MINUTES – BOARD MEETING
December 4, 2018

Submitted for: Action.

Summary: Minutes of the December 4, 2018, meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education held at Joliet Junior College, Joliet, Illinois.

Action Requested: That the Illinois Board of Higher Education approve the open and closed session minutes of the December 4, 2018, Board meeting and keep the closed session minutes closed as the need for confidentiality exists due to litigation matters.
A meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) was called to order at 1:00 p.m. in the Building U Auditorium at Joliet Junior College, Joliet, Illinois, on December 4, 2018.

The following Board members were present: Tom Cross, Chair, John Bambenek, Jay Bergman, Emily Buice, Max Coffey, Meredith Daw, Sherry Eagle, Jane Hays, Alice Marie Jacobs, Cherilyn Murer, Santos Rivera, Darlene Ruscitti, Jack Thomas, and Eric Zarnikow.

Others present: Mark S. Jamil, Burke, Burns & Pinelli, LTD.; Dr. Al Bowman, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Dr. Larry Dietz, Illinois State University; Dr. Lisa Freeman, Northern Illinois University; Dr. Elaine Maimon, Governors State University; Dr. Gloria Gibson, Northeastern Illinois University; Dr. Z Scott, Chicago State University; Dr. Michael Amiridis, University of Illinois at Chicago; Dr. Susan Poser, University of Illinois at Chicago; Ms. Janet Parker, University of Illinois at Chicago; Ms. Darby Dickerson, John Marshall Law School; Dr. Curt Oldfield, Spoon River College; Mr. Dave Tretter, Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities; Dr. Marie Donovan, Faculty Advisory Council; Dr. Barbara Wilson, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Ms. Cindy Deitsch, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Dr. Stephanie Bernoteit, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Dr. Eric Lichtenberger, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Dr. Arthur Sutton, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Mr. Nyle Robinson, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Ms. Karen Helland, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Ms. Jaimee Ray, Illinois Board of Higher Education; and Ms. Melissa Hahn, Illinois Board of Higher Education.

A. Call to Order/Roll Call

- Call Meeting to Order, Chair Tom Cross

Chair Tom Cross called the meeting to order. Secretary Deitsch took roll call, a quorum was present.

Chair Cross indicated that Board member John Bambenek was unable to attend the Board meeting in person due to business reasons, but would be joining by telephone. Chair Cross requested a motion for telephone participation for the foregoing Board member.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education, on motion made by Ms. Jane Hays and seconded by Mr. Jay Bergman, to allow for John Bambenek to participate in the meeting via telephone conference pursuant to Section 7(a) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, unanimously approved Board Member John Bambenek to participate via telephone conference call.
B. Welcome and Remarks

- Welcome by Dr. Judy Mitchell, President, Joliet Junior College

Dr. Mitchell welcomed everyone to Joliet Junior College.

- Welcome and remarks by Chair Tom Cross

Chair Cross thanked the presidents, both public and private in Illinois, the administrations, staff, faculty, and students on behalf of the Board of Higher Education for finding a way to keep their institutions doing well, surviving sometimes, and prospering sometimes over the past two years.

Chair Cross indicated that Nyle Robinson would present the budget recommendation later in the meeting which would include an increase of ten percent, as well an increase in capital, and a $100 million increase to the Monetary Award Program (MAP).

The higher education community needs to be articulate and aggressive with the General Assembly and the new administration in discussing all of the significant aspects of higher education and why it is so important. Negativity about the state of Illinois needs to stop. It hurts the state with businesses, students, and families leaving.

Chair Cross thanked Dr. Al Bowman for all his hard work serving as executive director during the past year. Dr. Bowman will be retiring at the end of the year. Chair Cross read a resolution from the Faculty Advisory Council honoring Dr. Bowman.

- Remarks by Executive Director, Dr. Al Bowman

Dr. Al Bowman thanked Chair Cross and the Board for the pleasure of working with them during the past year.

