

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 9, 2008
Board of Trustees Meeting

College Emergency Plans for each of the four colleges in the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges District were approved by the Board of Trustees, at the regular meeting, Tuesday, December 9, at Olney Central College.

Designed to provide an organized plan to facilitate the safety of their students, faculty and staff, the plans outline each of the college's procedures for managing major emergencies and incidents that may threaten the health, safety and welfare of the campus community or disrupt its programs and activities.

Each plan contains the following information: Emergency Contact List, Emergency Alert System, College Map and Building Inventory. Emergency Response Situations include the following: Assault, Bomb Threat, Disturbance and Demonstrations, Earthquake, Fire, First Aid Kits and AED Locations, Hazardous Materials, Medical Emergencies (Injury, Illness, First Aid), Severe Weather, Utility Emergencies and Weapons on Campus.

Nixie Hnetkovsky presented a review of the Report on Assessment 2007-2008, which was approved by the trustees.

In October 2006, Illinois Eastern Community Colleges was accepted into the Higher Learning Commission's (HLC) Academy for the Assessment of Student Learning. The Assessment Academy offers HLC member institutions a four-year sequence of events and interactions that are focused on student learning, targeted at accelerating and advancing efforts to assess and improve student learning, and designed to build institution-wide commitment to assessment of student learning.

The Assessment Academy experience is intended to develop institutional culture and increase institutional commitment to assessing and improving student learning. IECC's successful participation in the Academy is designed to generate evidence for accreditation evaluations and serve in place of mandated progress and monitoring reports on assessment of student learning.

The trustees also approved the IECC Strategic Plan 2009-2010. The purpose of the plan is to prepare for the future, prioritize issues, and create strategies that will lead the District in successfully meeting its mission to provide excellence in teaching, learning, public service, and economic development. The plan was developed through a district-wide process which identified critical focus areas, established strategic goals and objectives and developed actions and activities to achieve these objectives, as well as established targets and indicators to measure success and to ensure the Plan's ongoing review and renewal. The Strategic Plan is designed as a "work in progress" that will evolve and be annually reviewed as IECC makes progress towards these strategic goals and sets new goals in the future.

The Strategic Planning Committee reviewed, evaluated, and prioritized the input and trends from internal and external analyses, and other objective data to establish the following five focus areas which represent the framework of IECC's Strategic Plan:

Focus Area 1: Improve Infrastructure.

Focus Area 2: Academic Excellence.

Focus Area 3: Organizational Communication and Planning.

Focus Area 4: Productive Partnerships.

Focus Area 5: Community Outreach.

Results of the 2008 Student Satisfaction Survey and the 2008 Employee Satisfaction Survey were accepted.

Students in all categories and at all colleges continue to be satisfied with the operation of the four colleges and employees are satisfied with the operation of the District.

Authorization was given to convey a deed for a parcel of land on the Lincoln Trail College campus to the LTC Foundation. The property will become a part of Marathon Petroleum Company's plans to develop a wildlife habitat area at LTC. The LTC Foundation will be involved in the project.

Bob Boyles was employed as Dean of Instruction at Frontier Community College. Boyles will begin his duties at FCC in the Spring of 2009. He is currently interim Dean at Olney Central College.

Susan Batchelor was employed as Nursing Instructor, effective January 7.

Carrie Dagg was employed as Director of Adult Education at FCC, effective January 12.

The employment status of Carroll Hilliard was changed from Director, Financial Assistance and Community Service, FCC, to Assistant Dean of Student Services, FCC, effective January 5.

The employment status of Blenda Demaret was changed from Interim Dean, FCC, to Assistant to Dean of Instruction, FCC, effective January 5.

The retirement of Scott Hanson, Workforce Education Instructor, was announced, effective January 1.

The holiday schedule for full-time employees of IECC for the 2009-2010 fiscal year was approved. There are no changes from prior IECC schedules for holidays.

The bid of Snap-On Equipment, Conway, Arkansas, was approved for Automotive Alignment Equipment for Frontier Community College. The firm's bid was \$12,694.00 for an aligner, sensors, remote indicator and alignment simulator. The bid of D & D Equipment Sales, Murphysboro, Illinois, \$8,488.04, was accepted for an alignment lift rack.

Bids were also accepted for office furniture and seating for the Main Hall at Wabash Valley College. The bid of Indoff, Mt. Carmel, Illinois, \$25,653.14, was accepted for furniture, and the bid of Corporate Design, Evansville, Indiana, \$15,019.40, was accepted for seating.

A Joint Agreement for education cooperation was approved with Lewis and Clark Community College. Under the agreement the colleges agree to accept students in certain programs that are not offered by their home district.

Nursing instructors were recognized for their work in receiving eight more years of accreditation for the IECC Nursing Program.

Dates, times and places were set for regular monthly meetings of the Board of Trustees for the 2009 calendar year as follows:

Tuesday, January 20, 2009, 7 p.m., Frontier Community College

Tuesday, February 17, 2009, 7 p.m., Lincoln Trail College

Tuesday, March 17, 2009, 7 p.m., Olney Central College

Tuesday, April 21, 2009, 7 p.m., Wabash Valley College

Tuesday, May 19, 2009, 7 p.m., Frontier Community College

Tuesday, June 16, 2009, 7 p.m., Lincoln Trail College

Tuesday, July 21, 2009, 7 p.m., Olney Central College

Tuesday, August 18, 2009, 7 p.m., Wabash Valley College

Tuesday, September 15, 2009, 7 p.m., Frontier Community College

Tuesday, October 20, 2009, 7 p.m., Lincoln Trail College

Tuesday, November 17, 2009, 7 p.m., Olney Central College

Tuesday, December 8, 2009, 7 p.m., Wabash Valley College

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month, with the exception of the December meeting, which is held on the second Tuesday.

Information was presented relative to the Board of Trustees election Tuesday, April 7, 2009. Terms of G. Andrew Fischer, Mt. Carmel; Larry Rost, Fairfield; and Marilyn J. Wolfe, Albion, will expire in 2009. Petitions of candidacy and other nomination papers are available in the IECC District Office, 233 E. Chestnut St., Olney, during normal business hours. The filing period is Monday, January 19 through Monday, January 26, 2009, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., during the filing period. The office will remain open until 5 p.m. on January 26, the final filing date. The Board continued the appointment of Board Secretary Harry Hillis and CEO Assistant Renee Smith as the officials to conduct the election.

Next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be Tuesday, January 20, at 7 p.m. at Frontier Community College, Fairfield.