

APPROVED

SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

Item #F-1
September 14, 2021

**MINUTES – BOARD MEETING
August 10, 2021**

Submitted for: Action.

Summary: Minutes of the August 10, 2021, meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education held at the James R. Thompson Center in Chicago, the Illinois Board of Higher Education in Springfield, and online via WebEx as permitted by Public Act 101-0640 and the Illinois Governor’s Disaster Proclamation dated July 23, 2021.

Action Requested: That the Illinois Board of Higher Education approve the minutes of the August 10, 2021, Board meeting.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

MINUTES – BOARD MEETING
August 10, 2021

A meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) was called to order at 1:00 p.m. at the James R. Thompson Center in Chicago, the Illinois Board of Higher Education in Springfield and online via WebEx as permitted by Public Act 101-0640 enacted June 12, 2020, and the Illinois Governor’s Disaster Proclamation dated July 23, 2021. Chair Atkinson determined that a fully in-person meeting is not practical nor prudent due to the disaster.

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

Others present: Mr. Mark S. Jamil, Burke, Burns & Pinelli, LTD.; Ms. Ginger Ostro, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Dr. Gloria Gibson, Northeastern Illinois University; Dr. David Glassman, Eastern Illinois University; Dr. Cheryl Green, Governors State University; Dr. Terri Kinzy, Illinois State University; Dr. Dan Mahony, Southern Illinois University; Dr. Brian Durham, Illinois Community College Board; Dr. Shawn Schumacher, Faculty Advisory Council; Ms. Angela Szczepanik-Sanchez, Disabilities Advisory Committee; Mr. Dave Tretter, Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities; Dr. Stephanie Bernoteit, Illinois Board of Higher Education (present in person at IBHE offices); Dr. Eric Lichtenberger, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Mr. Nyle Robinson, 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.

The meeting was conducted by video conference as allowed by Public Act 101-0640 and roll call votes were recorded for each matter acted upon. The IBHE’s Executive Deputy Director was physically present at the IBHE offices. The audio of the meeting was recorded and may be requested on the IBHE website.

A. Call to Order/Roll Call

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

Chair John Atkinson called the meeting to order. Board Secretary Rembusch took roll call. A quorum was present.

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

Chair Atkinson noted that we have encouraged everyone to remain remote to stay healthy and safe as COVID-19 takes another turn. Current vaccines are safe, effective, and available at no cost. He encouraged everyone to get vaccinated and spread the word about the importance of doing so.

Chair Atkinson welcomed the new president of Illinois State University (ISU), Dr. Terri Goss Kinzy. President Kinzy comes to ISU, having most recently served as vice president for Research and Innovation at Western Michigan University. He invited President Kinzy to offer remarks. President Kinzy thanked Executive Director Ostro for her outreach and information about work under way in Illinois with the higher education strategic plan. She also expressed appreciation to the other public university presidents for their gracious welcome messages and the collaborative ways in which they work together. Dr. Kinzy remarked that she is proud to represent ISU and looks forward to the partnership with the Board and her fellow presidents.

Chair Atkinson reported that the Board recently adopted the new strategic plan, *A Thriving Illinois*, and work is currently underway. For example, on July 28, 2021, the Governor signed legislation creating Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity and the \$200 million in federal funds to support scholarships. This is a key strategy in *A Thriving Illinois*, and the Board will act on this today. The Board will also vote on plans related to funding for implementation of the Common Application at all public universities, which is one of the strategies to increase equity by making the college application process more seamless. He added that we have received overwhelming positive feedback about the strategic plan, and the Board looks forward to many partnerships as we continue with implementation.

- **Remarks by Executive Director Ginger Ostro**

Executive Director Ostro stated that IBHE, along with the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB), has issued two sets of updated COVID-19 guidance in accordance with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) guidance for Phase 5 and the recent Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance. She added that we strongly encourage public and private institutions to require vaccination and to follow updated CDC and IDPH guidance recommending face coverings. Ms. Ostro remarked that our institutions continue to be nimble, adapt to changing conditions, and respond to their individual circumstances.

