Chair Gregg Chadwick called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Heartland Community College to order at 7:00 pm at Heartland Community College in Normal.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Jim Drew moved to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Becky Ropp seconded. A roll call vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Items approved on the consent agenda were minutes of the regular meeting January 20, 2015; ratification of bills paid during January 2015.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Ron Ulmer of Normal commented on the possibility that tuition would be raised and encouraged the Board to look at opportunities for efficiencies. He had heard the possibility that a four-year nursing degree would be added and expressed concern about too many overlapping services. Finally, he suggested looking into the costs of the intercollegiate athletic program as an opportunity to save money.

STAFF REPORTS

Adult Education

Mary Beth Trakinat, VP Continuing Education and Advancement, introduced Jill Blair, Dean of Adult Education. Ms. Blair reported on changes implemented in January 2014 to the GED exam and resulting trends at national, state and local levels. Anticipated changes to the exam, increased cost of taking the exam and a new online payment system contributed to an enrollment spike to complete the exam prior to the changes taking effect. This was followed by a significant drop in GED test takers and pass rates. Many states are exploring alternatives to the GED exam that are now available. Ms. Blair described Heartland’s procedures for administering the exam as well as support and financial assistance available to students taking the exam.
ENGL 099/101 Accelerated Learning Program

Stephanie Kratz, Professor of English, was asked to report. Ms. Kratz co-coordinated a 2010 self-study of the Developmental English Program. At that time the application process for certification by the National Association for Developmental Education (NADE) in English was underway and the self-study was responding to less than favorable benchmark data about student success and persistence. She noted this is now the 5th semester of a 6 semester pilot phase using an Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) model which has improved student success and persistence. She described the ALP model the College adopted noting that students take the developmental course and the college-level course in the same semester accelerating their completion of the program.

State-wide Initiative for Community College Applied Baccalaureate Degrees

President Widmer reported that 21 states have some form of Applied Baccalaureate Degrees. The Illinois Council of Community College Presidents offered a recommendation in January to pursue authority for limited Applied Baccalaureate Degrees at Illinois community colleges. He described additional steps that must occur in this process including endorsement by ICCTA, the ICCB, the IBHE as the degree granting authority, and legislation enacted by the General Assembly. Ultimately, the local district will decide if there is interest in pursuing an Applied Baccalaureate Degree based, typically, on employers demand for more advanced credentialing for unmet needs in a community. President Widmer noted that if this evolves in the future, the College would explore these opportunities in partnership with other higher education institutions in the community. As the ICCTA voting delegate, Mr. Gibb requested consensus of the Board on this issue prior to casting his vote in March to endorse (or not) recommending the next step. Trustees are encouraged to send additional comments to Mr. Gibb.

Financial

Doug Minter, VP Business Services, reporting on the Revenues and Expenditures, noted staff added information about the prior year’s percents expended and received to show how this year relates to the same time last year.

Recognition & Correspondence

President Widmer noted the following items: A thank you for the technology upgrades in the Challenger Learning Center and an acknowledgement of efforts of the IT staff from Stacey Shrewsbury, Lead Flight Director.

Linda Tesdal sent an article about the Greater Livingston County Economic Development Council and Heartland teaming up on the Modern Manufacturing Program.

The American Council of Engineering Companies of Illinois’ presented an Engineering Excellence Award for the Normal Readiness Center at an event in February.

Cabinet/Other

Ms. Trakinat noted the campus-wide efforts to make the new GED test accessible to all students, in particular Ms. Jill Blair and her staff, the Business Office, and the Assessment Center.
Ms. Trakinat reported the Foundation reached $5.4 million in pledges toward a $7.3 million goal for the Major Gifts Campaign, with $1.4 million still out in requests. Thanks to the help of Chairs Julie Dobski and Alan Chapman, Chris Downing, Executive Director of Development, and his staff, and the Foundation Board, progress is being made to bring resources to Heartland students in the form of additional scholarship opportunities and program development. Trustees are invited to a concluding celebration on April 30 at 5:30pm.

Dr. Rick Pearce, VP Learning and Student Success, noted the Challenger Learning Center Funny Raiser is on February 27. Dr. Pearce will be defending his championship from last year against 5 other amateur comedians.

President Widmer noted the March Board meeting is at Lincoln. The van leaves at 4:45pm.

**TRUSTEE REPORTS**

**ICCTA**

Mr. Don Gibb reported on the Baccalaureate Degree Study Committee recommendations from the February meeting.

**Student Trustee**

Mr. Kyle Walsh reported the Community College Affordability Resolution was approved by the ICCB-SAC and described the next step, and students have asked about resources for study abroad programs.

**Other**

None.

**NON-PERSONNEL ACTION ITEMS**

**Tuition and Fees Recommendation**

Mr. Minter gave a PowerPt presentation.

Mr. Jac Copes moved to establish the Heartland Community College per credit hour tuition and fees rate effective with the summer term of FY2016 as follows: Tuition $133.00 plus Student Life Fee $7.00 plus Program Development and Facilities Enhancement Fee $2.00 for a Total of $142.00. Mr. Pat Hardesty seconded. A roll call vote: yes- Mr. Jac Copes, Mr. Pat Hardesty, Mr. Gregg Chadwick, Mr. Jim Drew, Mr. Don Gibb, Ms. Becky Ropp; no-Mr. Kyle Walsh; Motion approved.
CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Kyle Walsh moved to enter into closed session at 9:19pm to consider the appointment, employment, or compensation of specific employees; collective negotiating; probable or pending litigation; purchase or lease of real property; and closed session minutes. Mr. Pat Hardesty seconded. A roll call vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Chair Gregg Chadwick reconvened the regular meeting at 9:47pm.

PERSONNEL ITEMS

Personnel Actions

Mr. Don Gibb moved to approve the monthly personnel actions. Mr. Jim Drew seconded. A roll call vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Tenure Recommendations

Mr. Kyle Walsh moved to grant tenure to the following faculty members effective with the Fall 2015 semester: Scott Tichenor, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math & Business Division, Mathematics; Jennifer Woodruff, Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Division, Sociology; Renee Collins, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math & Business Division, Computer Technology. Ms. Becky Ropp seconded. A roll call vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pat Hardesty moved to adjourn. Mr. Jac Copes seconded. Motion was approved with a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:49pm.

__________________________________________________________  ________________________________
Gregg Chadwick, Chair J.A. Copes, Secretary

*Note: The student vote is advisory only.