**Illinois Community College Faculty Association**

Friday, November 18, 2022, 9:00 – 10:00 am

*Quad Room, I-Hotel & Conference Center, 1900 S. First St. Champaign, IL 61820*

EC Members Present: Carla Presnell, Julia DiLibert and Hong Fei

Other Participants: 15 other faculty members

1. **Call to convene.**
2. **Meet and Greet:**

Members introduced self.

1. **President’s Report by Julia DiLibert:**

Welcome! Introducing EC members and basic schedules and commitment of EC meetings and other obligations. Calls for faculty to join us. We had a full board of 12 or 13 a few years ago. But since last year, EC are down to 3 members who have an urgent need to absorb people. We need regional coordinators, president elect, VP for membership and delegate affairs, and VP for legislative affairs.

Q: What kind of commitment?

A: We sit in ICCB meetings, then report it at our business meeting afterwards. It is 6 times a year. We solicit grant and scholarship applications in the spring semester. Then during summer, we review and make decisions. Then a big-time commitment is the conference organization. In recent years, we employed a conference organizer. But we mobilize presenters and participants. We have a keynote speaker every year. The whole fall semester is occupied by conference preparation.

Q: What are some of the functions of ICCFA? What has this committee accomplished?

A: 1) We are at the ICCB meetings. We developed working relationship with board members and administrators. We tried hard to have our voice heard. We use ways such as making statements, endorse or oppose legislative bills, or debate issues at the discussion panels at the annual conference with administrators. 2) We are funded by dues paid by colleges and give back to faculty and students through scholarships and faculty grants. 3) We fund 7 to 8 student scholarships for $1000 to $1500. We also have the scholarship winners coming to our annual conference luncheon and got recognized. 4) Our conference fills need for professional development which is required by number of hours for many colleges.

Q: Will there be a joint conference next year?

A: Probably not. It will be some benefit. We faculty have to teach. Therefore a schedule of Friday full day will work, with Thursday evening set aside as networking and team building. We can also design activities to explore the neighborhood. Most people expressed that in-person is better than virtual.

Q: What is some admin would not be supportive for faculty PD?

A: We tried for a long time to get full time faculty release for ICCFA affairs. College directors are aware of our organization. We spent some of our budget to increase awareness. We understand we are not always well known among faculties, especially part times. Some member suggested we have the conference during summer or holiday seasons, but most are against it because it will cut into their personal time.

Q: What areas we can advocate?

A: We are not a union, not involved in negotiations of salary and benefit. We advocate to ICCB for greater involvement in decision making. We are chartered by the state as advisory body to ICCB. In reality, we need to actively insert ourselves as stake holders into the discussion related to teaching and learning such dual credit, workforce development, 4-year community colleges, to name a few.

We also have VP for legislative affairs. We monitor house and senate bills under debate or pending for vote. We voice our opinions to bills related to higher education, as “support”, “neutral” or “opposed”. Sometimes, Leo the legislative affair VP meet with legislators to lobby on behalf of community colleges. We took advantage of the “lobby day” in Springfield. We also participate in some of the grassroot activism such as demonstration in Springfield. We urgently need new people to learn from Leo, to add to our rank.

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

We give in the forms of scholarship and faculty grants. We have collected $21,500. 26 colleges had paid. The letters to urge non-paying colleges to pay the due have been sent. Said to them: Please support us. We are in the business of giving back. Conference fees have been paid, including the fees for coordinator, speaker, and mileages for participating students. This year, we funded one more scholarship and one less faculty grant. The current balance is $24,598, with some outstanding commitments such as the PTK donation etc.

We need to increase the number and qualities of scholarship applicants. The hand-written, hastily composed forms should not appear. But it is sometimes hard for students.

Q: What are some of the requirements?

A: Must be Illinois residence in the past year. Must be full time student with 30 credit hours registered. We look at GPA, letters of recommendation, service to community, and personal statement. The personal statement is very important.

1. **Secretary’s Report and Faculty Grant Coordinator Report by Hong Fei:**

The minutes of 2021 conference assembly was distributed. Julia moves to approve. Seconded and all in favor.