Ms. Ostro discussed the new programs and opportunities created by the federal and state funding appropriated to us. These dollars will help launch key components of the strategic plan and continue our work toward equity. She said IBHE received funding to support staffing for the strategic plan and these positions will be posted on the IBHE website.

B. Public Comment

No one registered for public comment.

C. Action Items

1. Consideration and Approval of New Units of Instruction at Public Community Colleges

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Kenneth Shaw and seconded by Ms. Veronica Herrero hereby grants authority to Elgin Community College to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Ophthalmic 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.

The vote was:

*Yeas: Atkinson, Coffey, Delaney, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Jacobs, Kothari, Shaw, Zarnikow
Nays: None*

And, hereby grants authority to the Frontier Community College to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Coal Mining Technology 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 the John Wood Community College to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Web Development 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 the Joliet Junior College to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Respiratory Care Therapy 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 the Richard J. Daley College to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Computer-Aided Design Engineering Technology, the Associate of Applied Science in Computerized Numerical Control Engineering Technology, and the Associate of Applied Science in Welding Engineering Technology 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. Consideration and Approval of New Operating and/or Degree Granting Authority for Independent Institutions

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Mr. Eric Zarnikow and seconded by Dr. Jennifer Garrison hereby grants authorization to Oak Point University to grant the Master of Science in Nursing, Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner; Master of Science in Nursing, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner; Post-Graduate Certificate, Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner; and Post-Graduate Certificate, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner 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.

The vote was:

*Yeas: Atkinson, Coffey, Delaney, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Jacobs, Kothari, Shaw, Zarnikow
Nays: None*

And, hereby grants to Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science the authorization to grant a Master of Science in Nursing – Entry to Nursing Practice 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 authorization to St. John’s College of Nursing authorization to operate in and to grant 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.

3. Consideration and Approval of New Units of Instruction, Public Service, and Research at Public Universities

Chair Atkinson asked for clarification on the services provided by Southern Illinois University’s (SIU) Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders. SIU representative Reza Habib responded with information on the Center and details about their work to provide direct services to clients as well as educational opportunities for students.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Teresa Garate and seconded by Mr. Pranav Kothari hereby grants to Southern Illinois University Carbondale authorization to grant the Master of Science in Aviation Management 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.

The vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Coffey, Delaney, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Jacobs, Kothari, Shaw, Zarnikow
Nays: None

And, hereby grants to Southern Illinois University Carbondale authorization to establish the Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders 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 Chicago authorization to grant the Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences 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 Springfield authorization to grant the Master of Public Policy 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 Urbana-Champaign authorization to grant the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences in Linguistics and Teaching English as a Second Language 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.

And, hereby grants to University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign authorization to grant the Master of Science in Weather and Climate Risk and Analytics 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.

And, hereby grants to Western Illinois University authorization to grant the online Master of Science in Teaching Mathematics in the Western 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. Consideration and Approval of Supplemental Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund Fiscal Year 2022 Supplemental Grant Allocation

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Jennifer Delaney and seconded by Dr. Alice Marie Jacobs hereby approves the allocation of an additional \$5,043,738 in GEER funds to Illinois' public universities in the amounts specified in Attachment A and authorize the Executive Director to execute and deliver all necessary documentation to affect such allocations of GEER supplemental funds.

The vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Coffey, Delaney, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Jacobs, Kothari, Shaw, Zarnikow

Nays: None

5. Consideration and Approval of Governor's Emergency Education Relief(GEER) for Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy Fiscal Year 2022 Allocation

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Andrea Evans and seconded by Dr. Jennifer Garrison hereby approves the allocation of \$250,000 in funds from the Governor's Emergency Educational Relief (GEER) program, available through Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA), to the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy.

The vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Coffey, Delaney, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Jacobs, Kothari, Shaw, Zarnikow

Nays: None

6. Consideration and Approval of Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Grant Fund for Competitive Grants for Private Colleges and Universities Fiscal Year 2022 Grant Allocation

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Kenneth Shaw and seconded by Dr. Teresa Garate hereby grants the Executive Director the authority to issue an RFP for the distribution of \$1 million in grant funds from the Governor's Emergency Educational Relief (GEER) program, available through Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA), for private Illinois not-for-profit colleges and universities.

The vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Coffey, Delaney, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Jacobs, Kothari, Shaw, Zarnikow

Nays: None

7. Consideration and Approval of Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Grant Allocation from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRSSA)

Dr. Andrea Evans remarked how thrilled she is to see funds being added for these populations and how it works with our mission and purpose. Chair Atkinson agreed and noted it is consistent with the equity lens we developed.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Andrea Evans and seconded by Mr. Pranav Kothari hereby authorizes the Executive Director to award \$9.5 million in funds from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA) Governor's Emergency Educational Relief (GEER) program to Illinois' 12 public universities as enumerated in Attachment A.

The vote was:

*Yeas: Atkinson, Coffey, Delaney, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Jacobs, Kothari, Shaw, Zarnikow
Nays: None*

8. Consideration and Approval of Illinois Tutoring Initiative

Mr. Kothari asked about anticipated reach and what success will look like a year from now, and Dr. Shaw voiced his excitement over the program and believes it will make a difference. Dr. Stephanie Bernoteit discussed the program scope, the focus on employing teacher education candidates as tutors, and the fact that interested college students from other disciplines could be tutors as well.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Alice Marie Jacobs and seconded by Ms. Veronica Herrero hereby authorizes the Executive Director to allocate funds to implement the Illinois Tutoring Initiative. The Board additionally authorizes the Executive Director to:

- 1) Enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Illinois State Board of Education for the Illinois Tutoring Initiative;*
- 2) Enter into intergovernmental agreements with public institutions of higher education and the Illinois Community College Board to implement tutoring;*
- 3) Issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the (a) independent evaluation of the Illinois Tutoring Initiative, (b) review and evaluate submissions to such RFP, (c) select an entity to conduct the evaluation, and (d) enter into a related agreement for such service; and*
- 4) Use funds, in accordance with provisions of an intergovernmental agreement with the Illinois State Board of Education, to hire temporary staff at the IBHE for implementation of the Illinois Tutoring Initiative.*

The vote was:

*Yeas: Atkinson, Coffey, Delaney, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Jacobs, Kothari, Shaw, Zarnikow
Nays: None*

9. Consideration and Approval of Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity: Supporting the Illinois Early Childhood Workforce to Attain Degrees

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Mr. Eric Zarnikow and seconded by Dr. Kenneth Shaw hereby grants the Executive Director the authority to allocate funds to implement the Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity and related strategies to support credential and degree attainment for the incumbent early childhood care and education workforce. The Board additionally authorizes the Executive Director to:

- 1) Enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Illinois Department of Human Services;*
- 2) Enter into intergovernmental agreements with public universities;*
- 3) Issue Requests for Proposals and enter into agreements as a result of the RFP process;*

- 4) *Use funds, in accordance with the provisions of the intergovernmental agreement with the Illinois Department of Human Services to hire temporary staff at the IBHE and consultants for implementation of the Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity.*

The vote was:

Yeas: *Atkinson, Coffey, Delaney, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Jacobs, Kothari, Shaw, Zarnikow*

Nays: None

10. Consideration and Approval of Early Childhood Credential Completion Cohort (EC4) Grant

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Jennifer Garrison and seconded by Dr. Jennifer Delaney hereby authorizes the Executive Director to allocate FY22 funds from the Preschool Development Grant Birth Through Five Initiative as to implement the Early Childhood Credential Completion Cohort (EC4) Grant. The Board authorizes the Executive Director to:

