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Wilbur Wright College

One of the City Colleges of Chicago

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FCCCC President's Address
CCC Board of Trustee's Meeting
Wednesday, March 31, 2004

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

The March meetings of Committee A and the Faculty Council are typically the slowest in terms of curriculum issues. This is the penultimate meeting of the year, the lull before the storm of the final meeting. We did have a lively and heated discussion about the issue of faculty driven initiatives and the autonomy of each college and its individual curriculum issues, but, as with a number of these items, discussion did not necessarily lead to decisions or consensus.

This, however, is one of the main functions of these committees: not necessarily to *do* things, but to make sure that decisions on faculty issues and their possible ramifications are fully vetted by the committee members. Moreover, these committees work in parallel with District Office and the local administrations to disseminate current and correct information to all concerned. As I've suggested before, too many times Chicken Little has said that the sky is falling, only to find out it is merely a rainstorm. On the other hand, no one wants to be caught in a tornado.

That said, the work for the next meeting is already beginning to pile up. Faculty Council is in the process of forming a new committee to examine course development procedures, teaching and learning issues, and student outcomes assessments for the Center for Distance Learning. We've asked Peggy Rademaker, the Dean for CDL, and Antonio Gutierrez, the Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and Evaluation, to attend our April meeting to discuss this initiative. Indeed, I've already made the documents available on our website for faculty to review. The committees will also be discussing the systematic overhaul of the math remediation programs and the proposal for the changes with the Humanities 201 prerequisite. In addition, I anticipate a large number of syllabi

and program proposals in April. From Wright College alone we have seven courses in the curriculum pipeline. In sum, the committees are gearing up for a big bang finish.

That concludes my report.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Polly Hoover".

Polly Hoover
FCCCC President