my district, I did not get real involved in it. This was a state initiative. The Board and the Legislature created this University Center. The state then went out and asked institutions to come to that University Center. There were some who recommended that there be a campus of a public or private university that might locate there. My understanding is that there was a fair amount of debate about that. One could argue that maybe it should be a campus of an institution offering four-year completion. That was an argument that was made, but at that time, the decision was made to create this sort of oddity called the University Center of Lake County, but then it was incumbent upon having created it for the state and the Board to entice people to come and offer programs there."

Father Minogue said, "They have been successful at that. I think maybe, not for this year, but for next year, we ought to look at this because there are a lot of other competing interests that might make some sense here. Somebody is getting a little more of a free ride than they need."

Ms. Erwin said, "The other thing that I think is fair to say, and I am not sure how we would go about this evaluation, but I think that some have suggested this was somewhat experimental, and so, that after X number of years, it might not be a good idea to go back and see what is exactly happening and is it an efficient use of state dollars and so, I am not disagreeing."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "When was it first opened?"

Father Minogue said, "Four or five years ago."

Dr. Baumgartner said, "The new facility would have been two years ago, I believe."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "So, it seems like there is enough time to actually do the kind of review that we are talking about. So, maybe that is what we are concluding here from what I hear, and it makes sense that we should stop and look at what is going on there and decide whether it is successful, whether we should continue to pour state resources into it. We might conclude that it is great and we should, but I think the question is a fair question. So, we will begin the process of looking at that. I am sure we will be working with the folks over at the University Center to get the information we need to do that."

The Illinois Board of Higher Education, on motion made by Ms. Sloan and seconded by Ms. Dearborn, approved the fiscal year 2008 allocation of \$3,909,000 in General Grants as described above. The Board authorizes the Executive Director to make adjustments to the general grant allocations in the event that appropriated funds are unavailable. Dr. Nandi voted present on this item.

19. Setting a Context for Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Development

Dr. Baumgartner briefly outlined the contents of this item. After his presentation, the Board had the following discussion:

Father Minogue said, "Very interesting; the data is overwhelming. The community colleges both in deferred maintenance, in the use of state funds, in the productivity in terms of tuition, are operating at about 60 percent better than the higher education institutions. There could be some transfer learning here, up rather than down."

Dr. Baumgartner said, "There is also a significant funding source for capital projects at the community colleges that are not at the public universities."

Father Minogue said, "When you are running an efficient institution, building it bigger makes sense. When you are running an inefficient institution, building it bigger just costs you more money."

Ms. Erwin said, "One of the things we certainly hope that master planning will help us do is, what is the definition of successful and efficient? So, is it the outcome of the student, is it how you move students through, remove barriers for students, how many are graduating, it is the various metrics that are used. We have some institutions that may be 75 percent non-traditional students and transfer students. We have others that are where the native student population is a lot higher. So, this is one of the things that, as other states have done the planning exercise, comparing apples verses oranges, I think our hope is that it is not either-or. The community colleges play a huge role in the continuum of education as do four-year universities. So, I think there are a lot of challenges as was noted here. The property taxes are more for community colleges than they used to be because the state is not supporting."

Mr. Alongi said, "But not a significant amount. It is a fraction of a percent."

Ms. Erwin said, "Well, it is interesting. Just like school districts around this state, based upon your equalized assessed valuation, as you know, the equalization grants, for some community colleges, are significant. There are other community colleges up in Joyce Karon's neck of the woods that get very little funding from the state at all, just like their K-12 districts because their property values are high. So, there is, based upon property taxes, an inequitable distribution of state funds and there is no question about that."

20. Illinois Transfer and Articulation Initiatives Annual Report 2006-2007
A written report was submitted to the Board. There was no discussion on this item.
21. Legislative Report
A written report was submitted to the Board. There was no discussion on this item.
22. Other Matters/Public Comment Period

Ms. Dearborn said, "I just want to inform the Board that November 4 - 10 is National Nontraditional Student week and I want to encourage the public to use this week to celebrate their nontraditional students."

Chairwoman Hightman said, "I have one last item that is an important item. It is an action item for the Board, and it involves DFI. In my earlier comments, I mentioned some of the changes that we are making. With this item, I am asking the Board for approval to make a new appointment to the DFI Program Board and to appoint a new chairman of the DFI Program Board.

"First off, I just want to back up and remind people that in the past several months, for a good part of this year, we have been making great strides towards improving our goals on diversity and the Diversifying Faculty in Illinois Program is a key component of those efforts. Earlier this year, there were some discussions about how the program has been run. As I mentioned in my introductory comments, one of the things that we have done, that I think will make the program operate much more effectively than it has, is we have entered into a contract with Southern Illinois University. Actually, the Program Board has entered into a contract with Southern Illinois University, that lays out specifics as to the administration of the program.

