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September 3, 2008 – District 508 Board Meeting District-Wide Faculty Council Report Submitted by Keith McCoy, President of the Faculty Council of Chicago City Colleges

Good morning, Chairman Tyree, Chancellor Watson, members of the Board, Officers of the District and all others present.

Thank you, Vice Chancellor Henderson, for making the faculty council retreat possible. It was a very successful and informative event. Thanks to Chancellor Watson for your inspirational words of encouragement and a call to action to faculty council regarding its place in City Colleges of Chicago.

The retreat is a very good tool for informing the district-wide faculty leadership regarding CCC initiatives. It is a good tool to rally faculty council, foster new ideas and set new goals for the upcoming academic year. As we move into the new academic year, faculty council has been charged with becoming more involved in ensuring academic integrity. Toward this end, faculty council plans to meet this charge by: (1) becoming more involved in academic initiatives (e.g., foreign language requirement, textbook cost initiative, laptop initiative, etc.); (2) supporting the Office of Instruction and colleges by engaging and mobilizing faculty to provide quality academic curricula (e.g., course and program approval); (3) recommending and proposing new academic projects (e.g., global education initiative, etc); and (4) working more closely with administration and student government.

In the upcoming months, district faculty council and the executive committee plans to define the role of faculty council more clearly and seek board approval regarding this role. Hopefully, faculty council can help move the district forward in being even more successful and effective with its academic programs.