



Wilbur Wright College

One of the City Colleges of Chicago

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TRUSTEES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 508
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April 2, 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.

As we approach the closeout of the spring semester and contemplate the impending fall semester, faculty council is in the midst of planning for our future. Through the executive faculty council meetings with the administration from Academic Affairs, we are planning a chairs/leadership symposium for the fall. We hope that this will lead to improve leadership within the departments and better relationships among faculty members.

Faculty council is also in the midst of finalizing the revision of our district constitution. This may lead to significant changes. For example, each campus will have an equal number of representatives on the district faculty council. Currently, the schools with the highest proportion of CCC faculty have the largest representation. Faculty council elections will continue to be held in April but the new officers will begin their terms in September. This will allow for an easier transition of leadership.

Faculty council along with the offices of academic affairs and OIT is continuing to meet with publishers to explore offering CCC students cheaper access to textbooks and learning technologies. There have been at least two meetings with Pearson Publishing and another scheduled with Cengage this Friday, April 3.

Lastly, faculty council is concerned with the upcoming significant increase in tuition for students enrolling in pre-credit courses. Many of these students require financial aid for which pre-credit courses are not eligible. I understand the need of the district to find additional streams of revenue. So, I will not debate this tuition increase. However, faculty council is offering to help. I am requesting that local faculty council work with the local campuses and student government associations to brainstorm fundraising strategies that could help offset tuition increases for pre-credit students who require financial assistance. As many of us are aware, pre-credit and developmental students already have many barriers that prevent their success in education. I hope that faculty council can at least minimize in some way a financial one.