

**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE**
(Final; Information)

HE.13.07 Report on the March 15, 2013 meeting of the FAC to the IBHE.

The [Faculty Advisory Council \(FAC\)](#) of the [Illinois Board of Higher Education \(IBHE\)](#) held a regularly scheduled meeting at Joliet Junior College (JJC) in Joliet, Illinois on Friday March 15, 2013 with 32 member institutions present. Special guests of the meeting included Dr. Debra Daniels, President of the Joliet Junior College; State Senator Daniel Biss (D), member of the Higher Education Committee; Tom Lockman, Institutional Sales Director for Cengage Learning; Brian Campus, Assistant Manager of the JJC Bookstore; Dr. Harry Berman IBHE Executive Director and Daniel Cullen, IBHE Deputy Director for Academic Affairs.

Chair Aminmansour called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. After introduction of members present, Dr. Debra Daniels, President of the Joliet Junior College welcomed the group. Dr. Daniels noted that JJC is the oldest community college in the country and has 15,000 students at the Joliet campus alone.

Chair Aminmansour reported that he had planned the April 2, 2013 meeting of the Council with special guest Dr. Brenda Klostermann, Ph.D. Associate Director for Administration and Assistant Research Professor at Illinois Education Research Council. He also reported that the Urbana-Champaign campus of the University of Illinois will host the September 20, 2013 meeting of the Council. Aminmansour further reported that he is organizing a symposium to take place in the morning of the September 20, 2013 FAC meeting on how higher education will be delivered in five years. Special invited speakers include Lieutenant Governor Sheila Simon; Dr. Sylvia Manning, President of the Higher Learning Commission; Mike Baumgartner, Complete College America Vice President for Finance and Special Projects and Dr. Nick Burbules, Edward William and Jane Marr Gutgsell Professor, Department of Education Policy, Organization and Leadership, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. More information will be available on the symposium later.

The three caucuses of the Council (four year public universities; community colleges and private/independent institutions) met separately and reported back to the Council. The public universities caucus is developing a number of documents on pensions as well as value of higher education.

Special guest, State Senator Daniel Biss (D), member of the Higher Education Committee, joined the Council for a discussion on current issues relative to higher education. Senator Biss spoke about the state's serious fiscal crisis and its low credit rating due to its finances. He stated that until the state's pension obligations are addressed, we will continue to have serious financial problems in Illinois. Aminmansour asked Senator Biss about his proposed Senate Bill 1900 and its implications for public universities including its faculty. The bill proposes to offer in public domain, publications resulting from research funds supported by public funds. Senator Biss spoke about the specifics of his bill including the reason he sponsored it. He acknowledged that specifics of the bill could be refined based on input from others. Senator Biss asked Aminmansour to organize a group of faculty to offer him input on his proposed bill.

After lunch, Tom Lockman, Institutional Sales Director for Cengage Learning and Brian Campus, Assistant Manager of the JJC Bookstore spoke about new developments in offering course contents in different ways including possibility of un-bundling of hard copy textbooks from software and other resources; textbook rental programs and developments in technology affecting textbooks.

Dr. Harry Berman, IBHE Executive Director and Dan Cullen, new IBHE Deputy Director for Academic Affairs addressed the council next. Dr. Berman spoke about the state's fiscal situation and higher education budget as well as a number of legislation in the works that could potentially affect higher education including pensions, concealed weapons on campuses, Monetary Awards Program (MAP) funding and research publications. Dan Cullen spoke about the IBHE's review of proposed programs and noted that the staff receive more proposals than those forwarded to the Board for consideration and approval. Other proposals, he noted, may be returned to the sponsoring institution for changes or are denied before they get to the Board. Cullen felt that the Board does currently have authority to not grant approval of proposals not meeting our quality requirements and that there is no need for further legislation.

During the Business portion of the meeting, the Council approved the minutes of its February 15, 2013 meeting at Kaskaskia College. Further, the Council elected three members to serve as the Elections Committee for election of FAC officers for the 2013-14 academic year.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM. The next IBHE-FAC meeting is scheduled for April 2, 2013 at Elgin Community College. The Council will have a joint lunch meeting with the Board that day.

Respectfully submitted

Abbas Aminmansour