MINUTES – BOARD MEETING
August 6, 2019

Submitted for: Action.

Summary: Minutes of the August 6, 2019, meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education held via videoconference at the Illinois Board of Higher Education, Springfield, Illinois and Aurora University, Aurora, Illinois.

Action Requested: That the Illinois Board of Higher Education approve the minutes of the August 6, 2019, Board meeting.
A meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) was called to order at 10:03 a.m. in Conference Room 1 at the Illinois Board of Higher Education, Springfield and in Room STEM 109, Homer Easley Education Center at Aurora University, Aurora, Illinois, on August 6, 2019.

The following Board members were present: John Atkinson, Chair, Max Coffey, Jennifer Delaney, Derek Douglas, Andrea Evans, Teresa Garate, Jennifer Garrison, Veronica Gloria, Veronica Herrero, Alice Marie Jacobs, Pranav Kothari and Eric Zarnikow.

Others present: Mr. Mark S. Jamil, Burke, Burns & Pinelli, LTD.; Mr. Nyle Robinson, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Dr. Kevin Dorsey, Southern Illinois University System; Dr. John Dunn, Southern Illinois University Carbondale; Dr. Jose Torres, Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy; Dr. Amy King, DeVry University; Dr. Marie Donovan, Faculty Advisory Council; Dr. Brian Durham, Illinois Community College Board; Dr. Meera Komarraju, Southern Illinois University Carbondale; Mr. Rex Budde, Southern Illinois Healthcare; Mr. Woody Thorne, Southern Illinois Healthcare; 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. Karen Helland; Ms. Melissa Hahn; and Dr. Gretchen Lohman, Illinois Board of Higher Education.

A. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair John Atkinson thanked everyone for attending and asked the Board Members to introduce themselves. Whereupon Board Members introduced themselves and provided a brief background.

- Call Meeting to Order, Chair John Atkinson

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

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

The Illinois Board of Higher Education, on motion made by Mr. Eric Zarnikow and seconded by Ms. Veronica Herrero, to allow for Derek Douglas to participate in the meeting via telephone conference pursuant to Section 7(a) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, unanimously approved Board Member Derek Douglas to participate via telephone conference call.
Chair Atkinson thanked President Rebecca Sherrick and Aurora University for hosting one of the videoconference locations.

B. 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. Teresa Garate and seconded by Dr. Alice Marie Jacobs, unanimously hereby grants authority to Kishwaukee College to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Hospitality 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 Moraine Valley Community College to offer the Associate in Engineering Science 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 Richland Community College to offer the Associate of 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 Spoon River College to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Advanced Manufacturing and Associate of Applied Science in Medical Laboratory Technician 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

In light of anticipated discussion involving Indiana University contained within this agenda item, Dr. Alice Marie Jacobs 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 Mr. Pranav Kothari and carried.

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

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Ms. Veronica Herrero and seconded by Ms. Veronica Gloria, unanimously hereby grants to Adler University authorization to grant a Doctor of Philosophy in Organizational Leadership 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 Chamberlain University authorization to grant a Master of Science (Accelerated RN to MSN) in Nursing and the Master of Healthcare Administration in the West 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.
Dr. Alice Marie Jacobs expressed concern that the Dual Credit Quality Act was in effect in January 2019 and that the Indiana University item is just now coming before the board. She believes the proposal appears to be a violation of the intent of the Act and is concerned with how many more of these proposals will be received from an out-of-state university that IBHE is unaware of.

IBHE and the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) reviewed the amendments to the Dual Credit Quality Act which was enacted in January 2019. This amendment requires Illinois school districts to first pursue expansion or initiation of dual credit offerings with Illinois community colleges and, should such an arrangement not be possible, then subsequent to that seek another higher education partner. Part of the review process is to ensure that Illinois high school students participating in dual credit courses are doing so through an accredited college or university so the credits earned will be transferable to other higher education institutions. The school districts operation of the program is not specifically reviewed by IBHE. All providers of dual credit in Illinois whether in-state or out-of-state have been apprised of these amendments to the Act.

The placement of this Indiana University item on the agenda reflects staff review of that amendment of the Act. A Memorandum of Understanding between the Argo School District and Indiana University was executed prior to the effective date of the amendment being enacted. ICCB and IBHE staff have verified that the agreement was in place. IBHE is aware of only one other instance that would fit into this scenario.

Mr. Patrick Cannon, Associate Director of Advanced College Projects at Indiana University, stated that Argo Community High School approached Indiana University. He believes the tuition will be paid for by the school district. The number of students that choose to attend Indiana University after they attend the dual credit programs from Argo are very small, if any at all. They will not be actively recruiting Argo students to attend Indiana University. Ninety percent of colleges and universities and community colleges across the country accept Indiana University credits.

Dr. Bernoteit will follow up with answers to questions posed by the board members as to why Argo partnered with Indiana University instead of an Illinois college or university.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Jennifer Garrison and seconded by Mr. Pranav Kothari, unanimously hereby grants to Indiana University authorization to operate in the South Metro 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.
3. New Units of Instruction for Public Service, and Research at Public Universities

In light of anticipated discussion involving Southern Illinois University Carbondale authorization to grant the Bachelor of Science in Nursing in the Southern region component contained within this agenda item, Chair Atkinson 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 Ms. Veronica Herrero and carried.

