

ILLINOIS BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION
FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting at Illinois State University, September 20, 2019
Minutes Approved November 15, 2019

FAC members/alternates attending and their institutions:

Ken Anderson	University of Illinois - Urbana-Champaign
Cynthia Boyce	Lincoln Trail College
Amy Carr	Western Illinois University
Julie Clemens	at-large (Illinois Central College)
Lane Crothers	Illinois State University
Marlon Cummings	Governor's State University
Diane Dean	Illinois State University
Steve DePasquale	Kankakee Community College
Marie Donovan	at-large (DePaul University)
Pennie Gray	Illinois Wesleyan University
Andy Howard	Illinois Institute of Technology
Dan Hrozencik	Chicago State University
Rick Jones	at-large (South Suburban College)
Jose Lozano	Bradley University
C. Lucy Park	University of Illinois – Chicago
Mike Philips	at large (Illinois Valley Community College)
Linda Saborio	Northern Illinois University
Patricia Saleeby	Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Shawn Shumacher	DeVry University
Kevin Sullivan	Illinois Wesleyan University
Tatiana Tatum Parker	St. Xavier University
Mat Timm	Bradley University
Adam Tournier	at-large (McKendree University)
Brian Vivona	Northeastern Illinois University
Larry White	Eastern Illinois University (via Zoom)
Susan Wiediger	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Representatives/Institutions not present:

Paul Bialek	at-large (Trinity International University)
John D'Anca	at-large (Oakton College)
Thomas Dowd	Harper College
Jennifer Martin	University of Illinois – Springfield
Doug Dowell	Heartland Community College

Meeting was called to order at 8:59 by Marie Donovan. She thanked Diane Dean and ISU President Larry Dietz for their work in hosting the FAC.

Illinois State University President Larry Dietz welcomed us. He is also serving his 4th year as convener of the University presidents. Higher education still has a lot of work to do. While having a budget is good, and we do have a capital spending budget, we still have seen no capital money. This spring was the least contentious year in six years he's been attending budget meetings in Springfield. He stressed the importance of shared governance; he meets regularly with Susan Kalter. Legislators might like to see splits and factions in higher ed, but we should all work together to keep the focus on our students and be as unified as possible.

Susan Kalter, Chair, ISU Academic Senate. The Academic Senate is rich in student members and they are having a stronger voice. The Academic Senate and Faculty Caucus make decisions (Memo of Understanding with Board of Trustees regarding that); Administration can veto but would have to explain why. There has never been a veto, perhaps because there are administrators on Senate as well so their input is provided early to prevent decisions being made that could not be supported. They are proud that ISU is 70% tenure-line faculty. She praised Diane for an initiative putting in safeguards for faculty that might be facing sanctions, and acknowledged Lane's service as a former president. She is pleased to see the funding situation improve — higher ed is an investment, not an expenditure — and ISU is starting to build new programs.

Samesh Philips (Program director) and Marc Roth-Garcia (junior in program) presented regarding the young Cybersecurity program at ISU. Growth in the Internet of Things has led to new issues and opportunities. The CIA triad of information security: Confidentiality, Integrity, and Availability is achieved through Authentication, Authorization, and Auditing. Cybersecurity is a profession with a positive outlook for graduates — 32% job growth until 2028 predicted by BLS. Samesh explained that Cybersecurity became a major in 2017 (previously a sequence in the IS stream) and has 296 majors currently with 2 core faculty, supported by IS and NTM faculty. The program has been certified by the National Security Agency (NSA) as a Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense (CAE-CD) since 2014. One program feature of which they are proud is the ability to provide hands-on experiences to their students: each student can have their own network to work with through the OpenStack environment and student teams go to national and regional competitions, as well as helping with hosting an Illinois high school competition. They have similar diversity issues as IT in general: they are 11% female, 70-74% Caucasian. Marc started engagement with ISU as a sophomore in HS through the HS competition and now sees the other side as a college student. He has learned from the competitions even when losing, and grabbed opportunities when he's seen them — not all students see them as opportunities, they see them as more work, but they have led to positive outcomes for him.

During Q&A, we learned that research opportunities are available for honors students and mentoring is a combination of professional advising, faculty club mentoring, and the peer support and welcoming atmosphere of the clubs. Some increase in female participation has come from providing them with more of a voice – e.g. through the clubs. There is not much formal math coursework in the program. Some of the middle school and high school programs (such as IMACS) can lead to the Cybersecurity programs.

Marie Donovan (FAC Chair) explained that the caucus meeting is early today to help ensure caucuses have time to identify and work on initiatives. The October meeting time will be focused on the caucus projects. She also requested that caucuses discuss which schools have alternates to aid in good meeting attendance, and how we can better get the word out to other faculty to share what the FAC has been learning. Caucuses met.

Illinois State Representative Dan Brady (R-105) talked with the FAC. Times are better, but we will still have to struggle to rebound, like from a natural disaster. Declining enrollments complicate that recovery (ISU has been lucky). Two things make a brighter picture for higher ed: 5% increase overall for publics in the budget and the capital budget. However, the money has to be released. He discussed the changes in revenue (gas tax, expansion of gaming, bonds) that were the result of compromise and discussion. While there is some skepticism about whether the money will get used for intended purposes, he has hope, in part due to the lockbox provision. When he last talked with us, he talked about the Higher Education Working Group, headed by him and Senator McGuire. They did a lot of good things (e.g. Aim High), and have hopes to continue. Focus of that group is on students first. Higher ed is on more stable funding, which is good, but a funding formula was generating some contention. Colleagues in the legislature are counting on them, so they will have to get back to the topic.

