

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 15, 2005
Board of Trustees Meeting

The Board of Trustees of Illinois Eastern Community Colleges took a major step toward advancement of vocational education in the IECC district, at the regular monthly meeting, Tuesday, February 15, at Lincoln Trail College, Robinson.

A new Career and Technical Education Enhancement Plan, a first for IECC, was approved for the five years 2006-2010. Purpose of the plan is to enable IECC to achieve its commitment to high academic standards for career and technical education. A committee will be established to oversee the plan, which includes a mission and executive summary, plus vision and goals.

The plan includes a \$2 million five-year commitment on the part of the district, with \$400,000 to be committed in each of the next five years.

This plan will serve as a vehicle to provide funding for the enhancement of the district's current career and technical education programs as well as fund future career and technical education program needs within the constraints of a given budget.

The CTE Enhancement Plan is an extension of the district's Technology Plan and is an outgrowth of a recent Occupational Summit on Programs conducted by the Illinois Eastern Community College Staff.

IECC has several existing career and technical education programs. The district plans to upgrade and enhance these programs and to identify new programs that are needed to maximize educational benefits to district citizens.

The plan provides for administrators at each of the four colleges, workforce education and the district office to jointly decide equipment needs for each year. A detailed plan budget will be presented to the Board of Trustees at the regular meeting in April.

The plan will be updated as more specific needs and financial resources are identified. The focus will be on major career and technical education needs outside of the normal operating budget and grant funds.

Statements of final construction compliance were approved for seven projects completed during the past year. Included are protection, health and safety, and locally-funded projects totaling \$1,241,726. Statements on each completed project will be submitted to the Illinois

Community College Board.

The district-wide projects completed included remodeling of the Workforce Development Center at FCC; heating, ventilation and air conditioning upgrade and Data Center acoustics at the District Office; carpet replacement at LTC; sidewalk replacement and upgrade at FCC and LTC; fire alarm and lighting upgrades at FCC, OCC and WVC; ceiling replacement in the Science/Theater/ Library building at WVC; and roadway, parking safety and access improvements at FCC.

The trustees continued to discuss preparations for the upcoming accreditation visit of the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association, scheduled for April 18, 19 and 20.

In preparation for the visit, a committee of district staff and employees has prepared a self-study consisting of five chapters, plus an introduction and a summary. The Higher Learning Commission will concentrate on five separate criteria and each of these criteria is covered by a chapter in the self-study.

At Tuesday's meeting the administration and trustees reviewed and discussed chapter five, dealing with "Engagement and Service."

The bid of Lakeside Roofing Company, Collinsville, Illinois, was accepted for roof replacement on the Science Building at Wabash Valley College. The project will cost \$253,290.00 and will be paid from Public Health and Safety phase 7 carryover funds.

Bids totaling \$40,133.12 for new computers were approved as follows: Grace Computers, Salt Lake City, Utah, 14 desktop computers, \$10,023.78; Dell, Round Rock, Texas, 12 notebook computers, \$23,704.34; Shea PC, Eagan, Minnesota, two CRT monitors, \$320.00; Charley, Robinson, Illinois, 20 flat screen monitors, \$6,085.00.

The Board informed Terry L. Bruce, Chief Executive Officer/Chief Operating Officer, that it intends to renew his two-year contract.

Reemployment of full-time faculty for the 2005-2006 academic year was approved, including 71 for continuation of tenure, ten for initial tenure and 24 for non-tenure status.

Erin Hosselton was employed as Library Assistant at OCC.

The faculty seniority list for 2004-2005 was approved.

The resignation of Kathy Ketterman was accepted as Nursing Instructor, effective February 11.

The resignation of Janis Robards was accepted as Bookkeeper-Payroll Clerk at the District Office, effective April 29.

The resignation of Clint Weisgerber was accepted as Electronics Technology Instructor, effective May 13.

Kimball Clark and Jason Potts were released as faculty members because of reduction-in-force.

Stephanie Holmes and Brian Wick were given honorable dismissal as temporary faculty members.

An Affiliation Agreement was approved with Good Samaritan Regional Health Center, Mt. Vernon, Illinois.

An addendum to the district's Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) Privacy Agreement with the Visiting Nurse Association, Evansville, Indiana, was approved.

A Program Enrichment Fee for students in the Radiography Program was approved. The fee is used for enrichment activities, including field trips and visits to other radiography and medical facilities. The fee is \$60 per semester for students in the first semester of enrollment and \$45 for subsequent semesters, effective with the summer term of 2005.

All members of the Board of Trustees were present at the February meeting.

Next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be Tuesday, March 15, at 7 p.m. at Wabash Valley College, Mt. Carmel.