

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 20, 2004
Board of Trustees Meeting

Actions relating to the 2005 visit of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association were taken at the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Illinois Eastern Community Colleges, Tuesday, July 20, at Wabash Valley College, Mt. Carmel.

The HLC visit is scheduled for April 18-20, 2005. In preparation, the IECC staff and faculty have prepared a self-study, which provides a complete review of the current status of affairs in the district.

The district's HLC steering committee has reviewed the self-study and has extracted strengths, concerns and recommendations. In identifying tasks that IECC does well and those over which there is some concern, the committee has made recommendations for changes that should be considered.

The Board of Trustees accepted the report of strengths and concerns and approved the recommendations as a part of the district's on-going preparation for the HLC visit.

Also approved was the District-Wide Marketing/Information Plan for 2004-2006. The document was compiled by the Director of Information and Marketing, Recruiting, and 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.

A contract was awarded for a new parking lot at Frontier Community College, Fairfield, to Lipps Construction, Mt. Vernon, IL, in the amount of \$128,900. The work includes, but is not limited to, excavation and grading, concrete parking lot and drives, adjacent sidewalks, and miscellaneous related work. Public Health and Safety bond funds will finance the project.

The academic calendars for the district were approved for the two years covering the period from the fall semester 2005 through the summer semester 2007.

Changes and additions to the Student Nursing Handbook were approved. The changes involved removal of the criteria for math testing, addition of criteria for drug dosage calculation to replace the math testing, new criteria for medication administration competency, and clarification of the dress code.

A joint agreement for education cooperation was renewed with Southeastern Illinois College in Harrisburg. The agreement provides for IECC to offer training in Coal Mining Technology to the Southeastern Illinois College district.

IECC's Accountability and Program Review Report for the 2003-2004 academic year was approved. The report contains summaries of instructional program reviews and program improvements, reviews of occupational programs, evaluation of instructional, student and academic support services, public service, administrative functions, and overall academic productivity relative to program quality, need and cost. The report, which will be submitted to the Illinois Community College Board, helps the district focus on its mission and priorities.

Student tuition and fees for the International Student Program were approved. There will be a one-time admission charge of \$35 and a transportation fee of \$75 per semester. Tuition will be \$175 per semester hour for second year international students and \$243.26 per semester hour for first year international students.

The trustees approved renewal of the contract with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois for providing health, dental and life insurance coverage to district employees for the coming year. The proposal contains a 15 percent increase in health and dental insurance premium rates over the current year rates.

Approval was given to submit an application to establish an internship and training program in coal mining. The program will be a cooperative effort of IECC, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, United Mine Workers of America, Illinois Coal Association, the Federal Mine Safety and Health Administration, and several coal companies. This will be a pilot program.

The following bids were accepted:

Charley, Inc., Robinson, IL, \$156,580, for 215 desktop computers.

Gateway Computers, North Sioux City, SD, \$33,881, for 17 notebook computers and four tablets.

KOI Computers, Lombard, IL, \$12,268, for 36 flat panel monitors.

CIM-Audio Visual, Evansville, IN, \$33,294.70, for 12 projectors.

Softmart, Downingtown, PA, \$43,290, for 1,000 Microsoft Office Pro software licenses.

The bid for providing long distance telephone service to the district on a two year contract was awarded to Verizon, Westfield, IN, at an approximate cost of \$31,370.

The following personnel were employed:

Gary Wise, Manufacturing Technology Instructor.

Brian Haskins, Director of Learning Skills Center, Lincoln Trail College.

Toby Madison, Men's Basketball Coach, Wabash Valley College.

Everick Sullivan, Men's Basketball Coach, Lincoln Trail College.

Tayna Smith, Academic Support Specialist, District Office.

The resignation of Mary Roark, Computer Tech Instructor at the Lawrence Correctional Center, was accepted.

The resignation of Richard Arp, Men's Basketball Coach at Lincoln Trail College, was accepted, effective September 13.

District-wide enrollment for the summer term is up 9 percent over the same time one year ago.

Next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be Tuesday, August 17, 2004, at 7 p.m. at Olney Central College, Olney.