

APPROVED
JUNE 4, 2019

Item #G-1
June 4, 2019

MINUTES – BOARD MEETING
March 5, 2019

Submitted for: Action.

Summary: Minutes of the March 5, 2019, meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education held at the University of Illinois at Springfield, Springfield, Illinois.

Action Requested: That the Illinois Board of Higher Education approve the minutes of the March 5, 2019, Board meeting.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

MINUTES – BOARD MEETING
March 5, 2019

A meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) was called to order at 1:02 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom, Room 224 at the University of Illinois at Springfield, Springfield, Illinois, on March 5, 2019.

The following Board members were present: Tom Cross, Chair, Jay Bergman, Emily Buice, Meredith Daw, Sherry Eagle, Alice Marie Jacobs, Truong Luu, Santos Rivera, Darlene Ruscitti, Jack Thomas, and Eric Zarnikow.

Others present: Mr. Mark S. Jamil, Burke, Burns & Pinelli, LTD.; Mr. Nyle Robinson, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Dr. Susan Koch, University of Illinois at Springfield; Dr. Larry Dietz, Illinois State University; Dr. Lisa Freeman, Northern Illinois University; Dr. Z Scott, Chicago State University; Dr. Curt Oldfield, Spoon River College; Dr. Amy King, DeVry University; Mr. Dave Tretter, Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities; Dr. Marie Donovan, Faculty Advisory Council; Mr. Carl Frasor, Student Advisory Committee; Dr. Brian Durham, Illinois Community College Board; Ms. April Longley, Columbia College of Missouri; Dr. Nathan Miller, Columbia College of Missouri; 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; 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 Santos Rivera was unable to attend the Board meeting in person due to medical 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 Mr. Jay Bergman and seconded by Dr. Sherry Eagle, to allow for Santos Rivera to participate in the meeting via telephone conference pursuant to Section 7(a) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, unanimously approved Board Member Santos Rivera to participate via telephone conference call.

B. Welcome and Remarks

- **Welcome by Dr. Susan Koch, Chancellor, University of Illinois at Springfield**

Chancellor Koch welcomed everyone to the University of Illinois at Springfield.

- **Welcome and remarks by Chair Tom Cross**

Chair Cross welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Chair Cross stated that if every member of the General Assembly could sit in as the Chair of IBHE it would give them a completely different perspective of IBHE and of higher education in Illinois. He has an understanding of higher education that he did not have when he served in the General Assembly. Chair Cross has been a champion of higher education and will continue to be.

Governor Pritzker's Fiscal Year 2020 budget proposal is better for higher education than over the last four years. There is the sense that he will make this a priority. The Governor's number for higher education is not what IBHE proposed but it is going in the right direction.

Chair Cross believes that Governor Pritzker has decided to go a different route and that he will appoint a new chair of the IBHE. He thanked everyone in the room for caring deeply about higher education, wanting to do the right thing, and for having done the right thing in some very tumultuous times while coming from different perspectives. Now is a time of transition and that is not easy, but can be handled in higher education. Chair Cross also thanked the IBHE staff for their hard work, their knowledge and commitment, and how they make life easy for the universities. He thanked Nyle Robinson for stepping into the interim executive director role and thanked Mark Jamil for all his legal work behind the scenes keeping everyone on track and allowing them to focus on what needs to be focused on.

Good things are going to happen for higher education in the years to come. Chair Cross will continue to be a champion for higher education wherever he ends up. He would like to continue to help the government even if it is not in higher education.

- **Remarks by Interim Executive Director, Mr. Nyle Robinson**

Mr. Nyle Robinson thanked Chair Cross for the time to highlight a few recent activities and noted that it is a busy time for staff. Jaimee Ray will present some of the most significant bills submitted by the Legislature later in the meeting. There is a record number of higher education bills this year. Later in the week IBHE will have the first appropriation committee meeting.

The higher education budget requested by the Governor is the largest percentage increase since Fiscal Year 2002. Since that time there were four different years of a six percent decrease. In dollar terms it is the largest budget ever for the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, mainly for the Monetary Award Program. There is a request for \$150 million for capital renewal, which is the first in quite some time, and a \$75 million re-appropriation for emergency projects. If it is passed and money is released it will be the most significant capital funding received since 2010, even if there is no new capital funding bill. IBHE testified before the senate and house and those are the first hearings in a long time that anyone can remember in regards to capital. There was a great deal of optimism and appreciation.

