MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE HEARTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
January 20, 2015

Members present: Gregg Chadwick, Jac Copes, Jeff Flessner, Don Gibb, Pat Hardesty, Kyle Walsh

Members absent: Jim Drew, Becky Ropp

Others present: Rob Widmer, Mary Beth Trakinat, Rick Pearce, Doug Minter, Sarah Diel-Hunt, Scott Bross; Jd Davis, Julie Elzanati, Jennifer Feaman, Sue Gilpin, Becky Gropp, Demitrius Harris, Janet Hill-Getz, Jim Hubbard, Marvin Rasch, Bob Shaw; Lenore Sabota of The Pantagraph, Laura Mai

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Kyle Walsh moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Jeff Flessner seconded. A roll call vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Items approved on the consent agenda were Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 9, 2014; Closed Session Minutes from May 2014 through November 2014; closed Session Tapes from May 2014 through November 2014; ratification of bills paid during December 2014; Security Systems Protection, Health and Safety Project Closeout.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

STAFF REPORTS

Student Success Initiatives

Dr. Rick Pearce, VP Learning and Student Success, noted that developmental students are at risk for persistence and completion and staff have worked to improve the developmental sequences and experiences of the students. In addition, all developmental programs have entered the National Association of Developmental Education (NADE) Certification process. Dr. Pearce described several of the Student Success Initiatives at Heartland including: Accelerated and Embedded Developmental Education, College NOW and Dual Credit, GPS Workshop Series, On Course, Priority Registration, Next Step, Outreach to Stop Outs and Non-Returners, Student Scholarships and Funding. The Institutional Research office is working to create a process to more effectively track the success of developmental students.

College NOW

Dr. Sarah Diel-Hunt, Associate VP Academic Affairs, reported on the College NOW program, through which the College partners with area high schools and career centers.
to deliver early college credits to students through dual credit opportunities. Since last year, the College hired a coordinator and expanded access to the program by providing tuition waivers for the Bloomington Area and Livingston Area Career Centers encouraging more students on a pathway toward HCC’s certificate and applied degree programs. In academic year 2014-2015, Heartland has utilized private donations to offer courses at no cost to students in all of its partner high schools. In the current academic year, there will be about 115 courses by the end of the spring semester, there are 15 high school partners, and the duplicated student head count is over 1,300. In conjunction with other programs in the Developmental Math Sequence and the GPS Workshops, HCC is partnering with 20 of the 22 potential partners in the district.

Production Technician Training Program in Logan County

Mary Beth Trakinat, VP Continuing Education and Advancement, distributed a Pantagraph article on economic development efforts in Logan County and an accelerated training program that emerged through partnership with the College and other entities focused on preparing production technicians in manufacturing. Julie Elzanati, Dean of Continuing Education, reported on the training program that was held in Logan County. In November, 7 individuals graduated from the 8-week program at the Heartland Lincoln Center and earned the Industry Recognized Certified Production Technician Credential from the Manufacturing Skills Standards Council. Following graduation, 3 of the individuals were hired by Eaton. Ms. Jennifer Feaman, Associate Director of Customized Training, was introduced to the Board.

FY2016 Budget

Doug Minter, VP Business Services, reported on various factors being taken into consideration prior to staff presenting a tuition recommendation to the Board next month. Mostly the factors were potential declines in revenue relating to enrollment trends and textbook affordability, and potential increases in expenses due to pension reform and personnel costs; a potential increase in revenue related to the property tax levy. He discussed state-wide community college tuition rates and noted that HCC’s tuition was not increased last year. He mentioned the more long-term future strategic implications of the potential loss of a state equalization grant and a brighter potential enrollment outlook due to America’s College Promise.

Financial

Mr. Doug Minter noted there was nothing unique to report on investments and bills, most of the revenues are in, staff is starting to look to the end of the fiscal year, and typically March or April is targeted for closure of major fiscal year spending.

Recognition and Correspondence

President Widmer noted the following three items: Colleen Reynolds, Director of Alumni Relations and Donor Engagement, gave a presentation related to educational opportunities for seniors.

