The Southeastern Illinois College Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Rodney J. Brenner Board Room in Harrisburg, Illinois. On roll call, the following members were present: Blake Bradley, Gary Allen, Debbie Hughes, Jim Ellis, Richard Morgan, Dr. Frank Barbre, and Dr. Pat York. Absent: Clinton Murphy, student trustee. Also present were: Dr. Jonah Rice, Dr. Dana Keating, Chad Flannery, Gina Sirach, and David Wright.

Dr. York welcomed guests and allowed a time for comment. There were no comments from the audience.

Reports

Dr. Frank Barbre, ICCTA Representative, reported on the National Legislative Summit and Illinois Community College Trustees Association meetings held since the last Board meeting. He explained the importance of this year’s legislative agenda in terms of budget, pension, college boards, bachelor’s degrees and community colleges, among other related topics.

Dr. Rice discussed the need to move the April Board meeting. The Board discussed the need to move the April Board meeting to May 5 to avoid ICCTA and Lobby Day activities but also meet election requirements for the organizational meeting. Dr. Barbre confirmed the scheduling problem. Dr. York asked about the requirements of waiting past the election for the organizational meeting. Mr. Morgan confirmed there was a required wait time. Dr. Rice said the May 5 date should meet all legal requirements and was the back up date the Board had discussed some time back. Board members all agreed the May 5 date would work for them. The Board agreed May 5 would work.

Dr. Rice informed the Board about the Saline County Chamber dinner on February 26. He also called to attention Governor Rauner’s Executive Order Number 8 and how the College will engage it.

Dr. Rice also informed the Board that as of the 10-day mark, headcount was only 4% down, reflective of the current state and national trends.

Dr. Rice also highlighted other items including a new partnership with Harrisburg Park District and a College presentation at the Illinois Oil and Gas Association.

Dr. Rice informed the Board of many topics at President’s Council including the BAT /BSN degree initiative, ISAC required counseling proposal for all students and the challenges voiced by the Council about that, the Governor’s State of the State, Foundation upcoming meeting and agenda items including by-laws, endowment additions, estate gift, and strategic planning.
Dr. Rice also explained that the College and IDNR had been given the go ahead to pursue hosting the USCAA National Tournament at Sahara Woods for possibly up to 10 years. Once IDNR provides a commitment, the agreement will be in place. This tournament is presently hosted at University of Missouri and will result in hundreds of students from across the nation coming to the region. This effort on the part of the College, its archer coaches, IDNR, and the USCAA Board of Directors will result in a significant tourism and economic development initiative. The Board expressed an affirmative tone.

Dr. Rice highlighted many items from other cabinet members’ reports including: child care funding, cash flow, the upcoming budget address by the Governor, new grant initiatives, promoting academic amnesty, starfish training, and a grant with HMC.

Dr. Rice informed the board about QBS process with the Carmi project. A committee comprised of Dean Wright, Mr. Fitzgerald, Dr. Keating, Dean Weiss, and Ms. Cox will evaluate the architects for the recommendation. Mr. Wright confirmed there were 11 total applicants for the project. The committee will meet soon to objectively evaluate the applicants.

Dr. Rice also presented the data from Dean Sirach on the exemplary nursing scores for both the ADN and PN programs. SIC was one of only 3 colleges to have a 100% pass rate for the ADN program. It was one of the top in the State with a 98% PN pass rate. SIC had the highest scores in the region. The Board expressed gratitude and expressed their praise for the successes.

Dr. Rice then discussed the findings and topics of discussion of the Board Subcommittee on Budget and Finance. He distributed and explained the Financial Modeling, calling to attention the page on the five year projection based on reasonable assumptions including flat state funding. The Board reviewed specific administrative controls to close the gap of an expected $322,000 shortfall in FY 2016. Some of the controls will be one-time savings, so more planning will be needed for FY 17 and beyond. The Board was informed of a frozen graphic design position to help close the budget gap for FY 16. Dr. Rice said he would meet with bargaining unit heads, budget officers and leadership officers, as well as cabinet to review future plans and ideas. The Board agreed upon this process.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Bradley to approve the consent agenda which included the January 20, 2015 regular minutes, destroying tapes of the June/July 2013 closed session, the Treasurers report and bills for December totaling $2,604,856.05 which included payroll in the amount of $535,576.84.

On roll call the following members voted:

Aye       Nay
Mr. Bradley
Mr. Allen
Ms. Hughes
Mr. Ellis
Mr. Morgan
Dr. Barbre  
Dr. York

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Action Items

The following actions were taken:

A motion was made by Ms. Hughes seconded by Mr. Allen that the Board of Trustees adopt revisions presented for the Acceptable Use for Information Technology and Electronic Resources 4019 policy. Dr. Rice explained the only revisions made to the policy since the last Board meeting was a slight revision to the language regarding storing of passwords. Dr. York asked Ms. Hughes if the question about the policy she had at the last board meeting had been addressed and she confirmed that it had.

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Bradley and seconded by Dr. Barbre that the Board of Trustees approve to retire the Acceptable Student Use for Information Technology and Electronic Resource policy 9012. Dr. Rice explained that it was redundant to have this policy and requested the Board retire it as pertinent issues were covered in the new Acceptable Use policy.

