



# Illinois Community College Faculty Association

Friday, January 24, 2020 2:00 – 4:00 pm  
At the ICCB Building 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Board Room, 401 E Capital Ave. Springfield, IL 62701

Member present: Carla Presnell, Jake Winters, Krista Winters, Leo Welch, Steve DePasquale, David Seiler, Julia DiLibert, Keith Sprewer and Hong Fei

- I. Call to convene.
- II. Report by Melvin Harrison, ICCB director of Academic Affairs:
  1. What is happening at the division of academic affairs and student services has been mainly related to transitional instructional work on transitional Math and English. Recently, we funneled through our system a number of grants and awards in support of colleges for their transitional instruction efforts with their partners. If your college has transitional instruction related activities, you can check with your chief executive officer to see how they are using and implementing those funds. Every college got a \$15,000 grant supporting transitional Math instruction. It is for supporting colleges to meet the fall 2020 deadline for submitting their transitional courses. ICCB realized that some will have to work with curriculum development. Or there could be needs for professional developments. Reaching out to specific campuses, particularly high need areas. Recently we awarded total of \$160,000 grants in support of transitional English instruction. Listing of what community colleges received including the piloting grant awards is on our website. These awards is intended to encourage pilot programs in transitional English, working out competencies of what transitional English should look like, in order to implement them throughout the system. ICCB hopes the colleges use the grants to work with school district partners to work out courses that we can use as a model for reliability and scalability across the state. In relation to transitional English, there is a work group, or called a competency development group that is convening a meeting as part of the work surrounding PWR act (*PER act is a voluntary process for school districts to award College and Career Pathway Endorsements to high school graduates. Students earn endorsements by completing an individualized learning plan, a career-focused instructional sequence, and professional learning opportunities.*) to develop competencies for transitional English. EC member Keith is part of it. Included also are community college faculty and administrators, as well as K12 English teachers. Partners with Illinois Board of Education, we hope to have the competencies ready to guide our state transitional English education.

Question by Steve: Do you share the belief that developmental courses will be gone? Heard that the Senate is mandating it to be gone in two years. Your take? Answer: I don't think we would completely eliminating developmental courses because that the community colleges serve wide array of students. It is targeting fresh high school graduates. There are efforts to reduce such courses.

Leo added comments: There are those in General Assembly, not just in Illinois, want these courses gone. They want students to get in, get out. They want two years, period. They want students quickly out of the state universities, to turn tax users to tax payers. They want to speed up the educational process.

Julia: Students are also tax payers. They work hard. Hope that we do not use this term ourselves.

2. Melvin: SJR41\* task force here at ICCB discussed multi-measure placement: A report had been worked out about efforts to reduce students who are in developmental ed or who require to be placed in developmental ed. It is an extensive report. Will be happy to forward to the EC members. It had been presented to the joint resolution committee earlier this month.

Keith: I wonder if there are models. Seems like they are pushing co-requisite, co-requisite, and co-requisite. Seems like there is lack of real research.

A: When a copy is forwarded, you can see for yourself what the efforts are across the state. Some are doing co-requisite, others doing transitional instruction. These two models exist for certain. Also in the report are various methods used to determine placement. The website shows task force members and a lot of other information such as meeting notes.

At this point, multiple members expressed wish to be included more in the state-wide committees and task forces.

*\*Note: IL General Assembly Bill SJR 41 is called "Developmental Education Reform Study and Implementation". It creates an advisory council lead by the Illinois Board of Higher Education and Illinois Community College Board that is charged with creating an inventory and analysis of current developmental education models and developing a plan for scaling reforms statewide. Reason: Developmental courses looked like a trap. 71% African American community college students were placed in developmental courses but only 9% of them will graduate. For Latino students, the numbers are 62% and 16%. SJR 41 creates an advisory council lead by the Illinois Board of Higher Education and Illinois Community College Board that is charged with creating an inventory and analysis of current developmental education models and developing a plan for scaling reforms statewide.*

3. ICCB Listening tour: Promote CTE (career and technical education) work and use of the "Perkin Fund". (Perkins V - The Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act) Feedback is welcome if you had a chance to participate. They go to many places. Will make a draft plan for public comments. Q: What is the CTE group meeting time? A: Probably on the CTE website. On the website, it tells you how to join the "learning community conversation".

III. Steve: Move to approve the minutes – All seconded. Julia abstained.

IV. Jake: Welcome Julia and David to be back to EC. The Vice President and President-Elect is vacant and Steve stepped up to the role. Krista will step out after this year and someone needs to step up as the scholarship coordinator. Carla agreed to do so. She is the easiest person to coordinate with Krista because of proximity. Julia is asked to be coordinator of northern region and she agreed. VP of membership and delegate affairs is still vacant. We will need it for planning the conference.

V. Steve: About the upcoming conference, we need feedback for the assessment of the conference. This morning had meeting with Linda and the ICCCA representatives. Having decided on the I-Hotel in Champaign, a beautiful facility. Reserved 75 rooms for Wednesday and 115 for Thursday, Nov 12-13. Based on last year's number, there would be enough. But the hotel only has 126 rooms, while they are putting in a new addition. We need other hotels. Remember that most hotels in Illinois have a government rate.

Discussion about Linda's rate: Can't start negotiation yet because we don't know how much the conference income was. We had a huge increase in total number last year. But the faculty

participation is down, in fact, lowest in years. It's becoming mainly for administrators, which is a cause for concern.

VI. Leo's Legislative affairs Report:

Want to reiterate the role this organization plays – We do not endorse candidates. We can give information about legislation bills and what happens in general assembly.

Leo presented a list of political activities that are going on in January and February. The list is long, which shows that things are heating up for political engagement. It is also a set of bills that we took position as “for”, “against” or “monitor”.

Take example of “Citizen United for Separation of Church and State” in St. Louis – Want to eliminate unions. Reminding that unions are big components of higher education in IL. For several organizations on the list, members were asking questions about what is happening in higher education. But they were not well informed. They don't know about ICCFA. So Leo had talked with various politicians about what the organization is. He also wrote a letter explaining. An effective way: Contact your legislator in your home district. Talk to them.

One such activity was arrangement for IFT president Dan Montgomery to speak at the April 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of Illinois public colleges and universities in Westmont on the topic of “academic freedom and shared governance”, which should be of great interest to all faculty. It will be open to anyone interested in Higher Ed. Any faculty member can attend. If they have information concerning academic freedom such as contracts, bring it to the meeting. Leo is putting together a compilation of policies.

Leo also compiled a complete individual House Assembly and Senate members voting records. Let's find the representative from your area and ask them the reason and rationale they voted this way. Ask with great curtesy. It has been a long way to come back from the “disinvestment of higher education”.

VII. Treasurer's Report by Krista: We made the budget. The draft is balanced. Most member liked to do conference gift once again. Increased the scholarship. \$750 was paid to ICCSF. It is our repository for scholarship and ICCSF invests it. Paid deposit for conference. Travel is increased for people whose School won't pay and we want to help. Received several due payments. Some paying 2019 dues and some skipped 2019 but paying 2020. Most colleges did pay. Will send letters with invoice. The due form now shows every year's payment record and will be sent out in February. Our account is good with a balance. Motion to prove the budget is passed. Scholarship application form is ready and will send to Carla and then send out.

VIII. Grants Report by Fei: 1). Abolished hotel fees for the winners. 2). Had sent out two rounds of solicitation for this year. Targeting for at least 3 good proposals.

IX. Dual Credit Subcommittee Report by Steve: – When they developed models of partnership, we felt that our work is done. We will still keep an eye for dual credit but won't concentrate on it as much.

X. Adjourned.