**Illinois Community College Faculty Association**

 Friday, September 17, 2021 2:00 – 3:30 pm

 *Via Zoom Conference*

Members present: Leo Welch, Carla Presnell, Julia DiLibert, Parul Raval and Hong Fei

1. **Call to convene.**
2. **Greetings**
3. **Julia moves to prove the minutes from May and August:**

All were in favor. They are approved.

1. **President’s Report by Julia:**

Discussion about the logistics of the conference. It is decided that the conference will be held as we decided before with online format.

Preston Jackson agreed to be out keynote speaker. He is an accomplished Jazz musician, Martial Arts Master, Sculptor, Painter, Community Builder and Illinois Lincoln Laureate. We will provide $1500 as honorarium.

We discussed conference issues such as zoom breakout rooms, recording, fees and tech support issues. Julia moves to purchase the zoom business account at $19.99 per month. All were in favor. The previous Whova account could be carried over when we need it again next year. We decided to record with permission, probably to have each speaker or modulator to start their own zoom instead of breakout from one account, to charge $22 per faculty, but waive fees for students or grant winners.

Parul, professor of education, suggested to make art insert and recruit education major students to come to our conference, to a universal approval.

The five participants agreed to be listed as the conference contacts. The registration notice will go out asap. All grant winners and students will not register. Fei and Parul will send notices and have them to join the conference directly.

The feedback will be done with email.

Leo agreed to lead the nominating committee.

Presidents and trustees

1. **Treasurer’s Report and Scholarship Committee Report by Carla:**

25 colleges had paid the due for 2021. Account balance is $78830.33, with grant paid out.

Have received some scholarship applications. It will end in October 10.

1. **Legislative Report by Leo:**
2. Recently, Leo attended a fundraiser for Rep. Jay Hoffman (D) of Illinois House. He is the one who sponsored the recent energy bill targeting global warming and enhancing job security. Leo and Jay worked on various issues over the years. Leo was able to have input concerning Illinois higher education.
3. Leo led the discussion about the attention being paid to the American College Promise Act of 2021. The legislature promises free in-state tuition for community college and public universities. Average tuition for a student across US is calculated, of which the funding will be based. Initially, 75% of it will be federal funding, and 25% will be from the state. The support will last 6 years for a student. Over 10 years, the responsibility will be entirely on the state. State University Annuity Association will put out a policy statement to support or reject bills. ICCFA voted to support it.
4. Discussion about us being the voice of community college students: Community colleges increased accessibility for mass of students. Historically, higher education is run by private, religious colleges serving the very wealthy. ICCFA pioneered spreading of the opportunity. It started from IL, and was the first in post-secondary vocational training. Consider the nursing shortage because in Chicago, only one out of seven community colleges had nursing program, which changed recently. England and China came to check out our community colleges. The world is interested in our experiment of community education. It is unique in the US.
5. IBHE: Lack of consensus in dealing with violations of the mask mandate. Close to 3000 in the state U system who aren’t vaccinated and not tested. Not willing to call police, the idea of what to do differ greatly among faculty. Leo is conducting a listening tour to gauge ideas.
6. **Adjourned.**