



Illinois Community College Faculty Association

Friday, August 9, 2024, 8:30 – 10:00 am, Via Zoom

Members Present: Julia DiLiberti, Carla S Presnell, Jeremy Bachelor, Mary Rojas-Carlson, Joseph Przybyla, David Lewis, Patrick Moore, Marcus Brown and Hong Fei

- I. **Call to Convene.**
- II. **Introduction of the new ICCB faculty liaison Patrick Moore, the ICCB Liaison to ICCFA**

Each member introduced self. Mr. Moore posted his contact information on the Chat.

Julia first raised some questions about the relationship between faculty and ICCB. Mainly she is concerned about 1) our voice on the board and 2) the board's position on dual credit. We are curious about if the board is negotiating on the issues of dual credit.

We faculty should have a position in ICCB as a board member. The last one did not contact us nor attend any of our meetings. The next one is waiting to be named by the Governor. We need your help in making sure that the faculty members on the ICCB establish contact with us, the faculty. And the chair and the vice chair from ICCFA need to attend the ICCB meetings. No Zoom option is allowed for attendance, but faculty cannot skip a class to attend during the weekdays. We would like to be provided with convenience in schedules so that we can attend or to have the zoom option to attend the meeting.

Patrick: Had sent contact information to us. Also talked to a person at the Board of Higher Ed, who can address some of our questions. He will also establish contact with the leadership team there.

Patrick stressed that it is a process that involves multiple players including the k-12 systems, high schools and the higher education communities in addition to the community college system. It could be frustrating at times. Last year, he met with Julia and Mary in the previous role, knows the standpoint of changes taking place. On the radar are some legislative changes that are shaping things up, including some standards by HLC. We will continue to monitor the changes and listen to the concerns from every side. Let's remember IL is a large state. Something that is problematic in one part might not be the case in another.

The important thing is that I always want to listen and forward any thoughts.

Patrick and Marcus are invited to give an opening remark at the November conference.

III. Introduction of Marcus Brown, Deputy Director of Academic Affairs at ICCB, to New Members

Just here to visit and listen.

A board member raised some concern. It is more a comment than a question. ICCB is the only official board representing the community colleges. See it over the years. Every time legislation faced a decision, community colleges were not favored. Often it takes away from community colleges in favor of the high schools. The dual credit discussion was such an example. ICCB often takes a neutral stand. I know it is a hard position to take. It is sad to see it is continuous to happen. Any elaboration on part of ICCB?

A: Make it clear, sometimes we stand neutral after a significant negotiation. And the version you all see was after that negotiation. It is important to see who is representing the colleges because sometimes not everyone at the meeting has the authority to speak on behalf of the colleges. When the opportunity comes up to represent schools, please take the chance. Being at the table is better than having someone speak for you.

IV. VP Report by Mary About Conference:

Looking for ways to connect with others through social media for the purpose of conference, and for letting people to know about us.

We will send out notices about scholarships and conference for every 2-3 weeks. Get the word out.

Will put out requests for food etc. The premises have some restrictions on snacks.

The nomination committee we proposed at the last meeting will include Julia, Mary and David.

Jeremy, Julia, Jean-Marie propose an interview video to be put on the website talking about current discussions happening over our state, the latest being dual credit. It will include things like how to fill out the witness slips, for example, and other issues faculty is passionate about, anything and everything affecting our working conditions.

V. Leah from Show Your Logo about making the t-shirt:

It is a good fund-raising method.
There was an initial design. We can choose color.

Delivery options: Pre-order to be delivered to the conference; Order on website. We will probably adopt both ways.

Fund-raising for scholarships sounds good.

Timing: Bulk order should be decided on Oct 1. Individuals should allow 2-3 weeks.

Julia will start a t-shirt email line to collect images and slogans. Leah's team can design based on some ideas and has a union printing option. Some design ideas were exchanged.

VI. VP for Legislative Affairs Joe:

1. Pension talk is stalled in legislation.
2. Insurance: When our faculty retires, they will get watered-down insurance compared to other state U employees.
3. Notice for adjuncts for cancelled classes is sometimes used to cancel courses artificially too early.

It is short of time. If there is time, Joe will go into many more details.

VII. Treasurer's Report by Carla

Not a lot of activity. Our pay-out includes the Google Cloud fee, the faculty grants, and Carmen. Our income is from the dues paid. Jeremy asks what the expected due collection and the actual collection is. They are \$31000 and \$26500 respectively.

The current balance is \$93371 though some grant checks were yet to be cashed.

Several colleges have never paid. Shawnee's president wanted to opt out. But one cannot withdraw from ICCB. The new president paid.

There will be 8 scholarships, one for the college sending most people to the conference.

VIII. Adjourned.