

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 19, 2006
Board of Trustees Meeting

An operating funds budget of \$26,360,508 has been adopted by the Board of Trustees of Illinois Eastern Community Colleges District No. 529 for the fiscal year July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007.

The budget was adopted at the regular meeting Tuesday, September 19, at Lincoln Trail College, Robinson, following a public hearing held before the board meeting. It includes \$23,604,450 in the Education Fund and \$2,756,058 in the Operations and Maintenance Fund. These are the two principal operating funds of the IECC district.

Revenue for the Education Fund is from the following sources: Local taxes \$1,850,000, state government \$11,992,505, student tuition and fees \$9,566,945, investments \$100,000, sales and service fees \$20,000, miscellaneous revenue \$75,000, for total receipts of \$23,604,450.

Expenses in the Education Fund are budgeted as follows: Salaries \$14,355,821, employee benefits \$1,466,701, contractual services \$435,873, material and supplies \$1,168,153, travel and conference-meeting expense \$222,361, fixed charges \$263,089, utilities \$115,700, capital outlay \$298,093, miscellaneous expenses \$5,278,659, for total expenditures of \$23,604,450.

Revenue for the Operations and Maintenance Fund is from the following sources: Local taxes \$725,000, state government \$1,981,058, investments \$20,000, building rental \$30,000, for total receipts of \$2,756,058.

Expenses in the Operations and Maintenance Fund are budgeted as follows: Salaries \$922,444, employee benefits \$135,854, contractual services \$238,010, materials and supplies \$157,260, travel and conference-meeting expense \$6,500, fixed charges \$118,020, utilities \$1,105,800, capital outlay \$69,670, staff development \$2,500, for total expenditures of \$2,756,058.

Also approved were fiscal year budgets for the following special funds: Operations and Maintenance Restricted Fund \$1,659,817, Bond and Interest Fund \$1,611,406, Auxiliary Fund \$4,796,597, Audit Fund \$84,661, Liability, Protection and Settlement Fund \$1,391,470.

A resolution was adopted to provide for a public hearing on the district's estimated tax levy, to be certified in 2006 and payable in 2007. The hearing will be at Olney Central College, Tuesday, October 17 from 6 to 6:30 p.m. The estimated tax levy is \$3,530,000, plus an extension for bond and interest payments of \$1,402,763.

The annual financial audit of community college district accounts for the past fiscal year, as prepared by Clifton, Gunderson & Co., Springfield, was reviewed. The audit was accepted for submission to the Illinois Community College Board.

The annual Illinois Community College Board Certification of Chargeback document was approved for fiscal year 2007. The out-of-district cost per semester hour is \$182.77. Chargeback reimbursement per semester credit hour is \$87.72. Cost per semester credit hour for out-of-state and international students is \$226.83.

A new policy was adopted regarding the district's program of assessment. The policy sets forth the district's commitment to internal and external assessment of student learning and the commitment to gather, analyze, and publish data annually for planning and evaluation of the district's mission, goals, purposes, and outcomes of student learning. The district is committed to a continuous process of assessment involving faculty, staff, students, and administration.

A new policy was also adopted that reflects changes in the Open Meetings Act dealing with the conduct of board meetings utilizing video conference, telephone or other electronic means of communication. The policy is in line with new legislation requiring that at least four board members be physically present in order to allow other board members to participate in the board meeting electronically.

A multi-year financial planning document was approved, setting forth estimated revenues for fiscal years 2007 through 2011. The document will be continually reviewed and updated annually.

An Institutional Fact Book containing basic information about the community college district was adopted. The book gathers information from various sources into one central document regarding students, enrollment history, degrees and certificates granted, financial aid received and distributed, and the district's annual budgets and operation.

The district's self-evaluation and recognition application was adopted for submission to the Illinois Community College Board. This document is required for the district to qualify for state funding.

An online education plan was adopted to provide a strategy and financing structure to support and promote district-wide online opportunities. IECC has been offering online courses since 1997. Currently, IECC offers approximately 105 online courses taught by 70 full-time and part-time faculty. The plan outlines the required procedures, training, and support to assist faculty with online course development and to build peer-to-peer support for student online learning. It includes the establishment of goals, strategies and objectives to achieve the district's vision of providing high quality online courses, programs and services that respond to the needs of students who desire an alternative delivery method for learning.

Affiliation agreements were approved with the office of Dr. Theertham, Terre Haute, Indiana, for the Associate Degree Nursing Program, Newton Rest Haven for the Basic Nurse Assistant Program, and Wellum Chiropractic Office for the Medical Assistant Program. A preceptor agreement for the Associate Degree Nursing Program was approved with the office of Dr. Theertham.

The academic calendar for 2007-2009 was revised to have recognition of Pulaski Day on March 10, 2008 and March 9, 2009. This change allows the mid-term to occur before the spring break.

Expenditure of \$25,832.05 was approved for emergency repair of water lines and valves in the Applied Arts Building at Wabash Valley College.

The bid of CSE Corporation, Monroeville, Pennsylvania was approved for ten self-contained breathing apparatus units for the Coal Mining Technology Program at a total cost of \$35,996.50.

Joint Agreements for education cooperation were approved with John A. Logan College in Carterville and Southwestern Illinois College in Belleville. Under the agreements the colleges agree to accept students in certain programs that are not offered by their home district.

Bev Turkal was appointed Interim President of Lincoln Trail College, effective October 1. She has a distinguished career in education, having been a teacher, principal,

served as a superintendent of schools on four different occasions, was a member of the IECC Board of Trustees, and a member of the Illinois State Board of Education.

The employment status of Jervaise McGlone was changed from Program Director for the Title III Program to Director of Special Projects and HLC Online Degree Approval. The employment status of Mary Warren was changed from Records Clerk to Administrative Assistant at Frontier Community College.

Kimberly Frisz was employed as Program Advisor of the Educational Talent Search program. Ryan Herdes and Rebekkah Hixon were employed as Student Advisors in the Upward Bound program.

Jeremy Wolf was employed as Chemistry Instructor for the remainder of the current academic year.

Cheryl Uhl was employed as Nursing Instructor. Debbie Coale was employed as Records Clerk for Frontier Community College.

Retirement dates were announced by the following personnel: Harry Benson, President of Wabash Valley College, effective January 31, 2007; Jerry Hefley, Dean of the College of Frontier Community College, effective January 31, 2007; Dan Bruneau, Theatre/Drama Instructor, effective May 21, 2007; and Kay Brown, Training Advisor, Workforce Education, effective August 31, 2006.

The following personnel resignations were accepted: Michelle Burgess as Chemistry Instructor, effective September 9; Barbara Bennett as Administrative Assistant at Frontier Community College, effective October 27; and James Perry as Groundskeeper at Olney Central College, effective September 30.

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