

RECEIVED BY SENATE

03/09/2015

HE.15.04

February 9, 2015

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

HE.15.04 Report on the December 12, 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 facilities of the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) in Springfield. The meeting was hosted by the IBHE staff.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM with introductions of those present. Mr. Roger L. Eddy, IASB Executive Director and former State Representative welcomed the group to his facility.

Aminmansour reported on an extensive conversation he had with Dr. James Applegate, the IBHE Executive Director.

Dr. Applegate gave a presentation on Guided Pathways to Success (GPS) and its potentials on how it can help students with challenges complete their college education. He referred to the Public Agenda for College and Career Success (2009) and the "60 by 2025" goal. He reported that college attainment levels have gone up by about 2%. However, he added, affordability has dropped. Applegate expressed concern over the widening gap in college attendance for underrepresented group of students. He stated that there needs to be an aggressive effort to increase adult students' college completion. He expressed concerns about the fact that about 20% of the workforce has some college education, but no credentials.

Dr. Applegate also spoke about Complete College America's GPS game changing strategies for states and colleges. They include performance-based funding based on completion rather than enrollment; co-requisite remediation; increased state funding; and the concept of "15 to finish," which emphasizes 15 credits per semester for improved college completion. Applegate pointed out that he is trying to establish a higher education caucus of stakeholders including legislators, to push higher education issues at the state level.

Dr. Alan Phillips, IBHE Executive Deputy Director for planning and budgeting, offered the Council an update on the prospects of state funding for higher education. He stated that State appropriations to SURS are now about the same as total funding for public universities and community colleges. Phillips added that a 10-15% budget reduction for higher education is a very real possibility for the upcoming fiscal year. He added that a rescission during the remainder of FY 15 is also a real possibility.

David Tretter, President of the Federation of Illinois Private and Independent Colleges and Universities addressed the Council and offered his take on the State's appropriation situation noting that there is much

uncertainty in the future. He added that we, as the higher education community, need to make the case to the State for higher education issues including funding.

The three caucuses of the Council (four year public universities; community colleges and private/independent institutions) met separately and reported back to the Council. Topics discussed by the caucuses included shared governance; academic freedom; impact of the State's decreasing funding for higher education; MAP funding; hiring retired faculty and GPS.

Dr. Jennifer Delaney, a faculty member from UIUC College of Education and recent IBHE Faculty Fellow, gave a presentation on her research as an IBHE Faculty Fellow on the impacts of guaranteed tuition policies. She reported that it appears that the practice front-loads tuition. Professor Delaney reported that guaranteed tuition practices lead to tuition costs of about 24% higher over the four years.

In the Business portion of the meeting, the minutes of the November 21 FAC meeting at Oakton were approved. The Council approved a statement on shared governance to be publicized.

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 PM. The next FAC meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2015 at the Illinois Institute of Technology.

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

Respectfully submitted
Abbas Aminmansour