He is also involved – school funding sub-committee – with the eighty legislator Property Tax Task Force, which is supposed to have an advisory package by mid-October. Another issue was people changing guardianships for purpose of trying to receive grant funding and assistantships for school, which thankfully seems to be minimal. The veto session, which is historically six days, is approaching. Since there haven't been many vetoes, he's not sure if that session will be abbreviated or if other issues will be brought up. JCAR is not ready for marijuana rules to roll out. There are concerns that the 5% increase for higher ed could all get eaten up by minimum wage change; the governor is not receptive to changes in what he promised during his campaign. During discussion, the following topics arose: Having a state budget should allow better stability and planning for higher education, and thus lower concern, although there is still a deficit. It could take a generation to recover, with continuing concerns about students leaving and declining enrollments. We need to demonstrate our stability. Re-investment and more marketing may be needed. Out-of-state schools go after the best students and the decision can be made on dollars. Representative Brady declined to speculate at this point about how much funding might be tied to performance, but did indicate that initiatives in that area would need to have the money to back it up. Even though performance based funding could harm a struggling program, right now the economic time results in more "survival of the fittest". As the new revenue and minimum wage programs are implemented, various groups (e.g. small business) will certainly track and provide information about the impacts to legislators.

In response to a closing question about how FAC could help, Representative Brady's initial thought was to take a think tank approach to solutions about bouncing back and competing with out-of-state schools, but he and Marie will have a follow-up exchange when he has had some time to reflect on the question.

Shawn Schumacher (FAC Vice-Chair) reported that he will be contacting the point person for each caucus to get similar information sent out for the dispersed meetings next month, and work with Marie to get agendas out. In November we'll be at NIU.

Marie Donovan (FAC Chair), shared her optimism at the positive and productive atmosphere at the last two IBHE meetings, which she has attended. IBHE has a lot of folks with experience in education. They have respect for faculty. Lunches with advisory groups have been reinstated; ours will be in June. She then worked through the working groups from last year and some proposed ideas for this year. In summary:

- Program Prioritization and Consolidation – no longer needs to meet
- This We Believe – continuing, with a shift to how do we get the message out
- IAI – may add the issue of reverse transfer; needs new members
- Dual Credit – may disband
- P20 outreach – continuing
- Policies and Procedures and Cleaning up the Bylaws – Andy, Julie, Lucy volunteered
- Performance Based Funding, which may include a definition of student success – Mike and Amy volunteered
- Student Mental Health – building on HB 2152, which expects funding recommendations by Dec
- Competency based education & degrees – defining competencies, varying course lengths, assessing competencies; some programs are already competency based due to their accrediting agencies; this topic will wait until spring

We will explore some online way to allow folks to indicate their interests in working groups, keeping in mind that we want each working group to have at least one person from each caucus.

We also discussed the January and February meetings – which is at SIUE and which at DeVry will be confirmed soon.

Minutes from June, as amended by Rick, were approved.

Caucuses reported out. *Publics* (Diane Dean) discussed working group ideas and how to engage Jennifer Delaney (faculty seat, IBHE) such as sending minutes and asking for her input monthly. The publics will meet in October via Zoom and may want to ask FAC folks how they communicate with our faculty.

Two-years (Steve DePasquale) will meet at ICC with Julie in October, with Zoom also available. They want to meet with articulation experts to get more articulation going and work on what we can do as faculty to increase enrollment. They are creating a Google drive. They drew lots for the four at-large seats: John D'Anca will serve 1 yr, Mike Philips 2, Julie Clemens 3, Rick Jones 4; there are still four empty spots on their caucus.

Private and Independents (Adam Tournier) will meet at IIT on October 18th from 10-12. They mostly talked about dual credit and prior credit/transfer; assessing success rates for first-year students (eventual graduation) and whether that's affected by dual/transfer credit. Also discussed were state and federal funding; outmigration; relationships with students; connection between the financial issues and retention.

Announcements

Gretchen and Marie did not have a lot of luck in reaching folks to fill spots until the last week or so; now that Sue's back, we'll be working to fill spots – not by October, but probably by November. Gretchen and Marie re-wrote the invitation letter and are also using the personal outreach touch. Andy pointed out that if we share which institutions we are reaching out to, others might have contacts that are helpful.

Website — need volunteers to play with the draft FAC website: Linda Saborio, Andy Howard, Cynthia Boyce, Dan Hrozencik. Thanks to Linda for the new site, and to Dan and Devi for hosting the existing one.

At the June IBHE meeting, the board recognized they need to develop a plan for higher ed in Illinois — committed to figuring out by December how that will happen. Thanks to Mike who kept the pressure going about the need for a master plan.

This is Marie's last year at chair — folks should be thinking about whether they want to run.

Marie extended thanks to Diane Dean and Illinois State University for hosting. The meeting adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Wiediger, FAC Secretary