“In our efforts to continually improve the program, first I noted that there were two Board positions for the Program Board that remain unfilled from people that have left, and so one of the items I would like to have voted on today is to appoint a person to fill one of the vacant positions and that person is someone who is no stranger to education in the state of Illinois -- it is Dr. Max McGee, who is the new president of the Illinois Math and Science Academy. He has been an effective leader in education at the local, state, and national levels during his career, including serving as Superintendent of Education. I think his current position as head of IMSA, only the second president in the history of IMSA, shows how well thought of he is and how talented he is. I think it is interesting for us to be bringing in representatives of other stakeholders in the education process because the current Board really is made up of all higher education representatives, and I think adding someone from IMSA, especially the head of IMSA, will really help us move forward and I think just add a different perspective to the Board. We welcome his wealth of knowledge and commitment to the principles of diversity and look forward to the contributions that he will make on the DFI Program Board.

“The other change that I am seeking approval of from the IBHE Board is the change of the chairman of the DFI Program Board. As I mentioned earlier, we are so grateful to Dr. Seymour Bryson who has served as Chairman of the DFI Program Board for several years. He has provided a solid foundation to the program and has helped really get it to where it is today. He has been selfless in his dedication to diversifying higher education in the state and to building a program to give talented minority graduate students the opportunity to enter faculty ranks in Illinois colleges and universities.

“Diversity in our higher education system has been a long-standing priority and a fundamental guiding principle of this Board. In many ways through our grants, our budget recommendations, and our legislative activities, this Board has clearly demonstrated its commitment to diversity on our campuses, not the least of which has been the creation and support of the DFI program, and so, I am so thrilled to announce that Jerry Blakemore has agreed to take over as Chair of the DFI Program Board.

“Jerry is currently General Counsel for Southern Illinois University, where the administration of the DFI program is housed, and he has been a member of the DFI Board for several years. Jerry knows the issues and challenges and understands the value of diversity and has a very successful track record of pursuing the goals of the DFI Board. As many of you know, he has had a long relationship with the Board of Higher Education having served as a member and as a Board Chair. So, he is clearly the right guy for the job. He will bring vision, pragmatism, and a results-oriented approach to the leadership of the DFI Board. In order to make this transition effective, seamless, and productive for all of us, Seymour has agreed to stay on for the next couple of months, and Jerry can be tutored by Seymour. Jerry is not going to take over as Chair until January 1, 2008. This will ensure that the program run seamlessly and that Jerry will be even more comfortable than he is now taking over as Chair.

“This is a time of transition for the DFI Program Board and all the changes we are making are to try to move the program forward and to be even more effective than we have been in the past in injecting diversity into the higher education system. I am really excited about these important changes that we are making. I am confident that they will be beneficial to the state of Illinois, and we look forward to the continued collaboration between the IBHE Board, the DFI Program Board, the work that Terry Nunn is doing and will be doing in his new role, and Southern Illinois University's role in this through the contract that we now have. So, I am just excited about it, and I am hoping that in the next meetings we will move forward and get another person for the other vacant slot on the DFI Program Board, and again, we will make more changes to move the program forward.”

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Washington and seconded by Dr. Rutman, unanimously approved the appointments of Dr. Max McGee to the DFI Program Board and Mr. Jerry Blakemore as the Chairperson of the DFI Program Board.

Chairwoman Hightman said, “Congratulations to Max and Jerry and we look forward to hearing the reports of all the great things that they are going to be doing in their new capacities.

“I appreciate the hospitality of Southern Illinois University here in Carbondale. Thank you very much. This has been a great facility.”

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairwoman Hightman adjourned the meeting at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Oseland, Secretary to the Board.

Note: Copies of all items referred to in the minutes (i.e., letters, statements, reports, etc.) are on file with the official minutes of the October 2, 2007 meeting.

**Submitted Remarks of Jason Wallace
Student Advisory Committee
Illinois Board of Higher Education Meeting - October 2, 2007**

**Illinois Board of Higher Education
October 2, 2007**

Chairwoman Hightman, members of the Board, Director Erwin

The Student Advisory Committee met this past weekend at DePaul University for our Annual Orientation meeting. I would like to thank DePaul for being very accommodating for so many students that visited throughout the state of Illinois.

During dinner on Saturday, Kathy Engelkon Executive Director of the Illinois Campus Compact, spoke to members about her organization. She discussed the importance of students in today's world and the profile they have that is very different from previous generations. She offered her services to any members of the SAC and we hope to have future cooperation between our groups.