The Underrepresented Groups Report (URG) will be presented later by Dr. Arthur Sutton. This report represents a departure from the past reports. Sections were added to better highlight the nature and scope of the problems. This report is a collaboration across agency units. It is the core function of the Diversity and Outreach unit but the data is compiled by the Information Management and Research unit. Underrepresentation has been increasingly highlighted at recent meetings. In addition to the terms “diversity” and “underrepresentation”, the term being increasingly used is “equity”. The P-20 Council is looking at developing equity targets within the 60 x 2025 framework. There would be different goals for each racial and ethnic group because each group starts at a significantly different distance from the goal. Figure 4 on page 20 of the URG shows the educational attainment of 18 to 24 year olds. It is rather sobering to see the differences by racial and ethnic groups. It tells us a great deal about what needs to be done to meet that goal on an equitable basis. The improvement has to come in African American and Latino completions. The Pritzker administration has spoken a great deal about equity and diversity. There will be more attention to this in the future and IBHE is trying to be prepared for that. The greater challenge than just identifying it as a problem is how we now achieve this goal and we get more African American and Latino students to certificates and degrees.

G. Informational Item Not Requiring Board Action
5. Legislative Report

Chair Cross requested a motion to reorder the agenda so that Item G-5 could be presented by Ms. Jaimee Ray before Item C.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Mr. Jay Bergman and seconded by Dr. Sherry Eagle, unanimously approved reordering the agenda to allow for the presentation of Item G-5 before Item C.

Whereupon, Santos Rivera joined the meeting via telephone conference.

Ms. Jaime Ray presented the contents of this item noting that there is an unprecedented number of bills affecting higher education.

C. Reports and Updates

• Advisory Committee Report – Mr. Carl Frasor, Student Advisory Committee

Mr. Carl Frasor presented an update on the Student Advisory Committee (SAC) to the Board and thanked the board for allowing him to present the report. The SAC elected their new board at a meeting last September. Mr. Frasor emailed over 150 schools asking them to join the SAC, but there are only about ten schools that consistently attend the meetings. The SAC will conduct elections at the end of this academic year instead of at the beginning of the next academic year. This will give the outgoing officers the opportunity to train the incoming officers. The new officers can look at what the board has been doing and better plan and have attendance at the meetings. The SAC will try to have meetings available online at about ten locations throughout the state so more students can participate at the school closest to them. Recently the SAC passed the Textbook Affordability Resolution and it was presented to the IBHE at the December meeting. This Resolution provides students with an opportunity to voice their concerns on the prices of textbook and the inability to sell back the textbooks to the school for the same price. The SAC had an amendment to the bylaws presented for consideration to add an additional committee to the SAC to help students look for jobs and internships. Some of the schools provided information on what they were doing on this issue and the SAC found that the problem is more of a school specific

problem and not a statewide problem. The amendment did not pass. Mr. Frasor is excited to see what the SAC can get done in the next year and thanked the Board.

Chair Cross had to step away from the meeting and asked Mr. Jay Bergman to preside over the meeting until his return.

- **Underrepresented Groups Report – Dr. Arthur Sutton**

Dr. Arthur Sutton presented the annual Underrepresented Groups (URG) Report. The URG provides highlights on the progress of underrepresented students and the work needed to address policy and practices to improve student success throughout the state of Illinois. Pursuant to the Board of Higher Education Act the URG is presented annually on the academic success, progress of enrollment, retention, and completion rates of students identified as members of an underrepresented student group. The purpose of the URG is to help develop and guide policy and to review the academic success of underrepresented student groups. The statute defines underrepresented students as a citizen or resident alien who identifies as African American, Hispanic or Latino, Asian American, Pacific Islander, American Indian, Alaska Native, or an individual with a disability. The URG's focus is to promote the increased college opportunity and completion of all student groups.