Dr. Bowman stated that the budget proposal is a good proposal and is aggressive. The budget recommendation includes $314 million for university operations, as well as increases in other parts of the budget. If this request were granted it would still be below the 2002 budget level. Going forward energy has to be focused toward rebuilding the base budgets for universities as well as student financial aid. Capital will require attention over a long period of years. The backlog of deferred maintenance is over $6 billion. It will take a significant investment from the state to begin to recover.

In a written report included in the Board packet, Dr. Eric Lichtenberger, Deputy Director for Information Management and Research provided the 2018 fall enrollment numbers. There are over 200 degree granting institutions in the state and IBHE received data from 198 of them. There has been an overall decline across the state compared to 2017. The graduate enrollment across the state is up slightly. Community college enrollments are very soft and are probably the majority of the decline that has taken place. On the IBHE website, there is a new data point that looks at the employment of recent graduates in Illinois. It runs counter to the prevailing notion that many of these students are working in hospitality and retail industries. While that is true when they are enrolled in college it is not true one year post-graduation. The vast majority of those students have landed employment that is related to their college major. It is a very good data point and provides good talking points.
C. Reports and Updates

- **Advisory Committee Report – Dr. Curt Oldfield, Illinois Council of Community College Presidents**

Dr. Curt Oldfield, Vice Chair of the Illinois Council of Community College Presidents (ICCCP), addressed the Board. Dr. Oldfield noted that the community college presidents recently met in Naperville in November to establish their legislative priorities. ICCCP’s top priority is the budget aligned with the IBHE budget recommended increase of ten percent for the areas of operating funds, MAP funds, and veteran’s grants assistance programs. It is important for the community colleges and universities to work together in this legislative session. The community college presidents plan to use the ten percent increase to adapt more workforce development programs to continue to provide the workforce that Illinois needs to grow economically. They plan to help assist those students in the completion of their community college degrees and hopefully to move towards a baccalaureate degree in the future.

The ICCCP and the public university presidents met on December 3 to share their commonalities to be able to develop talking points and develop common interests that will move higher education in the state of Illinois forward in future years. Dr. Oldfield commended the university leadership for helping Illinois move forward. Community college leadership is working side by side with the public university leadership and plan to meet in January to move their common interest forward.

Community colleges are thinking about enrollment and completion. Davis Jenkins, faculty member of Columbia University, will be coming to Illinois to provide an update to the ICCCP, chief academic officers, chief student services officers, and chief financial officers about pathways to college success, ideas on how Illinois community colleges can increase the baccalaureate completion rate, and strengthen the dual credit opportunities for high school students. The community colleges have a broad agenda for the future but an agenda that will move Illinois forward.

Dr. Oldfield thanked the Board for the opportunity to present the update.

D. Presentation/Action Item

- **Fiscal Year 2020 Higher Education Budget Recommendations: Operations, Grants and Research at Public Universities**

Mr. Nyle Robinson, Deputy Director for Fiscal Affairs presented the contents of this item. His presentation started with a review of the history of higher education funding since 2002 because that is the backbone of the logic behind the budget request. Dr. Bowman and Nyle met with the Governor’s Office of Management and Budget (GOMB) on December 3 and they were very supportive.

The high point of higher education funding in Illinois was in 2002 at $2.4 billion. Fiscal Year 2019 is $1.9 billion. The greatest impact in that period was 2016 when the system lost $1.2 billion. Fiscal Year 2019, adjusted for inflation and mandates, is only 52.9 percent in terms of buying power of what could be purchased in 2002. The worst situation is for the public universities, with $1.5 billion in 2002 compared to $1.1 billion in Fiscal Year 2019. That does not take into account the various mandates. Looking at the nominal dollars, funding went from $1.5 billion to $1.1 billion if adjusted for the Consumer Price Index and mandates.
The decrease in state support has impacted tuition and, in particular for community colleges, tuition and increased property taxes. To make up for the sharp decrease in revenues from the state there had to be sharp increases in tuition revenues. In 2002, 72 percent of all revenues coming to the university system were related to state funds. In 2018, this had fallen to 34.9 percent. In 2016, it only covered 14.5 percent.

