

December 5, 2011

**Report on IBHE Faculty Advisory Council Meeting**  
**November 18, 2011**  
(Final; Information)

The [Faculty Advisory Council](#) (FAC) of the [Illinois Board of Higher Education](#) (IBHE) held a regularly scheduled meeting at Aurora University on Friday November 18, 2011 with 33 [member institutions](#) present. Guests of the council included Larry Frank, Research Specialist at Illinois Education Association and Timothy Harrington of Chicago State University, both members of the IBHE Performance Based Funding Steering Committee.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM by Chair Aminmansour. Aurora University President Rebecca L. Sherrick welcomed the group to her campus and spoke about the benefits and challenges of having a university with campuses in Illinois and Wisconsin. She characterized her university as a private university with a public agenda. She also spoke about their Institute for Collaboration which tackles math and science education by empowering teachers through content mastery linked to student learning. President Sherrick noted that this program has been very successful and challenged the group to undertake similar programs.

Following reports of the Council Chair and IBHE Liaison, the three caucuses (Publics, Privates and Community Colleges) met separately and reported back to the entire Council. Much of the discussion of the caucuses focused on Performance Based Funding (PBF) mandated by the state as well as the [report](#) of the University of Pennsylvania's Institute for Research on Higher Education called "A Story of Decline: Performance and Policy in Illinois Higher Education."

A considerable portion of the FAC's [meeting agenda](#) was dedicated to discussion of [Performance-Based Funding](#) (PBF) mandated by Illinois [Public Act 97-320](#) (HB1503). The bill requires IBHE to establish metrics for performance-based funding of state's public universities and colleges beginning with the fiscal year 2013. IBHE has established a [Steering Committee](#) on PBF which [meets regularly](#) to develop a set of metrics for PBF for consideration by the Board in time for next year's budget proposal to the State.

IBHE Performance Based Funding Steering Committee members Larry Frank and Timothy Harrington participated in a discussion with council members on the latest developments in the Committee's efforts to implement PBF in Illinois. The discussion continued among Council members in the afternoon. Following the discussions of the day, the Council decided to articulate its recommendations on PBF to the IBHE Steering Committee via a [set of recommendations](#) (copy attached).

The Council discussed the [report](#) of the University of Pennsylvania's Institute for Research on Higher Education and its critique of Illinois higher education. In addition, the Council discussed the impending retirement of Don Sevenser as IBHE Deputy Director for External Relations. Sevenser was viewed by all as someone who served higher education in Illinois sincerely and very well. The Council plans to recognize Sevenser in a special way at its December meeting with the IBHE staff present.

The Council covered other routine business including approval of minutes of the previous meeting. The meeting adjourned at 3:20 PM. The next meeting of the Council will be held in Springfield with IBHE staff on Friday December 9, 2011.

Respectfully submitted  
Abbas Aminmansour

Attachment

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



**Abbas Aminmansour, Chair**  
Faculty Advisory Council  
Illinois Board of Higher Education  
c/o 117 Temple Buell Hall, MC-621  
Champaign, IL 61820 USA

November 21, 2011

Dr. George Reid, Chair  
Performance Based Funding Steering Committee  
Illinois Board of Higher Education

Dear Dr. Reid:

The Faculty Advisory Council of the Illinois Board of Higher Education is deeply grateful to the IBHE Steering Committee for its continued efforts to establish metrics for Performance Based Funding in Illinois. We offer our strong support and look forward to seeing the Committee's recommendations enhance higher education in the state.

As you well know, the task of establishing fair and practical metrics for Performance Based Funding at the state level is both complex and challenging. Because one of the Committee's goals is ensuring that the metrics not lead to unexpected harmful consequences and because the Committee has a tight timeline, we respectfully offer the following recommendations for consideration by the Steering Committee.

1. Establish initial metrics for implementation of Performance Based Funding that are simple, basic, safe and not substantial in size and scope.
2. Continue to work beyond your upcoming deadline on further careful development of metrics to implement Performance Based Funding in a more comprehensive way in the following years.
3. Serve as a body for annual review of Performance Based Funding. We are impressed with the composition of the steering committee and earnestly hope its members, wanting to see their work bear fruit, will continue to serve the state in this capacity.

We recognize that items 2 and 3 above may require approval of other bodies. At the same time, it is our belief that these recommendations will help establish the solid foundation and the responsible oversight necessary for a model performance based funding program that will indeed enhance higher education in the state.

Many thanks again to the Committee both for the hard work it has already put into this project and for its consideration of our recommendations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "A. Aminmansour".

Abbas Aminmansour, Chair  
Faculty Advisory Council, Illinois Board of Higher Education

cc: IBHE-FAC