

May 26, 2006

Members of the Board Academic Matters Committee

Ed Hightower, Chair

Samuel Goldman

Tequia Hicks

Keith Sanders

The Academic Matters Committee will meet following the Architecture and Design Committee on Thursday, June 8, 2006, in Roller Hall, Room 1511, Main Clinic Building, Building 263, at the School of Dental Medicine in Alton.

The following items are suggested for the agenda:

1. Approval of the Minutes of the May 2, 2006, Meeting (enclosure)
2. Information Item: *Briefing Paper: Baccalaureate Degrees at Community Colleges* (enclosure)
3. Presentation: Educational Video Titled "If you're sippin'...you're trippin' – The real facts about soda and your teeth"

Presenter: Deb Schwenk, Assistant Professor, School of Dental Medicine

4. Other Business

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Sincerely,

John S. Haller, Jr.
Vice President for Academic Affairs

JSH/mam

Enclosures

c: John Simmons	Glenn Poshard
Roger Tedrick	Vaughn Vandegrift
Matthew Townsend	Walter V. Wendler
Stephen Wigginton	Constituency Heads
Marquita T. Wiley	Other Interested Parties

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Minutes of the Academic Matters Committee Meeting

May 2, 2006

The Academic Matters Committee met following the Finance Committee on Tuesday, May 2, 2006, in the Conference Center in the Delyte W. Morris University Center, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. Present were: Ed Hightower, Chair; Samuel Goldman, Tequia Hicks, and Keith Sanders. Other Board members present were: John Simmons, Roger Tedrick, Matthew Townsend, Stephen Wigginton, and Marquita Wiley. Executive Officers present were: President Glenn Poshard; Chancellor Vaughn Vandegrift, SIUE; Chancellor Walter V. Wendler, SIUC; Vice President John S. Haller, Jr.; and Vice President Duane Stucky.

Minutes

The minutes of the March 9, 2006, meeting were approved as submitted.

Information Item: *Briefing Paper: The Core Curriculum*

Vice President Haller presented information about each campus' core curriculum/general education core. He said the core curriculum was a vital part of undergraduate education and was designed to make students aware of the methodologies that come with the different disciplines. He also noted that the core curriculum, which requires continuous oversight, is being revised at both campuses.

Presentation: *Summer Bridge: A Bridge to Access and Success*

Provost Sharon Hahs stated that the presentation on the Summer Bridge program reflected SIUE's progress on three long-term goals: engaged students and capable graduates, innovative high-quality programs, and committed faculty and staff.

Karen Patty-Graham, Director of Instructional Services, stated that Instructional Services offers a variety of academic support services for SIUE students to help underprepared students prepare, prepared students advance, and advanced students excel in their academic success at SIUE. She noted that Summer Bridge, which began in summer 2001, is one area of academic support that Instructional Services provides. Dr. Patty-Graham highlighted some of the program's major benefits to the students and to the University.

LaDonna Holshouser, Co-Coordinator of Summer Bridge, commented that the students are the true measure of success of the Bridge program. She noted that the students are extremely motivated and dedicated, and it is their success that has made the program a success.

Dan Greenspan, a student in the program, talked about how the Summer Bridge program has helped him achieve his educational goals.

Other Business

Having no further business before it, the Academic Matters Committee adjourned.

JSH/mam

Briefing Paper: Baccalaureate Degrees at Community Colleges

Background:

The issue of baccalaureate degrees at community colleges arose more than a year ago when the Harper College Board of Trustees in Palatine voted to seek legislative permission for the college to offer bachelor's degrees in limited fields.

Both the IBHE and the ICCB supported resolutions in October 2004 urging that no legislation be enacted to change the mission of the community colleges until a study could examine its cost and policy ramifications.

At the February 6, 2006, meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education, the board members heard a report recommending that community colleges preserve their mission as two-year institutions without authority to offer bachelor's degrees.

