

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 21, 2012
Board of Trustees Meeting

The fiscal year 2012 Environmental Scan for Illinois Eastern Community Colleges was accepted by the Board of Trustees, at the regular meeting Tuesday, February 21, at Frontier Community College, Fairfield.

The scan is used by the IECC District to forecast future internal and external needs for college programs and services. The data assists the District in developing the Strategic Plan, the Career and Technical Education Plan, and the On-Line Education Plan.

Included in this year's document is the following data of particular interest:

Almost 40% of high school students qualify for free or reduced lunches. This number has increased the past three years.

Median household income and per capita personal income lagged significantly behind the statewide average and the cost of higher education will continue to be an issue.

Local high schools have had a decrease in graduates in the past three years.

On-Line enrollments now exceed 5,000 students enrolled, the highest since on-line learning has been offered.

Changes in Estimated Family Contribution for Federal Pell Grants mean that fewer students will be eligible.

Illinois Monetary Awards Grants continue to squeeze out more and more community college students because of earlier eligibility dates.

Funding opportunities through local Workforce Investment Agencies have decreased, reducing the dollars for retraining for new technical skills.

The District continues to review items for inclusion in the Environmental Scan. Items being considered include residential building permits, home foreclosures and migration in and out of the District. Future reviews will consider data related to remedial and developmental education, to respond to the State's implementation of Performance Funding and the State focus on degree completion.

Board Policy relating to meetings was amended to allow public comment and allow the Board to impose reasonable restrictions so as to ensure the Board can conduct its business in an orderly fashion. Further, the Board has a right to limit individual participation to five minutes. Finally, the policy indicates that the Board is not required to act on any item introduced or discussed in public comment that is not on the agenda.

Due to increased costs, the admission fee for International students will be increased from \$75 to \$100, effective with the Fall Semester 2012.

On January 31, 2012, the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA), in a Letter of Findings asked that Lincoln Trail College submit a report in February concerning the basketball program at Lincoln Trail College.

A report was approved that fulfills the requirements for the February report to the NJCAA and indicates that the District has made progress on the audit of the Lincoln Trail College athletic program, the development of a financial report on dorm receipts, a procedure for educating college staff and booster members on NJCAA rules, and the development of a handbook for college coaches and staff relative to NJCAA rules.

The February report indicates the areas where the District is responding and a report in March will include IECC's on-going progress on the NJCAA findings and the need for better oversight of the athletic program at Lincoln Trail College.

The Illinois Green Economy Network (IGEN) has been established to foster sustainability centers, provide training for the green workforce, and deploy energy conservation and techniques, and renewable energy technology by local community colleges.

The trustees approved a request for IECC to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement to establish a network for cooperation and collaboration in promoting sustainability. Under the Intergovernmental Agreement, the District may be required to receive funds from IGEN and cooperate with that agency in the operation of the IGEN network.

A request from Ameren Illinois was approved for an underground electric easement for Lincoln Trail College for the replacement and rerouting of electric service for the college. The easement goes from an existing utility pole and terminates at a pad mounted transformer which is 935 feet south of the center line of County Road 1150N and 1072 feet west of the center line of Illinois State Route 1.

The Calendar Year 2012 schedule of holidays for IECC full-time employees was approved. The holidays are for administrative, technical, professional non-faculty, clerical, and maintenance personnel, as follows:

Monday, January 16: Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Monday, February 20: Presidents Day.

Friday, April 6: Spring Break.

Monday, May 28: Memorial Day.

Wednesday, July 4: Independence Day.

Monday, September 3: Labor Day.

Monday, October 8: Columbus Day.

Monday, November 12: Veterans Day.

Thursday & Friday, November 22 & 23: Thanksgiving.

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Monday, December 19, 20, 21 & 24: Winter Break.

Tuesday, December 25: Christmas Day.

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Monday, December 26, 27, 28 & 31: Winter Break.

Tuesday, January 1, 2013: New Year's Day.

A revised Intergovernmental Agreement between IECC and the City of Robinson was approved, concerning the Fitness Center at 501 S. Cross St. in Robinson.

Under the agreement, the City of Robinson owns and operates the facility and the college currently pays \$275.00 per month toward utilities to the building, which is approximately 50% of the cost of the utilities. The City would like to continue the \$275.00 monthly utility cost and add an additional \$81.49 per month for internet services to the building and add \$200.00 per month for janitorial services and supplies, which means the college's payment will increase to \$556.49 per month.