- 1) *Amend agreements with institutional grant recipients for Fiscal Year 2022 as enumerated in Attachment A.*
- 2) *Use funds, in accordance with provisions of an intergovernmental agreement with the Illinois State Board of Education dated March 22, 2021 to staff the initiative.*

The vote was:

Yeas: *Atkinson, Coffey, Delaney, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Jacobs, Kothari, Shaw, Zarnikow*

Nays: None

11. Consideration and Approval of Common Application University Allocation, Analysis and Administration

Dr. Delaney said she is excited for this and believes it will help advance equity to help make it easier for students with the college search and application.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Mr. Pranav Kothari and seconded by Mr. Eric Zarnikow hereby grants the Executive Director the authority to utilize the \$1 million appropriated to IBHE to defray the costs of statewide program analysis and administration, and to distribute funds to public universities to defray the anticipated additional costs of moving to the Common App.

The vote was:

Yeas: *Atkinson, Coffey, Delaney, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Jacobs, Kothari, Shaw, Zarnikow*

Nays: None

12. Consideration and Approval of Grow Your Own Teacher Program Historically Disadvantaged Male Initiative

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Ms. Veronica Herrero and seconded by Mr. Eric Zarnikow hereby grants the Executive Director the authority to enter into an agreement with Grow Your Own Illinois for \$1,033,700 for the Historically Disadvantaged Male Initiative.

The vote was:

Yeas: *Atkinson, Coffey, Delaney, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Jacobs, Kothari, Shaw, Zarnikow*

Nays: None

13. Consideration and Approval of North Central College Capital Grant

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Teresa Garate and seconded by Dr. Jennifer Delaney hereby grants the Executive Director the authority to enter into a \$10 million agreement with North Central College for costs associated with infrastructure improvements, from Build Illinois Bond funds.

The vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Coffey, Delaney, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Jacobs, Kothari, Shaw, Zarnikow

Nays: None

14. Consideration and Approval of Assessment of Public Higher Education in the Quad Cities

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Kenneth Shaw and seconded by Ms. Veronica Herrero hereby grants the Executive Director the authority to undertake an assessment of public higher education in the Quad Cities, utilizing the \$500,000 appropriated for this purpose, through either internal or external resources as she deems most appropriate.

The vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Coffey, Delaney, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Jacobs, Kothari, Shaw, Zarnikow

Nays: None

D. Consent Agenda Action Items

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Alice Marie Jacobs and seconded by Dr. Andrea Evans unanimously approved Item Nos D-1 through D-3.

The vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Coffey, Delaney, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Jacobs, Kothari, Shaw, Zarnikow

Nays: None

1. Consideration and Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – June 8, 2021

The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously approved the Minutes of the Board Meeting of June 8, 2021.

2. Consideration and Approval of Strategic Plan Board Meeting Minutes – June 15, 2021

The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously approved the Minutes of the Strategic Plan Board Meeting of June 15, 2021.

3. Consideration and Approval of Update to Personnel Policies

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby adopts the updated personnel policy as reflected in the attachment.

E. Informational Items Not Requiring Board Action (Written Reports)

Chair Atkinson noted there are written reports in the Board materials on the Fiscal Year 2022 Diversifying Faculty in Illinois (DFI) Grant and the Fiscal Year 2022 Illinois Cooperative Work Study Grant. He added there are 103 DFI Fellowships, including 47 new Fellows and 56 returning

Fellows, and 30 institutions serving approximately 900 students in the education-related work experiences.

F. Other Business

The next Board meeting will be held Tuesday, September 14, 2021. Additional details about the meeting location and agenda will be posted on the IBHE website.

G. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion of Ms. Veronica Herrero, second by Dr. Teresa Garate, and by unanimous vote the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Tracy Rembusch, Secretary to the Board.