



# Wilbur Wright College

One of the City Colleges of Chicago

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TRUSTEES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 508  
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December 3, 2009 – District 508 Board Meeting  
District-Wide Faculty Council Report  
Submitted by Keith McCoy,  
President of the Faculty Council of Chicago City Colleges

Good morning. I would like to thank Chairman Tyree and the board for committing and following through on the public forums on the Chancellor search. I thought that Chairman Tyree and members of the board were very sincere in listening to and taking into account the various voices from the CCC community and general public.

November was a very busy month for faculty council. This certainly was reflected in the lengthy executive faculty council meeting held this past Tuesday. We had a wide range of important items to cover and not much time in which to cover them.

First, regarding an update on HESI, I am very encouraged about what the district is doing under the leadership of Dr. Deborah Terrell. The district has implemented many new strategies to assist nursing students. We are implementing a new comprehensive course support system to assist students with both the HESI and NCLEX exams. This web-based system, which is a new product, includes among other things two practice HESI exams. Implementation of this system was to begin this semester, as promised to students and faculty. However, there was a delay in the implementation due to procedural issues regarding the cost of the system. For those students who were negatively impacted as a result of this delay and were completing in December, testing was pushed back until February. In this way, students can take advantage of this new product. Second, nursing faculty members have volunteered to work with students over the Christmas or holiday break using Blackboard to assist with content delivery. The district is working to repair any content gaps in the curriculum. Nursing faculty will participate in several workshops. One includes an item-writing workshop. In May, the district will look at a new test plan. Lastly, the district is currently engaged in a mentorship program with Children Memorial Hospital where 20 to 25 nursing professionals agreed to work closely with CCC nursing students by having them shadow them during the workplace and serve as another support system for students. At this point, I encourage nursing students, who still have concerns, to begin discussing these matters with their local administration and nursing staff in lieu of the board directly. Also, I offer myself and both the local and district faculty councils, who have diligently stayed on this issue and will continue to do so, to be a resource to which they can come. I think this will be more fruitful for students and their concerns.

Costs of textbooks and local bookstore practices have continued to be a concern of both the district faculty council and Academic Affairs. Some questionable business practices were raised. However, we do ask faculty and students to keep proper documentation of these incidents so that they can be immediately addressed.

Executive faculty council discussed the offering of cultural studies programs (i.e., African-American, Latino, and Middle Eastern), both the Chemistry 100/121 and physics debates. I want to thank Vice President Jacquie Martin for her invaluable assistance in these areas. There will be an African-American studies program offered at Kennedy King College. There will be a meeting during the spring semester to resolve both the Chemistry 100/121 and physics debates. These disciplinary discussions, however, must be student-centered and should be data-driven. Faculty should come not from a position of workload concerns but from one that places students' needs first.

We discussed a few other items at the meeting such as updates on the APSA for CCC libraries and the CDL online degree process. We have entered a new era of collegiality and cooperation between faculty, students, and administration. I hope that as we enter the New Year, 2010, that we are proud of all of our accomplishments and invigorated to make next year even better. Happy Holidays!