



Wilbur Wright College

One of the City Colleges of Chicago

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TRUSTEES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 508
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4300 North Narragansett Avenue • Chicago, IL 60634-1591
Website: <http://wright.ccc.edu>

Phone: 773/777-7900

May 7, 2009 -- District 508 Board Meeting
District-Wide Faculty Council Report
Submitted by Keith McCoy,
President of the Faculty Council of City Colleges of Chicago

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

I would like to thank the Chancellor, Board of Trustees, Officers of the District, and especially the office of Academic Affairs under the leadership of Vice Chancellor Henderson for a very successful academic year. We have made several academic milestones this year from the new foreign language requirement for the Associate of Arts degree to having all full-time faculty posting syllabi online via blackboard to the district's commitment to expand and offer African-American, Latino and Middle Eastern Studies. This is certainly a great time to be a part of City Colleges of Chicago, despite any financial challenges.

Regarding financial challenges, I want to also thank Vice Chancellors Ken Gotsch and Michael Mutz for caring and taking time to speak before the district faculty council concerning strategies for assisting pre-credit students who may have challenges given the tuition increase.

Faculty Council with the Office of Academic Affairs is still meeting to confront the challenges of textbook costs. The math chairs across the district have taken leadership in this area. Currently, the chairs are studying various strategies for offering students affordable and quality teaching and learning by: (1) investigating various learning technologies from MyMathLab to WebAssign within which an ebook can be incorporated, (2) piloting these technologies in the fall semester to determine their efficacy in meeting student needs, (3) reviewing free or open source textbooks for quality material wherein learning technologies can be incorporated, and (4) continuing discussions with publishers to offer students the best textbook prices across the district.

Lastly, the executive faculty council along with the Office of Academic Affairs will have a summer retreat where we will: (a) plan the fall faculty council retreat for August, (b) discuss academic concerns with Foundational Studies (formerly the Pre-credit Division), (c) revise the PAC form used for course and program approval, and (d) plan a Chair's leadership symposium. I wish all a very enjoyable rest of May and Happy Mommy's Day to all mothers.