Community colleges were set up on the basis of one-third of their funding would come from the state. By 2002 the state was not meeting that funding level; it was 27.4 percent. For 2017, the last year we have the most recent data for community colleges, it was 14.5 percent. Remarkably, in 2016 community college spending was covered by state funds at 4.5 percent.

Declining MAP funding has also been an issue. MAP is an extremely important part of all aspects of higher education. In 2002 the expectation was that all eligible applicants would be covered and all of the average weighted tuition and fees at public universities would be covered for those applicants. For 2019, only 31.2 percent of weighted public university tuition and fees will be covered. The proportion of awards that are suspended (unfunded) has increased significantly over time and has fallen below half. This decline in funding is one of the factors driving students out of Illinois and an even bigger factor in students not attending college at all.

In 2002 retirement spending was only $258.1 million. This year the current expectation will be $1.86 billion dollars. That increase is not for the cost of current employees but rather for the cost of unfunded liabilities over that period of time. In Fiscal Year 2020, 75.6 percent of all costs going to State Universities Retirement System (SURS) will go to past liabilities.

IBHE is asking for a ten percent increase to the line items that were cut in 2018. This will roughly return funding to the Fiscal Year 2015/Fiscal Year 2017 level. The budget was not put together with any political intent although it does roughly align with the Governor-elect’s statements on higher education funding. Some institutions requested higher funding but IBHE is being realistic. This will be a historic increase in terms of higher education funding over the last 30 years. IBHE has asked for a great increase in MAP and asking for additional funding for AIM High in order for it to reach its goals. If other programs besides the universities and community colleges were cut by ten percent, IBHE is asking for those to be restored. If there was no cut, IBHE is not asking for additional funding.

For the universities, the ten percent increase comes out $110.3 million directly to universities. That represents a 1.1 percent increase over Fiscal Year 2015; adjusted for CPI it is a 6.1 percent decrease. The emphasis is on state funding that allows universities to keep pace with inflation, continue their recovery, hold down tuitions, and stay competitive.

The state does still carry over $6 billion in unpaid liabilities. The SURS system is requesting $270 million more. Teacher’s Retirement System is expecting over $400 million more. Adding in the State Employee Retirement System brings Illinois’ unpaid liabilities to about $1 billion. Unfortunately, since Fiscal Year 1999, the farthest back records were available, the biggest increase was 6.6 percent in 2002. Since Fiscal Year 2002 the biggest increase is 2.7 percent and four times since 2002 there have been cuts of six percent or more.

The state, based on current inflation of 2.6 percent, would have to increase funding by about 7.5 percent in order for the universities to maintain where they are without increasing tuition. Universities would need to increase their tuition revenues by four percent because of inflation in order to stay stable. However, the increase would need to be twice that amount because the Truth in Tuition law only allows them to increase the tuition on new students. To keep their funding
stable they would have to get an increase in revenue of four percent but they would also have to increase tuition by significantly more.

Community colleges are similar to universities except they have a double issue: a lack of funding has also put pressure on the property taxpayer. Adult education is the next largest portion of the higher education budget. IBHE is not requesting an increase since that funding was not reduced in 2018. This money is matched to federal resources. Community Colleges are generally in better financial condition than other areas within the state higher education budget.

For the operations of IBHE additional funding is requested to cover inflation. One request is for $100,000 to rebuild the master plan. The Public Agenda is ten years old and IBHE’s goal is to have it reviewed and possibly refreshed. The second additional funding is to educate the public about the value of higher education in Illinois, hopefully with the assistance of the Illinois Coalition to Invest in Higher Education, which was put together during the impasse. Those two projects might work well in tandem.

Mr. Dave Tretter, President, Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities, addressed the Board to discuss the financial assistance request for non-public universities. This is funding for what was known as the Illinois Financial Assistance Act. The IBHE previously administered a set of similar programs: Illinois Financial Assistance Act; the Health Education Grants; Engineering Equipment Grants; the Higher Education Cooperative Act (HECA) grant; and a variety of other grants that were roughly $100 million annually. Those programs went away over the years. In this restorative budget, it makes sense to take a look at what can be done to keep students in independent institutions in the State much like the incentive programs designed to encourage student enrollment in the State’s public universities. Mr. Tretter noted that Illinois is unique in that independent institutions enroll more students than public universities.

