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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE
Faculty Advisory Council to the Board of Higher Education
(Final; Information)

HE.15.02 Report on the October 17, 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 Governors State University (GSU) with 30 members present.

The meeting opened at 9:00 AM with introductions of those present. GSU Provost Dr. Deborah Bordelon welcomed the group to her campus. She spoke about the university's history and remarked that this year for the first time GSU has accepted 242 freshmen to its campus. In addition, this year GSU opened Prairie Place, a new residence facility on campus. Three faculty fellows, selected through a competition, live in this facility and interact with students. This has been a very successful experience thus far.

Professor Robert Bionaz, a member of the Chicago State University's (CSU) Senate Executive Committee explained the recent friction between the faculty and certain administrators and the subsequent decision by the Chicago State's Board of Trustees to dissolve their senate.

GSU President Dr. Elaine Maimon welcomed the Council to her campus. She noted that she is an English professor and still considers herself a faculty member at heart. Her goal is to educate students to become independent writers and thinkers. She also commented that GSU has established a strategic planning and budgeting council. A hallmark of this effort is shared governance and transparency. GSU has a very good relationship with the area community colleges. Dr. Maimon explained that GSU is committed to not recruiting students away from attending community colleges as freshmen. She explained that community colleges were supportive of GSU's application to the Illinois Board of Higher Education to begin accepting freshmen students.

Ocheng Jany, a retiring member of the IBHE Academic Staff was recognized for his years of contributions to IBHE, FAC and higher education.

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. Subjects discussed by the caucuses included MAP funding; situation at CSU; continuity of leadership in our faculty governance bodies; reduced funding for student counseling and the absence of mental health professionals on campuses (especially for veterans); the impact of requiring a baccalaureate degree for nursing; and maintaining quality of education with declining funding.

The minutes of the September 19, 2014 FAC meeting were approved. The meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM. The next FAC meeting is scheduled for December 12, 2014 in Springfield and will be hosted by the IBHE staff.

This report is prepared based on the draft minutes of the FAC meeting minutes prepared by the FAC Secretary, Professor Steve Rock of WIU. Much credit is owed to him.

Respectfully submitted
Abbas Aminmansour