I would also like to thank Senator Hunter and Maloney for speaking to our group on Sunday afternoon. Their explanation of how legislation works to the group was extremely useful for our members and the students took full advantage of expressing their concerns with the budget and future legislation for higher education. The SAC would like to state our support for the higher education capital projects included in the capital bill recently passed by the Illinois Senate.

Over the weekend, we discussed issues related to transferability and financial aid. In addition, with a budget finally passed we discussed future funding in higher education and are anxious to see what will happen with the upcoming legislative actions in the next couple of weeks. We also appointed members to ongoing and upcoming task forces that require student representation and are excited to serve in Illinois in any way that we can. The SAC also spent time reviewing the IBHE Strategic Plan and look forward to seeing its implementation in the upcoming years.

Our next meeting is December 1st and 2nd at Illinois State University in Normal. We look forward to our continued service and advocacy for students and as always welcome your presence at our meetings.

Finally, I would like to conclude with the SAC's adoption of the College Student Mental Health paper that was drafted jointly and adopted by the FAC. This is a first for both of our organization and the beginning of the collaboration between students and faculty to address issues facing students in Illinois Higher Education. I am very pleased to have this paper presented at this meeting. The paper is direct and very useful in the explanation of issues that many stakeholders in education may have a limited understanding.

Respectfully submitted,
Jason Wallace
Chair, IBHE-SAC

**Submitted Remarks of Curtis White
Faculty Advisory Council
Illinois Board of Higher Education Meeting - October 2, 2007**

**Executive Summary: College Student Mental Health—A Crisis Underway
Faculty Advisory Council**

Diagnosable mental illness and related behavior problems have risen dramatically on college campuses. Media reports of emotional distress, suicide, and acts of violence related to mental illness on college campuses (most notably the recent tragedy at Virginia Tech) have put an exclamation point on the seriousness of this growing crisis.

National studies conducted by the American College Health Association and others indicate alarming increases in problems related to mental and emotional health in our college students. Among the symptoms they identify are feeling hopeless, depressed, suicidal, anxious and stressed. These are common symptoms in any population, but the studies indicate that the rates of these symptoms have increased dramatically in recent years among college students.

The possible causes of this crisis are many, including difficulty in making the transition to college, stress from financial burden of attending college, substance abuse, and stress related to academic performance. We believe that those possible causes that should be of particular concern to the Board are 1) stress related to college preparedness, 2) stress related to rising levels of student debt, and 3) stress related to making the transition to college life (this may be particularly difficult for those students who will soon be returning to college after tours in Middle East war zones).

Recommendations

It is crucial that college counseling centers be sufficiently funded to provide adequate campus mental health and counseling facilities, therapists, and psychiatric services.

The Board should press forward with its work on college preparedness of high school graduates, including reform in teacher preparation.

The Board should continue to press the state to adequately fund higher education in order to minimize the need for colleges to raise tuition and fees.

The Board should encourage colleges to provide rich first year and preview experiences for freshmen and integrative experiences for transfer and returning students.

The Board should encourage colleges to provide professional development training for faculty and staff in order to make them more aware of the symptoms of emotional and mental trouble in students.

In preparing this document, The Faculty Advisory Council was struck with the synergism of this issue with other issues we have looked at recently, such as teacher preparation, college preparedness, and student debt. It should not be surprising to the Board that worries about money and about readiness to do college level work are stressful to students and can lead to more worrisome symptoms like depression, anxiety disorders, and uncontrolled anger. This synergism should be a reminder to the Board that the issues we look at have very human consequences, especially for the young people of this state.

**Submitted Remarks of Jerry Dill
Proprietary Advisory Committee
Illinois Board of Higher Education Meeting - October 2, 2007**

**IBHE PAC Meeting Report
September 26, 2007**

Good morning, Chairwoman Hightman, Director Erwin, members of the board.

The Proprietary Advisory Committee met this past week at the Cooking and Hospitality Institute of Chicago. We were pleased to have Dr. Arthur Sutton of the board staff join us, and review the Recommendations of the Institutional and Program Approval Working Group, this report is on your agenda today as an action item.

Dr. Sutton reviewed the plans for streamlining the approval process for established institutions; we appreciate the consistency of this process for all types of institutions in the state. Also, the plan to offer an orientation program for new institutions should result in a more effective use of the staff time by giving them an opportunity to meet and talk with new institutional representatives before an application is sent in. This should result in cleaner applications initially and a more efficient review and approval process. Our committee is supportive of the recommendations of this working group

Still to be completed is a review of a potential fee structure for this process. We suggest that any fees assessed in the future be used to support the staff needed to handle the program review and oversight process.

Also you will be reviewing the final goals and outline for a strategic planning process for higher education in Illinois. We applaud this process and look forward to having an opportunity for schools in our sector to be able to have input here as well.