It makes sense from a policy perspective to talk about what is being done for 170,000 residents that attend an independent college or university. Many such students have come after graduating from community colleges. This is not a new concept but a return to a proven program that the Board administered but which will likely need to be updated going forward. It is an important program that will serve the state well. It gets back to the history of Illinois policy coming out of the 1960s.

As recently as 15 years ago, Illinois was ranked number one in the country in the diversity of institutions of higher education, both public and private, which means residents had significant opportunities and choices in terms of higher education options. Parents and students do not think in sectors and are instead looking for a route to complete a degree. Consideration should be given to policies that will incentivize and encourage the not-for-profit independents in the State to enroll more Illinois residents.

The current budget request also includes initial funding for advocacy. Mr. Tretter indicated that meetings have been held previously about advocacy and the importance of standing up statewide to talk about the benefits of higher education and that this should be a priority. The Illinois Coalition to Invest in Higher Education is a loose knit group that meets from time to time. This could be a good time to formalize that group to provide additional significance to the message, and initiate a concerted effort to improve higher education in the State. In this regard, Mr. Tretter stated that the original grant could be redesigned. It generally was funding on a formula basis for the enrollment of Illinois students. It had some similarity to the AIM High principles. It is an existing program on the books and an administrative rule but has not been funded. As the rules exist today, there are not many strings attached to it but in practice institutions drove it into
institutional aid at the campus level. If the program is updated, it could direct a match in funds or
direct the funds are used to address certain high risk or high need areas. In 2003, the grant was $20
million and there was also a $22 million health education grant. This program on the books makes
the most sense to incent students to stay in Illinois. It would be comparable to MAP but give
flexibility to address students around the margin. The program would have to be updated and could
be more targeted.

Mr. Robinson stated the current IBHE grants follow the rule that, if a grant was cut in the
previous period, an increase was requested in this budget. If it was not cut then no increase was
requested. MAP request is roughly a $100 million increase. The AIM High program request is an
additional $20 million in order to pay for a second, a third, and a fourth class so it can be fully
funded to draw students in. This was an area of great interest from GOMB.

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission’s (ISAC) operations last year for the first time
received an increase in general revenue funds. This was to allow for the continuation of operations,
including outreach that had previously been funded through federal loan revenue, which is drying
up due to changes in federal laws. The budget that ISAC is submitting to their board does not
match what IBHE is requesting for ISAC. The big items are the same requested amount, $100
million for MAP and the administrative money, but there is a little difference on the AIM High and
Illinois National Guard and Illinois Veterans’ Grants (ING/IVG). They also are requesting a higher
appropriation on some smaller programs where IBHE’s approach was to keep those programs flat.
With the teacher shortage in Illinois recently reported by the Illinois State Board of Education,
ISAC will be asking for additional money at their board meeting for the minority teacher program
and loan forgiveness program for teachers that work in high need districts.

ING/IVG is the amount that was previously funded through ISAC. The funding was taken
away and is now a burden on community colleges and public universities, which falls
disproportionally on those schools who have greater financial problems. It also creates a subtle
disincentive for universities and community colleges. IBHE is asking for that to be funded. The
other ISAC grants follow the rule with the exception of the big two, if there was no cut in 2018
there is no request for an increase.

IBHE has asked for a larger increase for SURS since they have a small budget and have
been cut to the point that they have a difficult time performing their functions.

The Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy request is equal to their request.

The capital request emphasizes the capital renewal. The idea is that, for a 50 year
replacement cycle, institutions should invest two percent of the replacement cost per year. IBHE
has asked for an additional one percent because if you were to invest the two percent plus the
additional one percent it would take 39 years to get back to even in terms of deferred maintenance.

