Benefits Activity:
Our benefits costs rose 7.7% for this September in comparison to September of 2005 due to higher increases in FYTD PPO claims, HMO premiums, and vision care. The increases were offset by decreases in PPO administrative fees, and in dental claims.

As a result of BCBS’s agreement with the City Agency Health Coalition, BCBS reduced City Colleges’ monthly administrative fees by 65.4% for an 18-month period retroactive to 7/1/06 through 12/31/07, saving $867K in administration fees.

In your packet is Resolution 4H for the contract renewal with BCBS PPO and the acceptance of the decrease in administrative fees; Resolution 4I for the contract renewal for CoreSource our dental administrative carrier; Resolution 4J For the Ceridian Corporation for the Flexible Spending Account Plan; Resolution 4G is to engage BCBS HMO IL as our HMO provider.

To date we have enrolled 135 employees in the CTA Chicago Card Plus Benefit Program. We also implemented the Metra Program Benefit Program and have signed up nine (9) employees.

Recruitment: In September of this year we implemented an online system that allows interested candidates to send their resumes and letters of interest directly to the college of their choice. As of October 15th we have received approximately 1000 resumes for faculty positions.

Compensation: Last month, we identified approximately 225 part-time employees eligible for inclusion in Local 1708. We have identified an additional 200 part-time employees who potentially may become members of Local 1708.

Other Business: Approximately 45.7% of the employees required to take the online Ethics Training have completed the training. The deadline for completion is November 16, 2006.

In August of this year, HR was given the management of the IL Dept of Employment Services or Unemployment billing. There was a 23.54% reduction in the first two quarters of FY’07 in comparison to the same period last year resulting in approximately $91K in cost containment.

We have also invited the Chicago Municipal Employee Credit Union to offer services to our employees. Aside from having a full range of financial services, the credit union provides credit counseling on how to manage money more effectively and solve debt problems.

This concludes my report.