The URG is broken down into several sections. Dr. Sutton highlighted the contents of each section:

- The **Executive Summary** provides highlights of what has happened, what is being done, and what will continue to be done by the public institutions over the past year to help students succeed.
- The **Educational Pipeline** outlines educational attainment differences between racial and ethnic groups, defines regional differences in the proportion of students who have not gone to college or are still attending, and what can be done to target student groups to help them participate in higher education and be successful.
- **Enrollments** looks at enrollment trends and the activities of public universities and how they are working to be recruit, retain, and help students successfully complete degree programs.
- **Completions** looks at the completion trends. The URG indicates some things are working and some additional work needs to be done. The focus needs to be on retaining students and improving completion rates.
- **Recommendations** in the URG are similar to those in recent reports. Many of the programs and services institutions provide are support services and activities to help students transition from high school to college and to stay in college. Students are identified as at-risk of academic failure. Helping students to transition is an important part of helping at-risk students stay in school and be successful. Students commonly have to work, study, and do a balancing act with life. Colleges and universities provide services to students to help them build the skills necessary to be a successful and productive college student.
- Appendix A is the **Institutional Summaries**. This section provides information about the work that the universities have done to encourage and support students. The institutional summaries highlight services schools have provided that they feel have been successful. IBHE staff meets with the institutions on an annual basis to talk about what they are doing, what they want to see in the URG, how they would like to strengthen the URG, and how to work together collaboratively to address the issues

that are important to students. The Board requested comparison information between the numbers reported last year and this year.

- Appendix B is the **National Peer Completion Summaries** compares the performance of Illinois state universities with comparable universities across the country. Each Illinois public institution defines their peer group. The report looks at enrollment and completion rates at each peer institution. It is a means to help or encourage Illinois institutions to compete against their peer group

Dr. Sutton noted that the P-20 Council and other groups are also working on the topic of student success. The state is looking at a goal of having equity targets for student success, as well as employment and other factors where students from underrepresented groups lag behind the average. If all groups do better Illinois does better as a state.

There also are significant regional differences in the proportion of students graduating from high school. Fewer high school graduates means fewer students enrolling in college and ultimately fewer earning certificates and degrees. We want to encourage more students to go to college, be successful in college, and be successful employee. If we see a demographic group that is struggling or needing improvement we need to figure out ways to help.

Committee meetings of the underrepresented groups committee discuss how student groups can do better based on enrollment, retention, and completion and how this can be better displayed in the URG. One of the programs that ties into the URG is the Diversifying Faculty in Illinois (DFI). Just last month a two-day conference was held at Northern Illinois University for the DFI fellows. These individuals are looking to be faculty members in the state of Illinois after they complete their degrees. We do have a pipeline and we are working to make progress.

Dr. Sutton stated in conclusion that we want to see our students be successful across the board. The URG has changed, added new information and will continue to change or include additional information to improve its usefulness. Dr. Sutton thanked the Board.

D. Action Items

1. New Units of Instruction at Public Community Colleges

Dr. Bernoteit presented the contents of this item. Dr. Sherry Eagle requested more articulation on the dialogue of how a program will be paid for when a new program is presented for approval.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Alice Marie Jacobs and seconded by Dr. Darlene Ruscitti, unanimously grants authority to Illinois Valley Community College to offer the Associate in Applied Science in Cybersecurity 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 Wabash Valley 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.

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

Dr. Bernoteit presented the contents of this item. Dr. Sherry Eagle asked questions about the retention rates of Columbia College of Missouri. Ms. April Longley, Director of Institutional Compliance, Columbia College of Missouri, and Dr. Nathan Miller, Associate Vice President for Online and Civilian Programs, Columbia College Global, addressed that matter before the Board.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Ms. Emily Buice and seconded by Dr. Jack Thomas, unanimously hereby grants to Adler University Authorization to Grant the Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership 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 Central Baptist Theological Seminary Authorization to Grant the Master of Divinity in the North Suburban 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.

And, hereby grants to Columbia College (MO) Authorization to Grant the Bachelor of Arts in Human Resource Management in the North Suburban 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.