1. Consideration and Approval of Fiscal Year 2020 Higher Education Budget
Recommendations: Operations, Grants, and Capital Improvements

In regard to this agenda item, Mr. John Bambenek expressed concern about recent events
at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) in connection with recent incidents of
inappropriate conduct involving UIUC employees and faculty. Mr. Bambenek indicated that he
was not satisfied with the actions of the UIUC in relation to both the incidents and UIUC policies
in relation to sexual misconduct and harassment. Extensive discussion ensued as to both possible
actions by the IBHE and possible actions to remedy this situation by UIUC. Mr. Bambenek
subsequently advanced a motion to reduce the specific allocation to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign by $29 million and reallocate the $29 million to the Monetary Award Program grant funding at the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, which motion was seconded by Ms. Emily Buice.

The Chair requested a roll call vote on the motion, and the vote was as follows: Yes – Bambenek and Buice. No – Bergman, Coffey, Cross, Daw. Eagle, Hays, Jacobs, Murer, Rivera, Ruscitti, and Thomas. Abstained – Zarnikow. Whereupon, the motion failed.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Mr. Jay Bergman and seconded by Dr. Santos Rivera, hereby approved the Fiscal Year 2020 Higher Education Budget Recommendations: Operations, Grants, and Capital Improvements including adjustments made for the Illinois Community College Board, on the terms as presented by the IBHE staff.

E. Action Items

1. New Units of Instruction at Public Community Colleges

Dr. Bernoteit presented the contents of this item.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Alice Marie Jacobs and seconded by Dr. Sherry Eagle, hereby grants authority to Kaskaskia College to offer the Associate in Applied Science in Illinois Department of Corrections Corrections Officer: Youth Supervisor Option subject to the institution’s implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And, hereby grants authority to Prairie State College to offer the Associate in Applied Science in Physical Therapy Assistant subject to the institution’s implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And, hereby grants authority to Shawnee Community College to offer the Associate in Applied Science in Construction Laborer subject to the institution’s implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And, hereby grants authority to Southeastern Illinois College to offer the Associate in Applied Science in Outfitter Wildlife Management subject to the institution’s implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And, hereby grants authority to Wilbur Wright College to offer the Associate in Fine Arts in Art (Studio) subject to the institution’s implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.
2. **New Operating and/or Degree-Granting Authority for Independent Institutions**

Dr. Bernoteit presented the contents of this item.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Ms. Jane Hays and seconded by Mr. Jay Bergman with Dr. Sherry Eagle and Mr. Tom Cross abstaining, hereby grants to Adler University Authorization to Grant the Master of Arts in Forensic Mental Health Leadership and the Master of Science in Sport and Human Performance in the Chicago Region, subject to the institution’s implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its applications and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And, hereby grants to Aurora University Authorization to Grant the Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction: Teaching Diverse Learners and Master of Arts in Educational Technology in the West Suburban Region, subject to the institution’s implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its applications and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And, hereby grants to The Chicago School of Professional Psychology Authorization to Grant the Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and the Master of Arts in Marriage, Couples, and Family Therapy, in the Chicago Region, subject to the institution’s implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its applications and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And, hereby grants to Fox College Authorization to Grant a Diploma in Dental Assisting and an Associate of Applied Science in Dental Assisting in the South Metro Region, subject to the institution’s implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its applications and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And, hereby grants to Stautzenberger College DBA Rockford Career College Authorization to Grant the Associate of Applied Science in Medical Laboratory Technician in the Fox Valley Region, subject to the institution’s implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its applications and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

3. **New Units of Instruction for Public Service, and Research at Public Universities**

In light of anticipated discussion involving the University of Illinois at Chicago Authorization to Establish the UIC John Marshall Law School in the Chicago Region component contained within this agenda item, Ms. Jane Hays moved to re-order the agenda to allow for consideration of this matter separate and apart from the other approvals contained in this agenda item. The motion was seconded by Dr. Eagle and carried.