Will announce the 2022 grant recipients at lunch. Encourage application. We have several colleges that win grant most of the year. We need participation from more colleges. We intended to favor applicants from less well participated areas and colleges.

Q: What kind of work is easier to get funded?

A: 1. Persons who are expert in an area, worked in research. E.g., A physicist led students research in national laboratory; archeologist run a dig with students, chemist built instrument, or this year’s speaker who cooperated with research university to start soil chemistry lab. 2. People who wrote grant as thesis or applied elsewhere. Because they wrote a lot of grants, they tended to be well-written, fluency in their description of scientific methods (for humanity disciplines as well) like hypothesis and methodology.

1. **Report by Melvin Harrison, ICCB, Director of Academic Affairs (via phone):**

I am sorry for not be able to attend in person. Congratulations on a successfully organized conference.

The Developmental Education Reform Act (DERA): As part of HB2170 was signed into law in March 2021 by Governor Pritzker. DERA aims to address inequities in degree completion by race and income status by reforming developmental education placement and delivery. The legislation states that each college develop and submit a plan to the state by May 1, 2022, for implementing and scaling evidence-based developmental education models that maximize students' likelihood of completing gateway courses in mathematics and English within two academic semesters.

For new members who are not familiar with ICCB:The Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) is the state coordinating organization for the Illinois Community College System - the third largest in the country and the leading public workforce development trainer in the state. The ICCB has statutory responsibility for administering state and federal grants to community college districts and adult education providers and managing high school equivalency testing for Illinois. Illinois community colleges serve over 600,000 residents each year in credit, noncredit, and continuing education courses. Illinois is home to 48 colleges in 39 community college districts which provide high quality, accessible, cost-effective educational opportunities to the entire state.

Another change is in area of dual credit teaching credentials. No longer requires completion of 18 credit hours. Rather, one can work towards the 18-credit hour towards a master’s degree while teaching dual credit. It is part of the effort to expand dual credit program.

The October 2022 Faculty Toolkit for scaling corequisite support model: Brain Durham is leading the effort. The Partnership for College Completion (PCC) is a grant funded joint effort of faculty advisory board with ICCB. It was tasked with creating a toolkit for post-secondary educators to provide institutions with recommendations for effectively implementing and scaling corequisite models. The Faculty Advisory Board was comprised of 13 members from colleges across Illinois, all specialized in supporting and facilitating corequisite curriculum in both English and Math. It is designed to uplift and assist practitioners seeking to build capacity for developmental education reform in Illinois at the state and campus levels and reflects their expertise, research, and continued support for student success in Illinois.

The agencies define co-requisite courses in the following way: A course design in which students who are assessed below college-ready in Math, English, or Reading are enrolled in a first-year college credit-bearing course and receive additional academic support or otherwise are instructed in college-level content concurrently with the college-level material. The model ensures that a student has the opportunity to complete a college-level gateway course within one academic year. This model works best when students enroll in college-level mathematics or English while concurrently receiving just-in-time remediation in mathematics, English, or reading. The college-level credit bearing course experience should be identical to that taken by students who meet established measures of college readiness for initial college-level placement.

At the institutional level, administrators who want to support the corequisite approach are encouraged to take necessary steps to create buy-in from all stakeholders. Literatures suggest that effort to build buy-in were essential to successful implementation. Examples are holding meetings, providing data showing the effectiveness, and involving stakeholders in dicision making.

**In plain English: Ways for students not to spend many years in developmental education. It is an equity focused initiative, is about removing barriers.**

1. **Election of officers:**

Carla moved to nominate Julia for the president. Seconded and all in favor.

Julia moved to nominate Fei as the secretary. Seconded and all in favor.

Julia moved to nominate Carla as the treasurer. Seconded and all in favor.

Once again, calling for people to join us:

New VP Joe Przybyla from Kishwaukee and new members of EC: Amy Chaaban and Andy Clements from Waubonsee

1. **Adjourned**