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

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Andrea Evans and seconded by Dr. Teresa Garate, unanimously hereby grants to Illinois State University authorization to establish the Master of Athletic Training in the Central 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 Southern Illinois University Carbondale authorization to establish the Bachelor of Science in Business Analytics, the Doctor of Physical Therapy, and the Occupational Therapy Doctorate in the Southern 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 Master of Science in Civic Analytics 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.

And, hereby grants to University of Illinois at Springfield authorization to establish the Center for Online Learning, Research, and Service in the Central 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 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign authorization to establish the Bachelor of Science in Sustainable Design 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.

Chair Atkinson had several questions after reviewing the information provided to the Board on the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree at Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC). For the past six years there has been a BSN offered in Carbondale under the auspices of the Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) campus. Chair Atkinson asked why the interinstitutional agreement providing this option mutually changed via a teach-out plan so no new students would be enrolled after August 19, 2019, at SIUC in the SIUE BSN program. Interim SIUC Chancellor Dr. John Dunn stated that SIUC has always hoped they could transition the program to the Carbondale campus. The program, which drew fewer students than anticipated, required SIUC students to transfer to SIUE. If the student received a SIUC-specific scholarship or was involved in SIUC student organizations, he or she lost the scholarship and was unable to participate in those organizations once transferred to SIUE. The university also found that SIUE program graduates did not go on to serve rural southern Illinois.
Southern Illinois Healthcare (SIH) CEO Rex Budde addressed the Board. SIH is in agreement with SIUC that the program can be offered in a way that will be far more attractive to the students that come from area schools and that those students might want to stay in the area and serve the area. Southern Illinois Healthcare believes in this new program and is offering $1 million in support. SIUC also has a foundation in Chicago that has pledged $2.2 million.

Chair Atkinson inquired as to how many instances of a student losing a scholarship once they became an SIUE students. Dr. Dunn indicated that of the 27 students in the program there might be five to six students affected.

Ms. Veronica Herrero asked if the original intent of the agreement was to build the capacity at SIUC to then become independent of the SIUE program. Dr. Dunn was not at SIUC when the original agreement was entered into but believes the parties entered into the agreement with aspirations, hopes, and dreams to have an independent program at SIUC.

Chair Atkinson thanked Southern Illinois Healthcare for the $1 million that is on the table and inquired if that was in terms of scholarships or operating budget. Southern Illinois Healthcare is donating the money to SIUC and the funds will be used for program operations. Chair Atkinson further inquired about duplicative or administrative costs related to separating the two programs. Dr. Dunn indicated the budget for SIUC will be less than the budget currently for the SIUE program.

Chair Atkinson also asked what SIUC anticipates the enrollment numbers to be and when they will have students in the program. Dr. Dunn believes the program can reach up to 100 students. Mr. Pranav Kothari inquired as to where SIUC sees the program growing and how they developed the projection of 100 students. Dr. Dunn believes the enrollment for the nursing program will be like what they have seen with their aviation program, where they have projected a certain number of students but will keep growing particularly in terms of the needs of deep rural southern Illinois. He indicated that SIUC must go through the appropriate accreditation and licensure and believes that by spring they will have students enrolled because the students can begin to take the courses that will lead them into the nursing program. SIUC Provost Dr. Meera Komarraju noted that SIUC has included a minor in healthcare management that is not available in the SIUE program.

Chair Atkinson inquired about any financial aid incentives for the students staying in the area. SIUC is working with Southern Illinois Healthcare on that subject. Mr. Budde indicated that in addition to $1 million to seed the program SIH committed to giving students jobs while they go through the program in order to support the economic needs of the non-traditional students. Many of the students are very non-traditional; the average age is 28 years old. Chair Atkinson agreed that jobs are great and that we were not aware of that commitment and specifically inquired whether scholarships and funding for student fees, activities, books, and other resources will be provided by the university to keep the students in the community. Dr. Dunn stated that SIUC invests a tremendous amount of money back into the students to assist them and their families. The Chicago foundation is very interested in making sure some of the $2.2 million is related to scholarships for students.

The $2.2 million has been committed by the foundation for this program and have extended their interest to the Doctor of Physical Therapy and Doctor of Occupational Therapy which would be additional funds.

With there being no further questions from the Board, Chair Atkinson requested a motion to approve this item.
The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Ms. Veronica Gloria and seconded by Mr. Pranav Kothari, unanimously hereby grants to Southern Illinois University Carbondale authorization to establish the Bachelor of Science in Nursing in the Southern 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.

C. Consent Agenda Action Items

Chair Atkinson next moved to the consent agenda.

1. Board Meeting Minutes – June 4, 2019

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Teresa Garate and seconded by Mr. Eric Zarnikow, unanimously approved the Minutes of the Board Meeting of June 4, 2019.

D. Public Comment

Dr. Marie Donovan, Chair of the Faculty Advisory Council (FAC) welcomed the new and continuing board members and provided background information about the FAC. She urged the Board to capitalize on their relationships with other boards and agencies to reimagine and rebuild the P-20 system. The FAC looks forward to working with the Board in meaningful and permanent ways.

E. Other Business

The next Board meeting will be on September 10, 2019, at Waubonsee Community College in Sugar Grove.

F. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Atkinson adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.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 August 6, 2019, meeting.