

February 4, 2013

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

HE.13.04 Report on the December 7, 2012 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 the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel in Springfield on Friday December 7, 2012 with 29 member institutions present. The December meeting of the Council is always held in Springfield and is hosted by the IBHE staff. The IBHE staff joined the Council for the meeting: Harry Bermann, Executive Director; Alan Philips; Jonathan Lackland and Daniel Cullen Deputy Directors; Associate Directors Ocheng Jany and Debbie Meisner-Bertauski. Other staff present included Eric Fisher; Rashid Robinson; Stephanie Bernoteit; Tracy Goodall; Gailyn Draper; Emily Chase and Shawna Mayer.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM by Chair Abbas Aminmansour and reported on the plans for upcoming FAC meeting special guests including legislators and members of the Governor's staff.

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 reported that it is working on development of a document on the value of higher education for public dissemination.

The Council held a discussion on the proposed plan for IBHE Faculty Fellows program. Aminmansour reported that he had held discussions with the new IBHE Interim Executive Director on the subject and that the Executive Director was to get in touch with Abbas after he had a chance to discuss the idea with his senior staff. Council members also discussed other issue of interest such as dual credit.

Speaking of future higher education funding, Deputy Director Lackland stated "expect cuts." Philips reported that over the last 15 years, funding for higher education (net of pension contributions) is down about 27.5%. Deputy Director Philips noted, \$1.6 billion has been approved for capital projects but the money has not been appropriated nor bonding authority granted. He added that delayed payments to higher education totals \$888 million. According to Philips, overall, the state owes \$7.5 to 8 billion in bills. FY14 issues include the fact that pension and Medicaid costs have increased at a higher rate than tax revenues so more budget cuts are needed. Philips commented that there will be some minor changes in the Performance Based Funding formulas for state universities for next year but it will likely stay the same for community colleges.

Interim IBHE Executive Director Berman commented on the changed status of higher education in the U.S. versus the rest of the world and highlighted the link between education, our economy, and our security. Dr. Berman noted a carved phrase in the 1900-era conference room at Western Illinois University that reads "Education is the Chief Defense of Nations". After lunch, the Council continued its discussion with IBHE senior staff on subjects such as credit transfer.

During the Business portion of the meeting, the Council approved the minutes of its November 16, 2012 FAC Meeting at Lewis University.

Under New Business, the letter from the university Presidents and Chancellors to the legislative leaders and Governor on funding of higher education was distributed and endorsed by the Council.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM. The next IBHE-FAC meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2013 at Loyola University in downtown Chicago.

Respectfully submitted

Abbas Aminmansour