

**APPROVED  
APRIL 30, 2020**

Item #E-1  
April 30, 2020

**MINUTES – BOARD MEETING  
December 10, 2019**

**Submitted for:** Action.

**Summary:** Minutes of the December 10, 2019, meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education held at DePaul University, Chicago, Illinois.

**Action Requested:** That the Illinois Board of Higher Education approve the open and closed session minutes of the December 10, 2019, Board meeting and keep the closed session minutes closed as the need for confidentiality exists due to litigation matters.

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**MINUTES – BOARD MEETING  
December 10, 2019**

A meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) was called to order at 1:00 p.m. in the Student Center, Room 120AB at DePaul University, Chicago, Illinois, on December 10, 2019.

The following Board members were present: John Atkinson, Chair, Max Coffey, Jennifer Delaney, Derek Douglas, Andrea Evans, Jennifer Garrison, Veronica Gloria, Veronica Herrero, Alice Marie Jacobs, Pranav Kothari, David Santafe-Zambrano, Kenneth Shaw, Marcus Wolfe, and Eric Zarnikow.

Others present: Mark S. Jamil, Burke, Burns & Pinelli, LTD.; Mr. Nyle Robinson, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Dr. James Allen, Southern Illinois University; Dr. Lisa Freeman, Northern Illinois University; Dr. Gloria Gibson, Northeastern Illinois University; Dr. David Glassman, Eastern Illinois University; Dr. Elaine Maimon, Governors State University; Dr. Z Scott, Chicago State University; Dr. Brian Durham, Illinois Community College Board; Dr. Marie Donovan, Faculty Advisory Council; Ms. Joan Knox, Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities; 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. Melissa Hahn, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Ms. Jaimee Ray, Illinois Board of Higher Education; and Ms. Tracy Rembusch, Illinois Board of Higher Education.

**A. Call to Order/Roll Call**

- **Call Meeting to Order, Chair John Atkinson**

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

Chair Atkinson indicated that Board member Alice Marie Jacobs 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. David Santafe-Zambrano and seconded by Mr. Pranav Kothari, to allow for Alice Marie Jacobs to participate in the meeting via telephone conference pursuant to Section 7(a) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, unanimously approved Board Member Alice Marie Jacobs to participate via telephone conference call.*

**B. Welcome and Remarks**

- **Welcome by Dr. A. Gabriel Esteban, President, DePaul University**

Dr. Esteban welcomed the IBHE to DePaul University.

- **Welcome and remarks by Chair John Atkinson**

Chair Atkinson recognized State Representative Kelly Burke who attended the Faculty Advisory Council meeting here at DePaul University this morning.

Chair Atkinson welcomed State Senator Pat McGuire. Senator McGuire has been a great ally of education in general and as a member of the Higher Education Committee and Higher Education Working Group.

Chair Atkinson reported that we expect to see another year of increased higher education funds thanks to the advocacy of Governor Pritzker. The Governor has indicated his continued support for higher education through direct student assistance and through operations funding.

Chair Atkinson highlighted recent IBHE activities and accomplishments including attendance at the Lumina Policy Retreat; starting the strategic planning process; meeting with presidents and chancellors; working with the Governor's Office to send information to high school guidance offices; and reported that Illinois leads the nation in FAFSA application completion by high school seniors.

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

Interim Executive Nyle Robinson reported Illinois will be participating in a Lumina quality assurance grant and that funding should be expected once a formal application is submitted.

Mr. Robinson further reported that Illinois is also one of the states taking advantage of the STRADA Education Network data base and believes IBHE should be able to start working on this in January and will be working with Illinois Community College Board and Illinois Student Assistance Commission.

**C. Reports and Updates**

- **Advisory Committee Report – Dr. Sylvia Jenkins, Illinois Council of Community College Presidents**

Dr. Sylvia Jenkins, Vice Chair of the Illinois Council of Community College Presidents, addressed the Board and reported that one of the top challenges this year will be funding. The Advisory Committee is continuing to develop new services and curriculum to address the needs of the communities served by the IBHE. Dr. Jenkins further reported that community colleges are working very hard on retention and completion of students with a focus this year on funding and transfer availability. The Advisory Committee is also working on a statewide marketing campaign to get students to stay in Illinois.

**D. Presentations Not Requiring Board Action**

- **Partnership for College Completion – Kyle Westbrook**

Mr. Kyle Westbrook presented the Partnership for College Completion's report, *Priced Out: Latinx Students, Black Students, and Rural Students*. Mr. Westbrook stated that results demonstrate how the State of Illinois' past disinvestment in higher education has negatively

impacted Illinois students. The presentation was focused on access, ability to pay, and degree payoffs.

