

1/23/24

**HEARTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
1500 W. RAAB ROAD, NORMAL, IL
COMMUNITY COMMONS BUILDING 1406/07
JANUARY 23, 2024
6:00 PM**

Members Present: Becky Ropp, Janet Hood, Mary Campbell, Josh Crockett, Cecelia Long, Tom Whitt, Andria Merkle

Members Absent: Jeff Flessner

Others Present: Keith Cornille, Nora Dukowitz, Sarah Tipton, Jen O'Connor, Amy Pawlik, Barb Leathers, Terrance Bond, Scott Bross, Sam Overton, Rick Pearce, Chris Downing, Steve Fast, Jason Nelson, Josh Woods, Jean-Marie Taylor, Janik Mateusz (Pantagraph), others

Chair Becky Ropp called the regular portion of the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

ADOPT THE AGENDA

Trustee Janet Hood made a motion to adopt the agenda, seconded by Trustee Tom Whitt. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jean-Marie Taylor made a public comment on behalf of the two faculty unions. She read the following email that was sent to the President's office into the record:

Heartland Community College Cabinet and Board:

We, the full-time and part-time faculty unions at Heartland Community College, are writing to express our deep concern regarding the challenging conditions on campus over the past two days due to freezing rain. The recent weather has created unsafe conditions, posing risks to faculty, students, staff, and administration.

During this period, we have received reports of incidents, including a very serious injury to one of our colleagues, Professor Karla Huffman, who required emergency medical attention and was taken away by ambulance. Numerous students have also reported falling on campus. We understand that weather conditions can be unpredictable, and we acknowledge the efforts to address the challenges.

However, we believe it is crucial to emphasize that when school is in session and weather conditions are adverse, it is imperative to prioritize the safety of everyone on campus, including faculty, staff, and administrators. In light of the current hazardous conditions, we demand immediate and thorough salting and plowing to address the risks faced by the entire campus community.

If the salting and de-icing efforts are unable to keep up with the conditions, we recommend considering alternative solutions, such as further delaying or canceling classes until the campus is

deemed safe. We believe that the safety and well-being of our faculty, staff, administrators, and students should always be the top priority.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and request a comprehensive review of the protocols in place for managing inclement weather conditions on campus. Our collective goal is to ensure a safe environment for all members of the academic community.

Thank you for your consideration and prompt action to address these concerns.

Sincerely,

Full-Time Faculty Union

Part-Time Faculty Union

There was no further public comment.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Keith Cornille stated that the new semester had begun. He introduced Noah Lamb, Heartland's new Vice President of Finance and Administration. The Agriculture Complex and Advanced Manufacturing facilities have opened for the semester, with a few punch list items remaining to be completed. President Cornille thanked everyone that helped get these facilities open and staffed.

Trends are continuing to show enrollment growth, and President Cornille said a future communication to the Board would include Census Day data. The Decennial Committee has concluded its work for now and the Decennial Report will be sent to the counties in Heartland's district as required by statute. When the report is sent, the cover letter will include an offer to meet with each of the county boards. Heartland already has an initial invite to present to Livingston County.

Construction is underway at the Workforce Development Center (new student center) with the goal of completion of this phase in the fall.

President Cornille also reviewed the evening's agenda.

UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT SPRING 2024 REPORT

Dr. Rick Pearce gave the undergraduate enrollment report for spring 2024. Spring 2024 First Day enrollment posted on Tuesday, January 16, a day the College was closed due to weather. The College was also closed the day prior for the MLK, Jr, holiday creating a unique circumstance of two consecutive days of no in-person enrollment services during what is typically a heavy enrollment period leading into the first day. The College did experience a relative decline in enrollment activity during the closure compared to the same days previous years but bounced back after enrollment activity on January 17. First Day enrollment numbers indicate an undergraduate

unduplicated headcount of 4,908 students enrolled in 40,057 credit hours. This represents an increase of 2.8% headcount and 2.4% in credit hours compared to last Spring and three consecutive years of increases in headcount and credit hours for the Spring Term.

Regular UGRAD Enrollment (Excluding College NOW Partner)

Positive trends include new student enrollment, which is up 11.5% over last Spring and minority student enrollment, which continues an upward trend, increasing an additional 6.4% from last Spring and up 7.9% from pre-COVID. Enrollment in career-technical education (CTE) credit hours continues to increase (+9.3% over last Spring and +38% over pre-COVID Spring 2020) and now represents 21% of regular UGRAD credit hours, compared to 13% in Spring 2020. Additionally, enrollment of new students age 25 and over is up 38%. Online enrollment remains strong, comprising 46% of total credit hours.

EQUITY PLAN PRESENTATION

Mr. Terrance Bond gave an overview of the equity plan that will be submitted in spring to the State. Mr. Bond went over the timeline for the plan's development and the plan's framework. The equity plan will be presented to the Board at its May meeting before being submitted to the State. Mr. Bond answered questions from Board members. He stated that other local organizations have already been engaged in the process and that there will be an upcoming Campus Conversation for employees to provide on this topic. He also stated, in response to a question for Trustee Mary Campbell, that WEI will be incorporated into the plan.