And, hereby grants to Lindenwood University – Belleville Authorization to Grant the Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies, Bachelor of Science in Accounting, Bachelor of Science in Finance, and the Bachelor of Science in Marketing in the Southwestern 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 National Louis University Authorization to Operate in the Southern and Southwestern Regions 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 to Stautzenberger College DBA Rockford Career College Authorization to Grant the Associate of Applied Science in Medical Assistant X-Ray Technician (Limited Scope) 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

Dr. Bernoteit presented contents of this item.

Whereupon, Chair Cross returned to the meeting.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Mr. Jay Bergman and seconded by Dr. Sherry Eagles, unanimously hereby grants to Southern Illinois University Edwardsville Authorization to Establish the Master of Public Health in the Southwestern 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.

And, hereby grants to the University of Illinois at Chicago Authorization to Establish the Juris Doctor 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.

And, hereby grants to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Authorization to Establish the Master of Science in Molecular and Cellular Biology and the Master of Sustainable Urban Design in the Prairie 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.

4. Appointment of Hearing Officer Pertaining to the Potential Revocation of Operating and Degree Granting Authority of an Independent Institution

Dr. Bernoteit presented the contents of this item.

Having considered staff findings and recommendations and pursuant to its authority under the rules to implement The Private College and The Academic Degree Act, the Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Ms. Meredith Daw and seconded by Dr. Jack Thomas, unanimously hereby approves the appointment of a hearing officer to conduct a hearing relating to the possible revocation of operating and degree-granting authority for Argosy University. The hearing officer shall make a recommendation regarding revocation to the Board at a future Illinois Board of Higher Education meeting.

E. Non-Instructional Capital Project Action Items

1. Non-Instructional Capital Project – Northern Illinois University

Dr. Alan Phillips presented the contents of this item.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Sherry Eagle and seconded by Dr. Darlene Ruscitti, unanimously approved the non-instructional capital project for Northern Illinois University to redevelop the Holmes Student Center, as included in the item.

2. Non-Instructional Capital Project – Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Dr. Alan Phillips presented the contents of this item.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Mr. Eric Zarnikow and seconded by Dr. Alice Marie Jacobs, unanimously approved the non-instructional capital project for Northern Illinois University to redevelop the Holmes Student Center, as included in the item.

3. Non-Instructional Capital Project – University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Dr. Alan Phillips presented the contents of this item.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Darlene Ruscitti and seconded by Mr. Jay Bergman, unanimously approved the non-instructional capital project for Northern Illinois University to redevelop the Holmes Student Center, as included in the item.

F. Consent Agenda Action Items

Chair Cross next moved to the consent agenda.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Mr. Jay Bergman and seconded by Mr. Eric Zarnikow, unanimously approved Item Nos. F-1, 2, and 3.

1. Board Meeting Minutes – December 4, 2018

The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously approved the Minutes of the Board Meeting of December 4, 2018.

2. Fiscal Year 2018/2019 Financial Report as of January 31, 2019

The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously approved the Fiscal Year 2018/2019 Financial Report as of January 31, 2019.

3. Board Member Appointment to Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC)

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby unanimously resolves:

That the Illinois Board of Higher Education reappoint Dr. Alice Marie Jacobs, a current member of this Board, to the Midwestern Higher Education Commission to serve as a representative of the state of Illinois and as an ambassador for the Commission as set forth in the Compact and the Midwestern Higher Education Compact Act (45 ILCS 155/2) for a term scheduled to expire on January 1, 2023.

G. Informational Items Not Requiring Board Action

- 1. Private Colleges and Universities Capital Distribution Formula** (written report)
- 2. Illinois Transfer and Articulation Initiatives Annual Report 2017-2018** (written report)
- 3. Illinois Community College Board Update on the General Education Core Curriculum Credential** (written report)
- 4. Fiscal Year 2020 Governor’s Higher Education Budget Operations, Grants, and Capital Improvements**

Dr. Alan Phillips presented the contents of this item.

H. Public Comment

Dr. Larry Dietz thanked Chair Cross for his service to Illinois higher education.

Dr. Marie Donovan provided the Board with a written statement regarding the Western Illinois University layoffs and thanked Chair Cross for his service to Illinois higher education.

I. Other Business

The next Board meeting will be June 4, 2019, at Northern Illinois University.

J. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Cross adjourned the meeting at 2:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Deitsch, 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 March 5, 2019, meeting.