Chair Atkinson thanked Mr. Westbrook and his organization for preparing the reports and for the valuable work they do. Chair Atkinson stated that as the IBHE thinks through the planning process for the master plan, he looks forward to partnering with stakeholder institutions to better align work force demands to focus on jobs that are real and available.

**E. Presentation/Action Item**

- **Fiscal Year 2021 Higher Education Budget Recommendations: Operations, Grants and Research at Public Universities**

Mr. Robinson presented the 2021 higher education budget recommendations. Mr. Robinson discussed the 2020 budget, gave a brief report on the historic context of the 2020 budget, and reported the IBHE has met with the universities and state agencies over the last few months to discuss the recommendations and gather feedback.

Mr. Robinson stated that the IBHE recommends a total overall increase of \$193.8 million, which is 9.5 percent above the current year's level of funding. This is above the 2:1 ratio between elementary and secondary education operations funding increases and higher education operations funding increases, which was in place until 2002. The requested 5.9 percent increase for public universities and community colleges is intended to allow those institutions the best chance to maintain their level of funding without increasing their tuition and fees.

The IBHE is following the Governor's directive relating to a \$50 million increase for the Monetary Award Program (MAP), aims to fund a third year of incoming students for the AIM HIGH program, and restore the Veterans and National Guard tuition waiver program through the Illinois Student Assistance Commission. The IBHE further seeks to restore capacity to IBHE in a number of ways including data analysis, regulatory oversight, and the Higher Education Cooperation Act.

He reported that a large set of grant programs funded through IBHE were cut in 2015; IBHE is asking for them to be returned to at least the 2015 level.

Finally, a request of \$200,000 is for the master planning process, which would include the Governor's conference in late 2020 on future of higher education.

If the State provides a 5.9 percent increase to universities, which is more than received last year, and not increase tuition and fee revenues, it would take about 15 years to reach a point where the split between tuition and state funds would reach a 50-50 balance. The significant increases in MAP will help address affordability for low income students but tuition costs continue to be a problem for those with above MAP eligibility levels.

In terms of capital, we do not expect to get new revenues above Rebuild Illinois. Our first priority is the release of Rebuild Illinois program funding. However, the request is based on the two percent principle. If the State were to invest one percent more it would still take 28.8 years to recover.

Substantial and exhaustive discussion followed as to the 2:1 budget ratio and the basis for same in relation to the IBHE Budget Recommendation. Chair Atkinson asked that the Board focus on the numbers and where the IBHE needs to be now and stated that Mr. Robinson had done a great

job of presenting that. Mr. Robinson indicated we could remove this section if needed and that he had included to show how far higher education funding has fallen relative to other areas of the budget. Chair Atkinson stated that the Board was not endorsing the 2:1 ratio by approving the IBHE Budget Recommendation. Mr. Jamil advised the Board that they are voting on the budget as formulated.

**1. Consideration and Approval of Fiscal Year 2021 Higher Education Budget Recommendations: Operations, Grants, and Capital Improvements**

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education, on motion made by Dr. Kenneth Shaw and seconded by Dr. Andrea Evans, hereby approved the Fiscal Year 2021 Higher Education Budget Recommendations as presented with the qualification that the 2:1 budgeting principle was specifically excluded from the Board's decision.*

**F. 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. Jennifer Garrison and seconded by Mr. Pranav Kothari, hereby grants authority to Joliet Junior College to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal Studies 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 Kishwaukee College to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Technology and Manufacturing 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 McHenry County College to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Entrepreneurial Agriculture 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 Waubensee Community College to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal Studies 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 Units of Instruction, Public Service, and Research at Public Universities**

Dr. Bernoteit presented the contents of this item.

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Kenneth Shaw and seconded by Mr. David Santafe-Zambrano hereby grants to Governors State University authorization to grant the Master of Science in Information Technology 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.*

*And, hereby grants to the Southern Illinois University Carbondale the authorization to establish the Master of Science in Cybersecurity and Cyber Systems and the Master of Science in Strategic Analytics 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 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign authorization to grant the Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences in Brain and Cognitive Science and the Master of Science in Health Technology 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.*

### **3. Potential Board Extension of Accreditation Timeline Required for Operating and Degree Granting Authority of an Independent Institution**

Dr. Bernoteit presented this agenda item pertaining to American Islamic College. Discussion followed as to the institution's accreditation trajectory and enrollment levels.

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Kenneth Shaw and seconded by Mr. Marcus Wolfe, hereby unanimously grants to American Islamic College a limited extension of its initial authorization to operate and grant degrees in order to obtain accreditation, subject to the institution's attainment of Candidacy status with the Higher Learning Commission by March 15, 2020, and accreditation by March 15, 2024.*

### **G. Consent Agenda Action Items**

Chair Atkinson next moved to the consent agenda.