CABINET REPORTS

Dr. Rick Pearce reported that two more of Heartland's nursing faculty, Sara Hollenstain and Crystal Reynolds, have been recognized by the Illinois Board of Higher Education as Nurse Educator Fellows. With this, all of Heartland's full-time nurse educators have been now been recognized as Nurse Educator Fellows.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Trustee Janet Hood gave a report from the Finance Committee. During this afternoon's Finance Committee meeting, updates were received on the FY24 midyear budget/actuals, the FY25 strategic budget timeline, and preliminary AY24-25 tuition and fees.

Continuing from December, the facilities project expenditures to date were compared with sources of funding available. There are sufficient funds available to pay for the projects planned.

Human Resources provided a medical reserve analysis. The College is waiting on the wage survey to begin conversations on total compensation for FY25 budgeting purposes.

Due to the recent winter weather cancelation, the R&R Consultant update regarding health insurance is being rescheduled to a later date.

FY24 Midyear Budget Update

Mr. Sam Overton gave a FY24 midyear budget update. The FY24 budget was approved in September. Financial statements show revenues are up slightly. Expenses are below forecast due to salary savings. The budget is trending towards a potential slight surplus for the year.

FY25 Strategic Budget Presentation

Mr. Overton gave a presentation on the FY25 strategic budget priorities. He also mentioned tuition and fees would be forthcoming to the Board for consideration in February, and he reviewed an anticipated timeline of when other regular items would come forward for action.

Capital Financing Strategies Update

Mr. Overton gave an overview of the Facilities Master Plan and the status of the budgets of various projects. He presented where potential overages in costs may exist and the funds that were available to address these overages. He outlined future projects. He reported that an update to the Facilities Master Plan is anticipated to be presented to the Board this summer.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

ICCTA

Trustee Tom Whitt mentioned the upcoming ACCT Legislative Summit in Washington D.C. He also reported that there is not a lot coming out of Springfield at the moment. There is an ICCTA meeting upcoming in Kankakee in early March.

STUDENT TRUSTEE

Trustee Andria Merkle stated that the semester kicked off with an involvement fair, which went well. Student Government is collaborating with the Textbook Affordability Task Force to gain engaged student support for the task force's work. Student Government has their first meeting of the semester this upcoming Thursday.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Trustee Tom Whitt and seconded by Trustee Andria Merkle to approve the Consent Agenda:

- Approval of Bills
- Minutes: December 12, 2023 Workshop, Tax Levy Public Hearing & Regular Meeting
- Travel Expenditures – November & December
- Authorized Representative Banking Resolutions: CEFCU Credit Union
- Authorized Representative Banking Resolutions: Commerce Banking
- Authorized Representative Banking Resolutions: Illinois Funds
- Authorized Representative Banking Resolutions: INB
- Authorized Representative Banking Resolutions: ISDLAFP
- Authorized Representative Banking Resolutions: Regions Banking

The motion passed unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Trustee Janet Hood and seconded by Trustee Tom Whitt to go into closed session at approximately 6:51 pm. The reasons cited were:

Personnel - Section 2(c)(1) of 5 ILCS 120; Litigation - Section 2(c)(11) of 5 ILCS

The motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Tom Whitt made a motion to return to open session. The motion was seconded by Trustee Andria Merkle. The motion passed unanimously. The Board returned to open session at approximately 7:40 pm.

PERSONNEL

Trustee Josh Crockett made a motion to pass the Monthly Personnel Actions item. Trustee Tom Whitt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Janet Hood made a motion to pass the Faculty Sabbatical Leave Recommendation. Trustee Mary Campbell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Salary Adjustment Provost/Vice President, Academic Affairs

President Keith Cornille explained Dr. Rick Pearce's proposed salary adjustment was due to an increase in job duties. Trustee Cecelia Long presented concerns with making the adjustment to Dr. Rick Pearce's salary at this time.

Trustee Cecelia Long made a motion to delay the consideration of the proposed VP salary adjustment until after the College-wide salary study was complete and College-wide salary adjustments made as proposed from that study. Trustee Mary Campbell seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all other trustees present voted in the negative. The motion failed.

Subsequently, Trustee Janet Hood made a motion to approve the proposed VP salary adjustment. That motion was seconded by Trustee Tom Whitt. Upon a roll call vote, all voted in favor of this motion except Trustee Cecelia Long, who voted against it. The motion passed.

Salary Adjustment Vice President, Enrollment & Student Services

President Keith Cornille explained Dr. Sarah Diel-Hunt's proposed salary adjustment was due to an increase in job duties.

Trustee Andria Merkle made a motion to approve the proposed VP salary adjustment. Trustee Janet Hood seconded this motion. Tom Whitt. Upon a roll call vote, all voted in favor of this motion except Trustee Cecelia Long, who voted against it. The motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Tom Whitt made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Trustee Andria Merkle. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:51 pm.


Becky Ropp, Chair


Josh Crockett, Secretary