Whereupon, Dr. Bernoteit then presented the remaining contents of this item.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Ms. Jane Hays and seconded by Dr. Sherry Eagle, unanimously hereby grants to the University of Illinois at Chicago Authorization to Grant the Master of City Design degree in the Chicago Region, subject to the institution’s implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.
The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Ms. Jane Hays and seconded by Dr. Sherry Eagle with Mr. John Bambenek recusing himself, unanimously hereby grants to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Authorization to Grant the Bachelor of Science in Information Sciences in the Prairie Region, subject to the institution’s implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its applications and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

Ms. Jane Hays provided extensive commentary reflecting her concerns about the process utilized by IBHE staff to review the University of Illinois at Chicago’s request for Authorization to Establish the UIC John Marshall Law School in the Chicago Region. Ms. Hays further expressed concerns about the review process undertaken by UIC’s governing board, the failure of mergers of private law schools with public institutions of higher education in other states as well as a lack of financial information associated with the transaction. Dr. Michael Amiridis, Chancellor of UIC, Chief Financial Officer Janet Parker John Marshall Law School Dean Darby Dickerson and additional representatives from UIC and UIUC provided comments pertaining to the financial, academic and operational impacts of the establishment of the UIC John Marshall Law School on UIC. Northern Illinois University (NIU) President Lisa Freeman expressed NIU’s support for the establishment of the UIC John Marshall Law School in the Chicago Region. Substantial and exhaustive discussion followed as to the process undertaken by the IBHE Academic Affairs team in their review of this item, the financial condition of John Marshall Law School and UIC, respectively, as well as long-term impacts of this matter on higher education in the State of Illinois.

Ms. Hays advanced a motion to postpone voting on the University of Illinois at Chicago Authorization to Establish the UIC John Marshall Law School in the Chicago Region until the March 5, 2019, board meeting which was seconded by Mr. Max Coffey.

The Chair requested a roll call vote on the motion and the vote was as follows: Yes – Coffey, Hays, and Jacobs. No – Bambenek, Bergman, Buice, Cross, Daw, Eagle, Murer, Rivera, Ruscitti, Thomas, and Zarnikow. Whereupon, the Motion failed.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Mr. Jay Bergman and seconded by Dr. Santos Rivera, hereby grants to the University of Illinois at Chicago Authorization to Establish the UIC John Marshall Law School in the Chicago Region, subject to the institution’s implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

The Chair requested a roll call vote on the motion, and the vote was as follows: Yes – Bambenek, Bergman, Buice, Cross, Daw, Eagle, Murer, Rivera, Ruscitti, Thomas, and Zarnikow. No – Coffey, Hays, and Jacobs. Whereupon the Motion passed.

4. Interim Executive Director**

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Sherry Eagle and seconded by Mr. Jay Bergman, unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. Nyle Robinson to the position of Interim Executive Director beginning January 1, 2019 until such a time as a permanent Executive Director is appointed.
F. Non-Instructional Capital Project Action Item

1. Non-Instructional Capital Project – Illinois State University

Mr. Nyle Robinson presented this item.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Sherry Eagle and seconded by Mr. Jay Bergman, unanimously approved the non-instructional capital project for Illinois State University to replace seating at Redbird Arena, as included in the item.

G. Consent Agenda Action Items

Chair Cross next moved to the consent agenda.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Sherry Eagle and seconded by Mr. John Bambenek, unanimously approved Item Nos. G-1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.

1. Board Meeting Minutes – September 18, 2018

The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously approved the Minutes of the Board Meeting of September 18, 2018.

2. Confidentiality of Executive Session Minutes and Destruction of Verbatim Recordings

The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously resolves:

Resolved, that the Illinois Board of Higher Education finds that the need for confidentiality exists for the minutes of the IBHE Executive Sessions of June 2, 2015, February 5, 2016, February 6, 2017, March 14, 2017, June 13, 2017, and October 31, 2017, December 12, 2017, June 5, 2018, August 2, 2018, and September 18, 2018 and that such minutes shall continue to remain confidential; and further

Resolved that the destruction of verbatim recordings for Executive Session held February 6, 2017 and March 14, 2017, be approved in accordance with Section 2.06(c) of the Open Meetings Act pursuant to the recommendation of Outside Counsel.


