

**Report on IBHE Faculty Advisory Council Meeting  
November 12, 2010**

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The Faculty Advisory Council (FAC) of the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) met at Illinois State University on Friday November 12, 2010 with 30 members present. The meeting started at 8:30 AM with FAC Chair Abbas Aminmansour presiding. Special guests included President Al Bowman of Illinois State University; Robert Blankenberger, IBHE Deputy Director for Academic Affairs; Gerald Brookhart, Regional Superintendent, Peoria; Andrew Davis, Executive Director of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) and Member of P-20 Council; Keith Marshall, Associate Provost for Enrollment Management, U of I and Lisa Monda-Amaya, Associate Professor of Special Education and Director of the Center for Education in Small Urban Communities, U of I.

President Bowman welcomed the group to the Illinois State campus and answered questions from FAC members. Among other things, he noted that Illinois State's graduation rates are up to 70.4%. In response to a question whether retiring tenure-system faculty are being replaced by part-time faculty, President Bowman said that is not the case at Illinois State. He noted that Illinois State has 5% more tenure track faculty now than it did in 2000 and that currently 92% of the faculty are classified as full time.

A panel discussion was held on the topic of remediation and articulation. The discussion began with a presentation by IBHE Deputy Director for Academic Affairs Robert Blankenberger followed by remarks by other panel members Brookhart, Davis, Marshall, Monda-Amaya as well as FAC members present. The scope of the problems including financial impact of these issues were discussed and possible solutions were presented. It was noted that students have (self) reported that 35.8% have taken a remedial course. This figure varies from 0 to 90% for different institutions. About 10% of students have reported that they transferred from one institution to another. The point was made that some assume that high school graduation prepares students for college education which is not always the case. Suggested solutions ranged from holding high schools responsible for the cost of remediation courses to the entire education community, specifically K-12 and higher education working together to find solutions for the problems at hand. The group asked Chair Aminmansour to consult with P-20 Council chair Miguel Del Valle as well as Sylvia Manning, President of the Higher Learning Commission on the subjects and seek advice on how FAC may contribute to addressing these issues. FAC also formed a task group consisting of certain members of group to pursue this matter between FAC meetings and report to the full Council periodically.

In other business, FAC discussed the work of the Illinois Higher Education Finance Study Commission and its draft report as well as the idea of bond-funding of the Monetary Award Program (MAP) student financial aid. This has proven to be subject of disagreements among some in the higher education circle as some agree with while others oppose the idea.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM. The next FAC meeting will take place on December 10 at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel & Conference Center in Springfield. IBHE Executive Director and Deputy Director for Academic Affairs as well as Executive Deputy Director for Budgeting and Planning will join FAC. Also, a discussion on shared governance with distinguished guest speakers will be held at the December meeting.

Submitted respectfully,  
Abbas Aminmansour