



Illinois Community College Faculty Association

Friday, May 23rd, 8:30 – 10:00 am, Via Zoom

Members present: Carla Presnell, Mary Rojas- Carlson, Jeremy Bachelor, Jean-Marie Taylor, Dave Lewis, Julia diLiberti, Christine Brooms, Melanie Eddins-Spencer, Dave Lewis and Terri Birch

Welcome and Introductions

- Meeting commenced at 8:30 AM.
- Informal greetings and updates on college graduations.
- Noted resignation of ICCFA Secretary – Melissa Grunow; new secretary needed.
- Brian Messner has replaced Melvin in liaison role with ICCB but unable to attend due to requested day off.

President's Updates (Mary Carlson)

- **Contact List & Communication Strategy:** Ongoing effort to build two contact lists: (1) Faculty Association Presidents for advocacy/alerts. (2) Opt-in list for broader faculty communications. Emphasis on direct outreach for issues like IAI Faculty Panels and legislative issues. Miscommunication reported regarding eligibility for part-time faculty on IAI panels.
- **Conference – 2026:** Key discussion on whether to proceed with or restructure the 2026 ICCFA conference.
 - Options considered:
 - Host independently (e.g., Carl Sandburg College).
 - Re-partner with ICCCA (not favored due to lack of equal visibility).
 - Align with other faculty-specific conferences (e.g., biology, English, math).
 - Shift to virtual monthly “Lunch & Learn” sessions.
 - Concerns raised about:
 - Low attendance (approx. 47-50 attendees).
 - Value for adjunct faculty with limited PD options.
 - Consensus to continue evaluating, with some favoring a pause on the conference for 2026 to focus on restructuring.

Vice Presidents Report (Jeremy Bachelor)

- **Revisions to the ICCFA Constitution and By-Laws.**
 - changes aim to improve clarity and flexibility.
 - Feedback deadline for comments: **Tuesday, May 28.**
 - Suggestion made for a dedicated working session (possibly in-person or via Zoom) to finalize revisions.
 - Emphasis on ensuring adjunct faculty have a clear, recognized role in governance.
- **Faculty Seat on ICCB**
 - A draft letter to Governor Pritzker regarding the ICCB faculty seat is under review.
 - Emphasis on urgency due to potential vacancy in June.
 - Deadline for comments on the letter: **Tuesday, May 28.**

Legislative Updates (Joe Przybyla – Jeremy filled in)

- **Dual Credit Quality Act:** New amendment includes:
 - Strengthened appeals process.
 - First-right-of-refusal for local community colleges.
 - Concern about high school overreach and equal committee representation.
- **Community College Bachelor's Degree Legislation:**
 - University opposition shifted to neutrality following restrictive amendments.
 - COD reportedly a key concern among universities.
 - Potential impacts on rural vs. urban colleges discussed.

Treasurer's Report (Carla Presnell)

- Carla reported a current balance of **\$102,007.61.**
- Dues received from Carl Sandburg and Black Hawk Colleges (\$1,000 total).

Other Discussion Points

- Meeting frequency may shift to monthly or every 3 weeks in fall.
- Discussion on developing a member resource to explain legislative tracking and bill navigation.
- July 18th tentatively scheduled for next meeting.

Adjournment