Comments:

Currently, more than 100 institutions of higher education participate in the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI), which identifies a common general education core of courses that participating institutions recognize as fulfilling their general education requirements although they may not be identical to their native student requirements. To date, thousands of students have transferred under the IAI agreements.

As part of the initiative, the IAI has suggested lower-division courses for nearly 40 discipline majors and a process established in which panels of experts in the various fields review courses for equivalency.

A more recent development aimed at assisting students in transferring from one institution to another in Illinois was the development of the Course Applicability System (CAS). This system provides students with more specific and detailed information about how their course work will transfer among institutions and how it may or may not count towards a baccalaureate degree at a particular institution. This Web-based program allows students to enter the courses they have completed and compare them to degree requirements at participating schools.

Approximately 23,000 students graduate from Illinois community colleges with associate degrees each year. Of that number, about 16,000 students transfer from the state's forty-eight community colleges to the nine public universities, ninety-eight independent not-for-profit colleges and universities, and twenty-nine independent for-profit institutions in Illinois.

Currently, twenty-seven Illinois community college districts have agreements with senior institutions to offer baccalaureate completion programs for their students. Seven public universities in the state offer degree programs on or near selected community college campuses: SIUC, SIUE, EIU, UIS, NIU, and GSU.

Private senior institutions in Illinois also offer degree programs on several community college campuses. They include Greenville College, McKendree College, University of St. Francis, Kendall College, Blackburn College, National Louis University, Dominican University, Roosevelt University, and Olivet Nazarene University.

Additionally, at least three out-of-state universities offer programs on at least five community college campuses. These include Columbia College (Missouri), Franciscan University (Ohio), and Midcontinent College (Kentucky).

Importantly, the University Center of Lake County provides yet another approach where a consortium of public and private universities are co-located in one facility and work with one or more community colleges to deliver multiple degree programs in both face-to-face and distance learning modes. SIUC offers five degree completion programs at this center.

Twenty-two colleges have arrangements with several universities to provide electronic (on-line) baccalaureate degree completion. They include Franklin University, Indiana University, SIUC, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, University of Phoenix, NIU, UIS, Capella University, Regis University-Denver, GSU, Old Dominion University, St. Leo University-Florida, DeVry University, and University of St. Francis, among others.

The Illinois Virtual Campus website identifies eighteen on-line baccalaureate degree programs. Several of these are offered by universities included in the list of universities with cooperative arrangements with community colleges. Public universities offered 646 course sections with an enrollment of 12,779, while independent/private colleges and universities offered 2,045 sections with an enrollment of 40,986.

In November 2005, the ICCB endorsed the *Final Report of the Community College Baccalaureate Access Task Force*. This report was accepted and endorsed by the IBHE at its February 2006 meeting. At this time, the IBHE strongly encouraged all Illinois colleges and universities to collaborate in seeking ways to enact the recommendations of the task force.

In addition, the IBHE strongly supported the task force recommendation that the State of Illinois establish a Baccalaureate Completion Grant to assist Illinois universities and community colleges in the development of off-campus degree completion programs within the parameters outlined in the report.

The Task Force Recommendations:

- Strengthen and expand existing articulation efforts and transfer approaches for all community college students, including those in transfer and career and technical education programs.
- Encourage baccalaureate degree programs offered cooperatively and/or jointly by universities and community colleges through off-campus face-to-face or electronic arrangements.
- Expand dual admission initiatives between community colleges and four-year institutions.
- Provide financial incentives that promote university off-campus face-to-face or electronic completion programs.
- Develop a new program approval system that allows for rapid program delivery.
- Implement an extended-credit cooperative articulation model for selected programs that allows credits beyond the associate degree to apply towards the baccalaureate degree (80/40).
- Finally, the task force recommended that community colleges in Illinois should not be given the authority to award baccalaureate degrees at this time. However, if such an approach were to be reconsidered in the future, the task force recommended that it should be undertaken only in specific instances where it would meet a clearly identified workforce need which cannot be met through affordable cooperative approaches with baccalaureate degree-granting institutions, and only then, when the state has determined that it is in the best interest of good public policy.