HE.14.09 Report on the May 16, 2014 meeting of the Faculty Advisory Council to the IBHE.

The Faculty Advisory Council (FAC) of the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) held a regularly scheduled meeting at the DeVry University-Addison with 32 members present. Special guest of the meeting included Donna Loraine (Provost and Academic Vice President of DeVry), Donna Rekau (Assistant Provost), and Jennifer Groh (National Dean for Accreditation and Outreach).

Chair Aminmansour called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. After introduction of members present, Provost Loraine provided an overview of DeVry University. She said that DeVry was founded in 1931 with the mission to focus on career oriented education. DeVry has campuses in 26 states with 90 onsite locations in addition to online programs. DeVry enrollment is about 60,000-70,000 students, about half of which is at onsite locations. There are five colleges within the university and about 50% of the faculty are full time; many have doctorates. There are 21 undergraduate degrees. DeVry enrollment includes a substantial number of adult learners, first generation students, and an underserved population. The faculty drive the curriculum at DeVry.

Scott Stratton (Military Liaison and Senior Executive Advisor) and Linda Hjorth (Senior Professor) of DeVry gave a PowerPoint presentation on “Rucksacks to Backpacks.” The program offers returning veterans certain types of assistance to become college students.

The three caucuses of the Council (four year public universities; community colleges and private/independent institutions) met separately and reported back to the Council later in the day. The Community Colleges Caucus discussed graduation attendance requirements, SURS, union contracts, and professor emeritus status. The Publics Caucus reported on the pension situation, the income tax extension, the impact of uncertainty in higher education, plans for the June meeting, reporting sexual abuse on campus, the impact of lack of financial support of higher education, and preparing a press release. The Privates Caucus discussed faith based institutions offering degrees and going around IBHE approval and teacher certification changes.

In other business, the Council approved minutes of the April 1, 2014 meeting. The Council held election of the 2014-15 officers. This portion of the meeting was conducted by Professor Steve DePascale, Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee. Elected officers are as follows: Abbas Aminmansour as FAC Chair, Marie Donavan as Vice Chair and Steve Rock as Secretary. In addition, the Council elected the following as Caucus chairs. Devi Prasad V. Potluri as Chair of Publics; John D’Anca as Chair of the Community College Caucus and Shawn Schumacher as Chair of Private Institutions.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM. The next FAC meeting is scheduled for June 20, 2014 at the Northern Illinois University.

Respectfully submitted
Abbas Aminmansour