

**ILLINOIS BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION
FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Meeting at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign 9/20/2013 **Approved 10/18/2013**

FAC members/alternates attending and their institutions:

Dawn Allred (MacMurray College)
Abbas Aminmansour (UIUC)
Ken Andersen (UIUC)
Sonya Armstrong (NIU)
David Bardack (UIC)
Daniel Beach (at-large, Dominican University)
John Bennett (at-large alternate; Lake Land College)
Darcel Brady (Olivet Nazarene University)
Victoria Childs (University of Illinois Springfield)
Daniel Cortese (GSU)
Lane Crothers (ISU)
John D'Anca (at-large alternate, Oakton College)
Rick Deutsch (John A. Logan College)
Marie Donovan (at-large, DePaul)
Bill Hampes (Black Hawk College)
Ellen Hay (Augustana College)
Marjorie Johnson-Hilliard (Northwestern University)
Lisa Hollis-Sawyer (NEIU)
Andy Howard (at-large, IIT)
Matthew Hurt (Parkland College)
Les Hyder (EIU)
Irene Jacobsen (EIU)
Dan Kies (College of DuPage)
Alejandro Mayer (Midwestern University)
Duce McCune (Eureka College)
Patricia McNicholas (Robert Morris University)
Larry Modaff (Waubansee Community College)
Pam Moriearty (Lincoln College)
Dawn Sweeney Munson (Elgin Community College)
Douglas Okey (at-large, Spoon River College)
Devi Potluri (Chicago State University)
Steven Rock (WIU)
Khallai Taylor (Triton College)
Raymond Torralba (Truman College)
Kevin Weston (Rend Lake College)

From IBHE: Ocheng Jany, Jonathan Lackland

Representatives/Institutions not present:

Steve Depasquale (at-large, Kankakee Community College)
Judith Gouwens (Roosevelt)

Stan Hatfield (Southwestern Illinois College)
Calvin Jarrell (SIUE)
Allan Karnes (SIUC)
Shawn Schumacher (at-large, DeVry University)
Sara Ray Stoelinga (University of Chicago)

Guest:

Aida Shekib

In the morning, we attended the symposium organized by the FAC: Delivering Higher Education in Five Years. Following lunch, we discussed what we wanted to do next, given what we heard:

David: It would be nice to have a timeline and go beyond five years. We have to reach out to the media.

Aida: We should prioritize the ideas we heard and bring them back to our campuses, such as focus on competencies versus courses. We could constitute a small FAC group to follow up.

Douglas: Our caucuses can discuss what kinds of challenges exist.

Andy: Mike Baumgartner's message had the most resonance. Quality advising is important.

John B.: Mike's comments on developmental education are also important.

Patricia: Best practices can be investigated, such as advising.

Marie: Some of this was in Sheila Simon's report.

Steve: I will be serving on a MAP task force to look at ways to improve the retention and success of MAP students. Advising will be an important component.

Larry: We can message the issues from Complete College America.

Ocheng: Mapping to the degree is important.

Dan K.: Two year schools will always have undeclared students.

Devi: It's not a cohort model anymore and there is more course freedom.

Lane: There is a conflict between minimizing the number of courses and taking a variety of courses. This is a difficult issue when dealing with 18-19 year olds.

John D.: Their brains at that age are not fully developed. They also face personal issues. Counselors, rather than advisors, are needed for this.

Dawn: Sylvia Manning brought up the issue of too many adjuncts.

Ken: There are different demands for advising.

In Abbas' chair report, he noted that he has redone our web site. He also organized the morning symposium.

Marie noted that the SAC president is a student at DePaul and she went to their meeting to discuss the FAC with them. They want to connect with us and send a representative to our meetings. They would also like a slot to present at our October meeting on the topic of student debt. There was a positive response to these requests. Marie attended a meeting in Bloomington on the Common Core and PARCC assessment. Those of us interested in this can form an ad-hoc committee. Piloting on PARCC starts this spring.

PARCC could be used for placement. There are concerns that it might also be used for admissions decisions. Let Marie know if you are interested in getting involved. Ocheng noted that only a couple of applications were received by the deadline for the IBHE Faculty Fellows program. Information about the program was sent to Provosts, but publicity about the program was spotty. David suggested that more publicity is needed. Bill H. suggested that we could pass this information on to our faculty senates in anticipation of the next round.

Melissa Madsen, Chair of the UIUC Council of Academic Professionals, addressed a major concern at UIUC and other public universities on the classification of academic (non-faculty) professionals; at some institutions, these positions are also referred to as Principal Administrative Positions. Faculty are exempted from Civil Service, and currently universities can create academic professional positions on a case-by-case basis, and which exempts those positions from the civil service system. Public universities are being accused of abusing the system. University autonomy on this subject is being considered by a statewide committee of “stakeholders”, which does not include any faculty. In addition, auditing of professional positions by Civil Service is targeted, not random, and seems to involve retribution. The audit findings are not released in a timely manner; remedies are now increasingly draconian.

Caucuses met.

Malinda Aiello from the IBHE discussed IAI panels and the need for public and private university faculty to volunteer. These need to be publicized on our campuses. Community colleges are pretty good at filling their slots. Active (not retired) faculty are preferred.

Caucus reports followed. The private caucus discussed: implications of shifting student access and affordability, the increase in adjuncts, and inviting Dave Tretter to meet with the caucus. The community college caucus considered whether schools should have a full time theatre faculty member or a part timer, that many students cannot have a rigid course schedule, and the use of development courses versus competency pinpointing. The public caucus talked about promoting the IBHE Faculty Fellowship and possible topics for the year.

Ideas for the next meeting should be sent to Abbas and Devi. Les reported on the special IBHE August meeting on the search process for the next executive director. The entire board will serve as the search committee and will be involved in interviewing finalists. The board has agreed that a search subcommittee consisting of five board members, with Lindsay Anderson presiding, will handle the earlier stages of the search process. A professional search firm, AGB Search, has been retained. The goal is to offer the position by December with the hope of a start date no later than summer 2014. It's not yet clear whether a list of finalists will be made public. He recommended that the faculty, students and campus presidents be represented on the committee

The minutes from our June 14th meeting were approved. On the issue of classification of public university professionals, there was a decision to table any action until public university members can go back to their campuses and see what the situation is there.

Devi will be sending information shortly on the October meeting at Chicago State. Thursday night hotels will be in the Tinley Park area.

Abbas and UIUC were thanked for hosting. The meeting adjourned at 3:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Rock
FAC Secretary