The Leadership of Livingston County commended Linda Tesdal, Associate Director of Heartland Pontiac Center, for an educational session in December.

An Illinois Department of Commerce recycling task force met at Heartland and thanked Larissa Armstrong, Associate Director of the Green Institute for her support.
Cabinet/Other

Mary Beth Trakinat, VP Continuing Education and Advancement, reported on planning for the College’s 25th anniversary which begins fall of 2015. While celebrating the College’s success, staff remain conscious of budget realities and plan to emphasize the anniversary through already-scheduled events and publications. One idea is to possibly have an open house for the community in November with a VIP reception. Board feedback on all of the plans is welcome.

Dr. Rick Pearce, VP Learning and Student Success, distributed an invitation to the Chinese New Year Celebration on February 8. Dr. Ruifang Cao, Faculty-Applied Computer Science, orchestrates the event and HCC is a long-time sponsor.

Mr. Doug Minter introduced Mr. Scott Bross the new Chief Information Officer. Mr. Bross comes to Heartland from Growmark.

President Widmer noted the VP of Continuing Education and Advancement search is ongoing.

President Widmer distributed an invitation to the Employee Service and Recognition Ceremony.

President Widmer reported that due to safety concerns, the CornBelters are placing a canopy over portions of the concourse area behind the seats in the Corn Crib Stadium. Heartland will participate in this project using capital improvement funds.

President Widmer commented that while conversations about America’s College Promise include how to pay for it, the opportunity to make education more accessible to all potential students is a worthwhile endeavor.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

ICCTA

Mr. Don Gibb continued his ACCT report from the past month including updates on the College Rating Plan and America’s College Promise.

Student Trustee

Mr. Kyle Walsh reported 167 textbooks were distributed for a $19,037 savings to HCC students during the 3rd HCC textbook swap. Mr. Walsh’s report on community college affordability was presented at a recent Student Advisory Committee meeting in Springfield.

Other

Mr. Gibb commented on a recent Pantagraph article on Free Tuition Not Solution to Problem.

Chair Chadwick reported the expanded Board of Trustees page on the HCC website is up and running and features Trustee biographies and contact information.

Mr. Jac Copes noted his and Ms. Becky Ropp’s names are on the ballot for the spring election.
CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Don Gibb moved to enter into closed session at 8:19pm to consider the appointment, employment, or compensation of specific employees; purchase or lease of real property; probable or pending litigation; and closed session minutes. Mr. Kyle Walsh seconded. A roll call vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Chair Chadwick reconvened the regular meeting at 9:19pm.

NON-PERSONNEL ACTION ITEMS

Security Systems Protection, Health and Safety Project Closeout (Consent Agenda)

Approve the Statement of Final Construction Compliance related to completion of the Security Systems Protection, Health and Safety project.

Minutes (Consent Agenda)

Approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 9, 2014. To approve and release the closed session minutes of 2014 as follows: May 15, May 20, June 17, July 15, August 19, September 15, September 30, October 21, November 18. To preserve the confidentiality and authorize the destruction of the recordings after they have been held for 18 months for the meetings of 2014 as follows: May 15, May 20, June 17, July 15, August 19, September 15, September 30, October 21, November 18.

PERSONNEL ITEMS

Personnel Actions

Mr. Kyle Walsh moved to approve the personnel actions included in Agenda Item 10.1. Mr. Jac Copes seconded. A roll call vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Sabbatical Leave Recommendations

Mr. Jac Copes moved to approve 3 sabbatical leaves as provided for in the collective bargaining agreement. Approval is for 3 1-semester sabbaticals; Nancy Evans, Distinguished Professor of Business (Spring 2016), Stephanie Kratz, Professor of English (Spring 2016), and David Marshall, Associate Professor of English (Fall 2015); Mr. Jeff Flessner seconded. A roll call vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pat Hardesty moved to adjourn. Mr. Kyle Walsh seconded. Motion approved with a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20pm.

Gregg Chadwick, Chair

J.A. Copes, Secretary

*Note: The student vote is advisory only.