

FCCCC President's Address

CCC Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday March 9, 2017

Good morning Chairman Middleton, Board of Trustees and Chancellor Hyman. I am proud to present this report today on behalf of Faculty Council. I would first like to thank the students for your remarks today. I hope we are able to find resolutions to the concerns you raised.

I would first like to report that your faculty, staff, students and administrators are, at times, anxiously and also hopefully reflecting on the future of the City Colleges of Chicago. Those of us who are involved in the Chancellor Search Committee and Provost Screening Team sincerely appreciate the opportunity to participate in a collaborative effort with our Board of Trustees in this process of thoughtfully considering the most appropriate candidates to lead us in our future endeavors. We look forward to any upcoming developments or announcements from the leadership search.

Faculty Council has been working during the past several months to prepare for the upcoming leadership transition, and we would like the Board of Trustees to know that your faculty continue to be actively engaged in the process of defining and protecting shared governance at the City Colleges of Chicago. In addition to our monthly faculty council meetings and our meetings with district officers, we have initiated robust committee work. This work includes a shared governance committee who have been researching best practices at institutions of higher learning across the country. We would first like to reiterate our expectation that faculty have a fundamental level of involvement in the transition team with our new leaders over the upcoming year. Further, after many discussions we would like to make a formal request today of our Board of Trustees. Based on the American Association of University Professors Statement on Government of Colleges and Universities (Retrieved from <https://www.aup.org/report/statement-government-colleges-and-universities> March 7, 2017) which states:

“The means of communication among the faculty, administration, and governing boards [should] include: (1) circulation of memoranda and reports by board committees, the administration, and faculty committees; (2) joint ad hoc committees; (3) standing liaison committees; (4) membership of faculty members on administrative bodies; and (5) membership of faculty members on governing boards.”

The Faculty Council of the City Colleges of Chicago is hereby formally requesting that our Board of Trustees, as a reflection of best practices in shared governance, would include full-time faculty members as formal members of the Board of Trustees. These faculty Trustees would be elected by FC4. We understand that this would be a change to the way our board functions, but we believe that this is a powerful, positive and meaningful step in our transition towards transparent shared governance for the future of our District and our city.

We look forward to our continued collaborative efforts in upholding our mission and core values while shaping the future of the City Colleges of Chicago.

Thank you very much for your time today. This concludes my report.

Respectfully submitted, Jennifer Alexander, on Behalf of the Faculty Council of the City Colleges of Chicago