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Jennifer Garrison and seconded by Ms. Veronica Herrero unanimously approved Item Nos. G-1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12.*

#### **1. Board Meeting Minutes – September 10, 2019**

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously approved the Minutes of the Board Meeting of September 10, 2019.*

#### **2. Executive Committee Minutes – September 23, 2019**

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously approved the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of September 23, 2019.*

#### **3. Executive Committee Minutes – November 22, 2019**

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously approved the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of November 22, 2019.*

#### **4. Confidentiality of Executive Session Minutes and Destruction of Verbatim Recordings**

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby resolves:*

*Resolved, that the Illinois Board of Higher Education finds that the need for confidentiality exists for the minutes of the IBHE Executive Committee, Closed Sessions of September 23, 2019, and November 22, 2019, and that such minutes shall continue to remain confidential; and further*

*Resolved, that the Illinois Board of Higher Education finds that the following IBHE Closed Session minutes, all of which have been previously approved by the Board, be opened for review as the need for confidentiality no longer exists: June 5, 2018; August 2, 2018; September 18; 2018 and December 4, 2018; and further*

*Resolved that the destruction of verbatim recordings for Closed Session of an IBHE Board Meeting held June 5, 2018, be approved in accordance with Section 2.06(c) of the Open Meetings Act pursuant to the recommendation of Outside Counsel.*

**5. Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Financial Report as of October 31, 2019**

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously approved the Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Financial Report as of October 31, 2019.*

**6. Amendments to Rules for Grow Your Own Teacher Grant**

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby approves the proposed amendments to the rules for the Grow Your Own Teacher Grants (23 Ill. Adm. Code 1085) as detailed in the attached document for publication in the Illinois Register.*

**7. Amendments to Rules for Nurse Educator Fellowship Program**

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby approves the proposed amendments to the rules for the Nurse Educator Fellowship Program (23 Ill. Adm. Code 1105) as detailed in the attached document for publication in the Illinois Register.*

**8. Amendments to Rules for Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program**

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby approves the proposed amendments to the rules for the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program (23 Ill. Adm. Code 1015) as detailed in the attached document for publication in the Illinois Register.*

**9. Amendments to Rules for General Grant Programs**

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby approves the proposed amendments to the rules for the General Grant Programs (23 Ill. Adm. Code 1001) as detailed in the attached document for publication in the Illinois Register.*

**10. IBHE Administrative Rules: January 2020 Regulatory Agenda**

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby adopts the proposed 2020 Regulatory Agenda as contained in the item to be published in the Illinois Register.*

**11. Personnel Policy for IBHE**

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby adopts the personnel policy for a drug and alcohol-free workplace as provided in this agenda item.*

**12. Appropriation Transfer for Fiscal Year 2020 – Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy**

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby approves the following appropriation transfers as requested by the Board of Trustees of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy.*

**J. Public Comment**

Chair Atkinson requested a motion to reorder the agenda so that Item J could be presented before Item H.

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Mr. Pranav Kothari and seconded by Dr. Jennifer Delaney unanimously approved reordering the agenda to allow for the presentation of Item J before Item H.*

Chair Atkinson introduced Dr. Erika Hunt from the Illinois State University Center for the Study of Education Policy. Dr. Hunt and her colleagues have recently published a book, *Reforming Principal Preparation at the State Level: Perspectives on Policy Reform from Illinois*. Dr. Hunt presented each Board member with a copy.

**H. Executive Session**

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

Chair Atkinson 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.

*Dr. Jennifer Garrison 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) of the Open Meetings Act. Dr. Jennifer Delaney seconded the motion.*

*The roll call vote on the motion was as follows: Yes – Atkinson, Coffey, Delaney, Douglas, Evans, Garrison, Gloria, Herrero, Jacobs, Kothari, Santafe-Zambrano, Shaw, Wolfe, Zarnikow. No – none. Whereupon the Motion passed.*

The Board moved into executive session at 3:50 p.m.

**Reconvene in Open Session**

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

*Mr. Eric Zarnikow moved that the Board of Higher Education come out of executive session at 4:10 p.m. on Tuesday, December 10, 2019, and Ms. Veronica Herrero seconded the motion.*

**I. Informational Items Not Requiring Board Action (Written Reports)**

- 1. Preliminary Fall 2019 Enrollments in Illinois Higher Education**
- 2. Report on Closed Institutions and Teach-out Locations in Illinois**
- 3. Spring 2020 Legislative Proposals**
- 4. Report on Fiscal Year 2020 Nurse Educator Fellowships**
- 5. Report of Fiscal Year 2020 Nursing School Grant Awards**
- 6. IBHE 2020 Board Meeting Calendar**

**K. Other Business**

The next Board meeting will be March 17, 2020, at Loyola University Chicago.

**L. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Atkinson adjourned the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Tracy Rembusch, Interim Secretary to the Board.