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan seconded by Mr. Ellis that the Board of Trustees approve the tuition and fees proposal. Dr. Rice and Mr. Wright explained how the proposed increases to tuition and fees were in line with what other colleges have done or plan to do for next year and to ensure that Southeastern maintains compliance with Section 1501.505 of the ICCB Administrative Rules on Student Tuition, as well as, the eligibility criteria for equalization funding. It was emphasized that SIC still has one of the lowest tuition rates in the state and tri-state area. Dr. York and Mr. Ellis affirmed this by the work on the Board subcommittee on budget and finance.

The following tuition and fee structure was approved effective summer semester 2015:

- In-District Tuition - $94.00 per credit hour a $2.00 increase.
- Out-of-District Tuition - $150.00 per credit hour a $4.00 increase.
- Out-of-State Tuition - $158.00 per credit hour a $4.00 increase.
- Out-of-State-Border County Special Tuition Rate - $112.00 per credit hour a $4.00 increase.
- International Tuition - $166.00 per credit hour a $4.00 increase.
- Activity Fee - $2.00 per credit hour with no change from current year.
- Technology Fee - $4.00 per credit hour a $2.00 increase.
- Facility Fee - $4.00 per credit hour a $3.00 increase.

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Dr. Barbre seconded by Ms. Hughes that the Board of Trustees approve an increase from $11.00 per credit hour to $13.00 per credit hour for Early College Program fees effective summer semester 2015.
All members voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan seconded by Mr. Bradley that the Board of Trustees approve a Protection, Health and Safety (PHS) Bond. Mr. Morgan asked about the College’s bonding status. Mr. Ellis referred to the financial modeling packet where SIC’s bonding status is explained. Dean Wright explained how much bonding capacity the College has and its good credit rating. Dr. Rice explained to the board that some of the sample projects would include a new roof on T Building, floor abatement projects, lighting upgrades, among other PHS related projects. He noted this is part of the College’s Master Facilities and Improvement Plan.

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Allen seconded by Mr. Bradley that the Board of Trustees approve a Student Emergency Loan Fund Banterra Bank Resolution acknowledging Jim Ellis as Board Secretary and adding Barbara Willmore as an authorized agent with signatory authority.

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Allen seconded by Dr. Barbre that the Board of Trustees approve a request received from the SIC Foundation to serve alcohol at the Annual Foundation Alumni Recognition event per Board Policy.

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Ellis seconded by Ms. Hughes that the Board of Trustees approve the budget transfers as presented.

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Bradley seconded by Dr. Barbre that the Board of Trustees approve the curriculum committee recommendations as presented.

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Non-Action**

A no smoking/tobacco products policy revision was presented to the Board for adoption at the March meeting. Dr. Rice explained that this policy is a product of the work of a diverse committee comprised of faculty, administration and staff, who were smokers and non-smokers. The necessity of the revisions are due to the Smoke-Free Campus Act that is effective July 1, 2015.

Mr. Morgan asked if anything would happen to students if they smoked in their cars. Dean Flannery responded that State law allows for that occurrence since privately owned automobiles do not belong to the State.

Dr. Rice noted that the remaining non-action item consisted of correspondence. Dr. York remarked that the document on State finance was very interesting.
Closed Session

A motion was made by Mr. Bradley and seconded by Ms. Hughes to convene into closed session per provisions of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/2, Section C, Sub-section (1) appointment, employment, and compensation of specific employees, (2) negotiations, and (11) litigation. The closed session began at 7:08 p.m. A motion was made by Mr. Allen and seconded by Mr. Bradley to reconvene into open session at 7:45 p.m. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Personnel

A motion was made by Mr. Ellis seconded by Ms. Hughes to approve the following personnel items: approved that tenure be awarded to Jennifer Billman, English Instructor and the re-employment of non-tenured instructors Maggie Calceterra, Jeremy Irlbeck, Carla Burns, Jerri Harbison, Kelsie Bond, and Sara DeNeal; approved a Resolution authorizing dismissal of non-tenured grant-funded employees; accepted the resignation of Wayne Mitchell, food service manager, effective February 17, 2015; accepted the resignation of Laura Lowery, student services support specialist, effective February 4, 2015; accepted the resignation of Tiffany Kesler, music instructor, effective May 8, 2015; approved a Reduction in Force for Kelly Alongi, Title III Activity Coordinator and for Lane O’Brien, Title III Administrative/Technical Assistant, both effective September 30, 2015; approved several advisory council member recommendations; approved the employment of Robert Workman as a custodian effective March 16, 2015 for a beginning salary of $8.63 per hour; approved the employment of Madison Burklow, financial aid specialist, effective February 20, 2015 for a UMWA beginning salary of $19,614; approved the employment of Ben Ross, building Illinois bio-economy project coordinator, for a salary of $43,000 effective April 1, 2015; approved the employment of Britt Pavelonis, part-time small business specialist, effective February 20, 2015 for a salary of $18.00 per hour up to 28 hours per week; and approved a number of adjunct faculty.

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Morgan seconded by Dr. Barbre that the meeting adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.