In addition, the City currently shares with the college 40% of all collected user fees associated with use of the fitness center equipment which was provided by the college when the agreement began. Under the revised agreement, the City will reduce the amount of money shared with the District from 40% to 30%.

The State of Illinois has created the Debt Recovery Program, effective January 2012, which allows local units of government, including community colleges, to partner with the Illinois Office of the Comptroller to recoup dollars local units are owed. Prior to the Comptroller issuing a state income tax refund check, the amount owed the District will be deducted and deposited into the Comptroller Debt Recovery Trust Fund.

The debtor will be provided written notice of the action and has 60 days to protest the deduction by the Comptroller. If a protest is made, a hearing officer will review the protest and associated documentation from the colleges, and issue a decision. If no protest is made at the end of the 60 day period, the amount deducted is then disbursed to the colleges.

The trustees approved an Intergovernmental Agreement between the District and the Illinois Office of the Comptroller which will allow IECC to begin participation in the Local Debt Recovery Program.

A Joint Agreement for Education Cooperation was renewed with Southwestern Illinois College at Belleville. The colleges accept students from the other college if a particular course is not available in their home district.

Statement of final construction compliance was approved for Protection, Health and Safety, Capital Renewal, and state and locally-funded projects which were completed during the past year. The statement, to be submitted to the Illinois Community College Board, is for district-wide surveillance

systems for which the District expended \$129,743 in total costs. Budgeted cost for the project was \$144,000.

An affiliation agreement was approved with Fairfield Memorial Hospital in Fairfield for Emergency Response Training.

Approval was given for agreements with Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, to offer Motorcycle Rider Training courses at all four of the IECC colleges.

The bid of McLean Implement, Wayne City, Illinois, was accepted for a tractor-mower for Frontier Community College at a total cost of \$13,957.74.

The bid of Joiner Sheet Metal and Roofing Company, Greenville, Illinois, was accepted for roof replacement on the McCoy Building, which houses the LTC welding program in Robinson. The firm's bid was \$37,465.

S & W Products, Waterford, Wisconsin, was awarded the bid for a Custom Engine Trainer for the OCC Automotive Program. The bid was \$16,760.

The \$31, 924 bid of Fluid Power Training Institute, West Valley City, Utah, was accepted for a Hydraulic Training System for Workforce Education.

Mary Morningstar Johnson was employed as Coordinator of Financial Aid, Wabash Valley College, effective March 5, 2012.

Adam Porter was employed as Broadcast Services Specialist, Wabash Valley College, effective March 1, 2012.

Tracy Robinson was employed as Office/Computer Lab Assistant, International Program, District Office/Wabash Valley College, effective February 22, 2012.

Melanie Wiseman was employed as Administrative Assistant to the President, Frontier Community College, effective February 27, 2012.

Kevin Weber was employed as Workforce Education Instructor, effective March 1, 2012.

Betty Noll was employed as Program Assistant in Workforce Education, effective February 23, 2012.

The employment status of Shannon Sneed was changed from Temporary Full-Time Program Assistant to Program Assistant, Workforce Education, effective February 22, 2012.

The Faculty Seniority Lists for 2011-2012 were approved for both bargaining unit and non-bargaining unit faculty.

Full-Time faculty members were reemployed for the 2012-2013 academic year, including 69 for continuation of tenure, seven for initial tenure, and nine for non-tenure.

Non-Bargaining Unit faculty members were reemployed for the 2012-2013 academic year, including seven for continuation of tenure, and five for non-tenure.

Four personnel retirements were announced.

Lisa Benson will retire as Math Instructor, effective June 1, 2012.

Larry Hoeszle will retire as Diesel Equipment Technology Instructor, effective July 1, 2012.

John Howard will retire as Associate Dean, Coal Mining Technology, Workforce Education, effective April 1, 2012.

Mindy Silvernale will retire as Coordinator of Financial Aid at Wabash Valley College, effective May 31, 2012.

The resignation of Nellie Dianne Mitchell was accepted as Program Assistant, Workforce Education, effective January 16, 2012.

Zach Loll was approved for a special assignment as Athletics Compliance Coordinator at the District Office, effective March 1, 2012hh.

Next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be Tuesday, March 20, at 7 p.m. at Lincoln Trail College, Robinson.