

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**July 15, 2008**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting**

Illinois Eastern Community Colleges has received approval from the Higher Learning Commission to grant on-line certificates and degrees. The approval was reported to the Board of Trustees at the regular meeting, Tuesday, July 15 at Lincoln Trail College, Robinson.

The district received notification on July 3 from the Higher Learning Commission that it had approved IECC's on-line degrees and certificates at its June 27 meeting. The HLC approved IECC's On-Line Associate in Science and Arts Transfer Degree, the Associate in General Studies Degree, the Associate in Science Transfer Degree, the Associate in Applied Science Degree, and other degrees and certificates, effective July 3, 2008.

The Board of Trustees approved the action taken by the Higher Learning Commission and directed the district administration to verify in a timely fashion the information in all documents submitted to the district by the commission.

The IECC district has been offering on-line courses since 1997. The HLC conducted a two-day visitation to review the IECC on-line program this past February.

The trustees approved the district's Annual Program Review Report for fiscal year 2008. A total of 37 career and technical education programs offering degrees or certificates were reviewed for the fiscal year. Twenty-two of these programs will be continued, three will be discontinued, two will be significantly modified during the coming year, and two are scheduled for further review during fiscal year 2009.

Based on last year's review, eight programs were again reviewed during this cycle. Of those reviewed last year and again this year, three will remain inactive, three that had previously been withdrawn will be reviewed again for possible reuse, a degree program that had been deactivated will be withdrawn, and a new degree program was added.

This year's review also included Adult Education, English as a Second Language, Math, Scholarships, and Outside Agencies.

The District-Wide 2008-2010 Marketing/Information Plan was also approved. The document was compiled by the Directors of Information and Marketing, Recruitment, and the Office of Institutional Development. The plan has broad goals for reaching residents of the district and beyond with information regarding educational and cultural activities that are available and to improve and increase communications within the district.

The Marketing Plan includes the publications that IECC will be preparing and mailing, along with recruiting efforts of personnel, reports that will be prepared to see the effects of marketing and recruiting

programs on enrollment, training that will be done, and public relations contacts that will be made with various groups.

Finally, the plan sets forth the advertising program and goals of each of the colleges and the district office.

The IECC Catalog for the 2008-2009 academic year was approved. The catalog includes information about all four IECC colleges – Frontier Community College, Fairfield; Lincoln Trail College, Robinson; Olney Central College, Olney; and Wabash Valley College, Mt. Carmel.

General information about the district is outlined, including the mission; history; admission and academic information; student rights, conduct and services; financial information and details about programs and course offerings.

The catalog also lists the college calendar and full-time district and college personnel.

A number of new program offerings have been added to the catalog, along with programs that have been revised, deleted, and withdrawn since the previous catalog was published.

The bid of United Graphics, Inc., Mattoon, Illinois, in the amount of \$12,174.09, was accepted for printing 5,000 of the new catalogs.

A new Board Policy was adopted which prohibits the use of cell phones and other electronic devices while driving a district owned motor vehicle or a personally owned motor vehicle being operated for district business. The policy also requires that district employees pull off to the side of the road and safely stop the vehicle before placing or taking phone calls. The policy further states that employees are not expected to make calls or do other district work while driving.

Three new program offerings were approved, as follows:

Olney Central College will offer a Medical Laboratory Technology Degree Program. This is a 67-hour program to train Medical Laboratory Technicians for employment in clinical laboratories of hospitals, clinics, physician's offices, and other health care facilities performing various laboratory procedures and diagnostic tests. The MLT works under the direct supervision of a physician and/or medical technologist in the areas of blood banking, clinical chemistry, hematology, microbiology, urinalysis, coagulation, and immunology.

Lincoln Trail College will offer a Sports Ground Maintenance Program. This is a 29-hour certificate program that is a reasonable and moderate extension of the Horticulture Degree Program. The courses for this program provide a specialization in landscape design, construction, installation, and maintenance as well as a focus on turf grass management.

All four colleges, FCC, LTC, OCC and WVC will offer a Certificate in General Studies Program. This is a 29-hour certificate program and is intended for students who wish to explore their individual interests within an academic structure. The program incorporates general education hours, area of

concentration hours, which can be transfer or career and technical courses, and electives giving students the flexibility to design their own program.

The trustees approved a one-year renewal of health and dental insurance coverage with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois. The renewal rates are increased by 10% in medical and dental premiums combined.

The trustees approved a request by the Illinois Department of Corrections for IECC to continue to offer educational services to Robinson Correctional Center and Lawrence Correctional Center through Lincoln Trail College. A contract will be presented when the Illinois General Assembly appropriates sufficient funds to operate the programs.

An increase from \$748 to \$1,151 in the fee for the two-year Telecommunications Program at Lincoln Trail College was approved.

The district's Nursing Student Handbook was revised to incorporate changes in licensure application and legal issues.

Bids totaling \$34,423.80 were accepted from various vendors in Illinois, Indiana and Missouri for janitorial equipment, supplies and consumables.

Bids totaling \$21,736.62 were accepted for projectors and projector replacement lamps for classrooms throughout the district and for the WVC Theater. The successful bidders for these products were CIM Audio-Visual, Evansville, Indiana; and Dell Computers, Round Rock Texas.

Bids totaling \$45,023.00 were accepted for equipment for the Radio/TV Broadcasting Program at Wabash Valley College. Successful bidders were Digital Arts, Bloomington, Indiana; Roscor Corp., Mt. Prospect, Illinois; and B & H Photo, New York, New York.

Christopher Teague was employed as Telecommunications Instructor, effective August 14.

Leslie Scott was employed as Emergency Preparedness Technician at Frontier Community College, effective July 17.

Prior to the business meeting, the Board of Trustees and administrators toured the new Ivan Miller Greenhouse on the LTC campus. Horticulture instructor Paul Stouse conducted the tour. Special guests were Milburn and Marilyn Hornback and Ken Hohlbaugh. Mrs. Hornback is the daughter of the late Ivan Miller and Mr. Hohlbaugh is the new President of the LTC Foundation. The greenhouse was named to honor Ivan Miller, first President of the LTC Foundation, who was a leader in the founding of Lincoln Trail College and donated land near the campus to the college. The LTC Foundation made a substantial financial contribution toward construction of the new greenhouse.

Next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held at Olney Central College, Tuesday, August 19, at 7 p.m.