As mentioned in your comments this morning, action on the Campus Security task force is continuing. Our committee remains connected to this effort through Meredith Patton at Midstate College. We are aware of the regional training sessions that are planned for the next month and expect to have a number of our member institutions attending these sessions.

Thank you.

**Submitted Remarks of Bob Mees
Council of Community College Presidents
Illinois Board of Higher Education Meeting - October 2, 2007**

**Report to Illinois Board of Higher Education
from Illinois Community College Council of Presidents
by
Robert L. Mees
Vice-President of the Illinois Community College Council of Presidents
and
President of John A. Logan College
Tuesday, October 2, 2007**

My name is Bob Mees, Vice-President for the Illinois Community College Council of Presidents and President of John A. Logan College.

The Community College Presidents met in Champaign on September 14, 2007. Key items addressed at this meeting were:

1. The Community College system budget which was recently reduced by \$10 million. The \$7 million reduction in base operating grants and the elimination of \$3 million for the Student Success Grant have significantly impacted our budget.
2. Community colleges have also been providing testimony at the budget hearing being held around the state.
3. The Ethics Act litigation where the DuPage County Circuit Court ruled in favor of the 35 community colleges which filed the litigation. Since this case has been appealed by the Inspector General, the Council of Presidents voted to fight the appeal and continue to work for a legislative solution to this case.
4. One of our most important committees is our Curriculum and Transfer Committee. Important items on their agenda for FY 08 include:
 - 4.1 Provide great support for all P-20 initiatives and concentrate on the impact of academics.
 - 4.2 Improved programming for international students.
 - 4.3 The development of new programs in biotechnology, biodiesel and environmental technology.
5. The Council also discussed campus safety issues and the importance of the five training sessions being planned around the state for all of higher education.
6. The Council was very pleased that eight community colleges received *Shifting Gears* grants, which are bridge programs which take GED students and exposes them to healthcare careers.
7. It was also reported to the Council that Senate Bill 853 has been passed which clarifies the minimum age for GED testing.
8. The Council is also working on a statewide public relations campaign. Steve Brown is working with a group of presidents on finalizing a plan. This will also be done in conjunction with a committee at the Illinois Community College Trustees Association.
9. The presidents are also working with Jane Angelis on *Generations Connect 2007* which will promote Lifelong Learning Programs which will be so important for our future since 1 of 4 people by 2030 will be over 60 years old.

The Council appreciates all the support we get from the Illinois Board of Higher Education and we hope the funding for all of higher education will be improved for our future. This would include moving toward the recommendations outlined by Joint Resolution 122, which was approved by the House and Senate in 2006 which emphasized the following:

1. Funding the current community college funding formula at 100%.
2. Provide capital funding.
3. Funding Adult Education, high school dual credit programs and Student Success grants.

These are the things that are important in continuing to make our colleges affordable for our students. New funding initiative like performance funding should only be considered after basic funding has been addressed.

**Submitted Remarks of Dave Tretter
Private College and University Advisory Committee
Illinois Board of Higher Education Meeting - October 2, 2007**

**The Private College and University Advisory Committee Remarks to the Illinois
Board of Higher Education, October 2, 2007**

Presented by:

David Tretter
President
The Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities

Chairwoman Hightman, Executive Director Erwin, distinguished board members and staff:

In light of today's robust agenda, my remarks will be brief.

Let me first thank Executive Director Erwin, who graciously addressed the Federation's executive committee at Loyola University on September 11. I know my board appreciated her remarks and willingness to listen to the concerns of the independent college and university presidents. She also experienced her own real life version of "Trains, Planes, and Automobiles" that morning coming up from Springfield, so we doubly appreciated her efforts. One of the discussions that arose that morning concerned the efforts of senior independent institutions partnering with community colleges to address the issue of baccalaureate completion. I think it fair to say that we, as a group of institutions, made it clear that we intend to work hard to improve in that area. To that end, we plan to work with the Board and our public counterparts to review and strengthen legislation that will make the "Baccalaureate Completion Grant" a reality in the next legislative session.

To the agenda, two quick points:

I was pleased to see the work in Item #11 on Master Planning. We support the Board's effort here to engage in some forward strategic planning, and we hope to continue to have input as the Board and staff implement this "living and breathing" document.

Secondly, we appreciate both the opportunity to work with and the results before you today in Agenda Item #12 of The Institutional and Program Approval Working Group. We especially endorse the recommendation for an expedited process for schools that have been in good standing, and as the board item states, "have a proven record". I believe this one change will free up the IBHE staff to focus their time and expertise on areas that have a greater likelihood of actually improving both the delivery and content of academic programs.

Thank You.