4. Grow Your Own Teacher Education Initiative

The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously authorizes the Executive Director to allocate the Fiscal Year 2019 appropriation for the Grow Your Own Teacher Education Initiative Grants as specified by the statute and administrative rule.

The Board authorizes the Executive Director to:
1) Continue to monitor and determine eligibility of institutions pursuant to the statute (110 ILCS 48/1) and the rules implementing that statute (23 Ill. Adm. Code 1085);
2) Withhold grant awards until provided with signed grant agreements and other appropriate grant information and materials required by the Act and the rules;
3) Determine the distribution of funds for administration, evaluation, contractual agreements and support of the GYO program;
4) Equitably distribute grant awards to eligible GYO consortia:
   a. With the primary focus on direct benefit to candidates; and
   b. As determined based on Fiscal Year 2018 planning grant scoring criteria.
5) re-allocate funds between consortia, fund other consortia as necessary, and allocate any remaining funds at the end of the fiscal year.

5. Fiscal Year 2019 Nurse Educator Fellowship Awards

The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously approves the allocation of $190,000 to eligible institutions on behalf of the 19 individuals recommended to receive $10,000 Nurse Educator Fellowship awards for Fiscal Year 2019 (see Appendix 1 attached to the item). The Board authorizes the Executive Director to make pro rata adjustments to awards in the event that appropriated funds are reduced or to delay the awards if funds are not available for the program.

6. Fiscal Year 2019 Nursing School Grant Program

The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously approves the Fiscal Year 2019 awards totaling $373,900 for seven projects pursuant to the Nursing School Grants Program as detailed in this item. The Board authorizes the Executive Director to prorate the awards if the amount of funds appropriated is reduced.

7. IBHE Administrative Rules: January 2019 Regulatory Agenda

The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously adopts the proposed 2019 Regulatory Agenda as contained in the item to be published in the Illinois Register.

8. Adopted Amendments to Rule: Tuition and Fee Waiver Guidelines

The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously adopts the amendments for Tuition and Fee Guidelines (23 Ill. Adm. Code 1075) as detailed in the document attached to the item, pending no objection from the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules during their meeting on December 11, 2018.


The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously approves the appropriation transfers requested by the Board of Trustees of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy as provided in the agenda item.
H. Executive Session

- Executive session for the purpose of employment and litigation matters pursuant to Sections 2(c)(1) and 2(c)(11) of the Open Meetings Act

Chair Cross asked that the Board go into Executive Session. He noted that under the Open Meetings Act, there must be a motion in open session to authorize the Board moving into executive session. A quorum must be present and a motion must be approved by a majority of the quorum with a recorded vote. The Chair observed that a quorum was present.

Ms. Jane Hays made the motion to move the Illinois Board of Higher Education into executive session for the purpose of discussing employment of specific employees and litigation pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) and 2(c)(11) of the Open Meetings Act. Dr. Sherry Eagle seconded the motion.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows: Yes – Bambenek, Bergman, Buice, Coffey, Cross, Daw, Eagle, Hays, Jacobs, Murer, Rivera, Ruscitti, and Zarnikow. No – none. Whereupon the Motion passed.

The Board moved into executive session at 3:46 p.m.

See Attachment A for Executive Session Minutes.

Reconvene in Open Session

The Board reconvened in open session. Chair Cross asked for a motion and second to come out of executive session.

Ms. Jane Hays moved that the Board of Higher Education come out of executive session at 4:10 p.m. on Tuesday, December 4, 2018, and Mr. Jay Bergman seconded the motion.

I. Informational Items Not Requiring Board Action

3. Presidential Letter to the Illinois State Board of Education Re Teacher Shortages
4. Spring 2019 Legislative Proposals
   Ms. Jaimee Ray described the contents of this item.
5. Litigation Report **

J. Public Comment

No public comments were made.

K. Other Business

The next Board meeting will be March 5, 2019, at the University of Illinois at Springfield.
L. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Cross adjourned the meeting at 4:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Deitsch, Secretary to the Board.

** Matters discussed during Executive Session in accordance with the Open Meetings Act

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 December 4, 2018, meeting.