

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 17, 2011
Board of Trustees Meeting

Students like Illinois Eastern Community Colleges, according to the latest Student Satisfaction Survey, the results of which were presented to the IECC Board of Trustees at the regular meeting, Tuesday, May 17, at Olney Central College.

A total of 95 percent of the 471 survey participants indicated they were satisfied with the overall quality of instruction and 95 percent believe they were treated with respect as an individual. More than 90 percent would definitely or probably recommend IECC to others.

The IECC Office of Institutional Development conducts the survey each Spring semester. The 2011 survey was conducted online from January 18-March 18. Of the 471 students who completed the survey, 93 were from FCC, 107 from LTC, 118 from OCC, and 153 from WVC. There were 172 first year students, 167 second year students, 68 returning students and 64 classified as "other."

Survey questions included areas in Communications, Building and Grounds Maintenance, Advisement Services, Registration Services, Financial Aid Services, Learning Resource Centers, Technology Services, Instructional Classroom Services, and recommending the college to others.

Other results included: 96% were satisfied with Advisement Services, 98% were satisfied with Registration Services, 85% were satisfied with Learning Resource Center availability and resources available, 96% felt the building and grounds were maintained in a clean and attractive manner.

Also, 90% felt the instruction was academically challenging, 97% were satisfied with classroom size, and 91% were satisfied with courses available at the times they wanted or needed them.

Communication and customer service are two important goals of the mission and values of IECC's four colleges and the District overall. Individual college responses were very close to the overall district responses. The results of the survey are shared with various district-wide committees as well as college committees to work on improving any area that needs attention.

A resolution was adopted expressing appreciation to Walter Koertge of Olney for his service to the Board of Trustees and the IECC District. Mr. Koertge was also presented with a plaque recognizing his nine years as a member of the Board of Trustees, having served since 2002.

A Memorandum of Agreement was approved between IECC and Southern Illinois University-Carbondale., which offers concurrent enrollment and baccalaureate completion courses to qualified IECC students. Through this agreement SIU-C will be able to offer upper division or graduate courses and baccalaureate degree completion programs for students of the IECC service area, as determined and approved by IECC and SIU-C. The agreement also provides a concurrent enrollment agreement which

would increase the efficiency and certainty of students obtaining a baccalaureate degree as well as facilitate the transition of students from IECC to SIU-Carbondale.

In April of 1994, the Board of Trustees implemented a guarantee which stated that for designated degrees, IECC would guarantee the transferability of its credit courses to public senior Illinois colleges and universities. Currently included in the guarantee are the District's three transfer degrees, namely the Associate in Arts Degree, the Associate in Science Degree and the Associate of Science and Arts Degree. With the approval of the Illinois College Board (ICCB) and the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) of the new Associate in Engineering Science Degree, the trustees approved adding this new transfer degree to the existing Educational Guarantee.

The trustees approved renewing the District's general insurance with the present carrier. The District's property, general liability, errors and omissions, broadcast, umbrella, automobile, and other insurance is provided by Indiana Insurance and its successor agency, Wells Fargo. For several years, the Board has placed the insurance needs of the District out for bids on an approximate three year cycle. The District's current carrier has indicated that it will continue to provide coverage for FY2012 at a 4% increase from the District's existing \$277,086 premium which would increase to \$288,698 or \$11,612. Workers Compensation premiums will increase 16% from the existing \$165,618 to a proposed premium of \$192,316, due to large amounts paid out on two open claims.

An expansion to the Robinson Enterprise Zone was approved to abate ad valorem taxes for a period of five years on real property to include farm land upon which will be built a senior citizen living facility called Glenwood. The abatement would be from the first year in which the improvements are fully assessed and is limited to the term of the Robinson Enterprise Zone.

The fee for students enrolled in the Diesel Technology Program at Wabash Valley College will be increased from \$120 to \$150 per semester for uniforms and uniform cleaning, effective Fall Semester 2011.

Thirteen affiliation agreements were approved between IECC and area health care related businesses and offices dealing with the Associate Degree in Nursing, Basic Nurse Assistant, Health Information Management, Pharmacy Technician, and Medical Assistant programs.

Joint Agreements for education cooperation were renewed with John A. Logan College and Kaskaskia College. Under the agreement the colleges agree to accept students in certain programs that are not offered by their home district.

The bid of Max Dye, Salem, \$14,199, was accepted for a 2010 Chevrolet Impala LS with 25,244 miles, for Olney Central College.

The bid of Eagleson Automotive, Olney, \$17,350, was accepted for a 2009 Dodge Caravan with 29,000 miles, for the International Student program.

Joshua Lipe was employed as Workforce Education Instructor, effective July 1.

Vernon Miller was employed as Workforce Education Instructor, effective June 1.

Wain Davis was employed as TRiO Upward Bound Counselor, effective May 23.

Brittany Bass was employed as Library Assistant, effective May 18.

Emily Gullett was employed as Full-Time Temporary Office Assistant at Lincoln Trail College, effective June 1.

Two title changes were approved: Gerry Schlechte's title will be changed from Operations/Fiscal Manager to Director-WIA Operations, effective May 18. Anthony Logue's title will change from Internal Auditor for Fiscal and Program Operations to Operations Manager, effective May 18.

Employment of Robert Stephenson, Business Services Representative-LWIA, District Office, a grant position, was terminated, effective May 18.

Two resignations were accepted. Mary Doerner will resign from the Nursing Faculty, effective May 28. Amanda Sharp resigned as Upward Bound Counselor, District Office/Lincoln Trail College, effective May 7.

Next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held at Wabash Valley College, Mt. Carmel, Tuesday, June 21, at 7 p.m.