



**GATEWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY**  
Illinois Professional Development System  
**PDAC Higher Education Committee Minutes**  
**January 11, 2019**

Bethany Patten  
Dawn Munson  
Joni Scritchlow  
Julie Lindstrom

Karen McCarthy  
Kate Connor  
Lisa Downey  
Melissa Batchelor  
Melissa Johnson

Marie Donovan  
Melissa Szymczak  
Pat Steinhaus  
Rebecca Pruitt  
Tom Pavkov

### **Welcome and Introductions**

- Participants were welcomed to the telenet.

### **Approval of January Meeting Minutes**

- November 2, 2018
  - Dawn Munson moved to accept the minutes.
  - Bethany Patten seconded the motion.

### **Higher Education Partnerships**

- Gateways ESL/Bilingual Credential Ad Hoc Committee
  - Credential development is progressing.
  - Discussion within the Ad Hoc Committee regarding use of the term of multi-lingual specialist, dual language learners, and/or bi-lingual credential.
  - Building the credential with articulation in mind. There is potential to use 9 hours to articulate to ESL/Bi-lingual endorsement.
  - Ad Hoc Committee Tri-Chairs are Joyce Weiner, Rebecca Vonderlack Navarro, and Sergio Hernandez.
  - The Ad Hoc Committee will send out an RFP to higher education institutions regarding interest in piloting the credential.
- Higher Education Institutions
  - At this time almost 90% of colleges and universities have been approved by the Entitled Review Group for competency-based entitlement.
  - The Gateways Higher Education Forum will be held on March 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> at the Doubletree Hotel in Bloomington.
  - Faculty and deans who signed off on the competencies have been invited to attend the Forum.
- McCormick Grant
  - The ECE State Competency Leadership Team is working to set in place strategic and operational plans in order to advance competency work.
  - Faculty Fellows Opportunity
    - Received funding from the McCormick Foundation for a Faculty Fellows project. The Faculty Fellows process will engage in cross-institutional work to expand the assessment repository of the Gateways to Opportunity Credential Competency Toolbox and capture any potential assessment data.

- Will send out a request for participation in the Faculty Fellows project. The goal is to have 40 faculty fellows. The project will also have faculty leaders to guide the work.
- Regional meetings will be held in September/October so all faculty can come to a regional meeting and hear the results of the Faculty Fellows review of the assessments and toolboxes.

### **U.S. Department of Education Negotiated Rule Making Related to Higher Education**

- It seems unlikely at this time that the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act will occur in 2019.
- Negotiated rule making which entails convening experts from across the country on matters of importance to leadership of the Department of Education asking those experts for their input and if the experts reach consensus those recommendations are then enacted by the Department of Education through their policies and rules.
  - The experts will be meeting through March 2019 with opportunities for public comment during this time.
  - Subcommittees include: Accreditation and innovation, faith- based higher education entities, TEACH grants, and distance learning.

### **Illinois Board of Higher Education**

- During the December meeting of the State Board of Education they approved a budget proposal for a request FY20 higher education funding that would be a 10% increase in appropriations. This is the largest request for an increase in higher education funding in the state of Illinois since 1990.

### **NAEYC Power to the Profession**

- NAEYC have made careful and thorough responses to any feedback they have received. They have created a chart to show feedback and responses.
- Concern regarding the AA degree for lead teachers for 0-5 and BA for older children is still in place, but have added language regarding a goal for all ECE lead teachers to have a BA degree to align with public feedback and the IOM report.
- Have not seen anything specific to competencies at this time so not sure if they are addressing the health and safety content.
- The letter sent by Teri Talan on behalf of PDAC to NAEYC P2P was included in your meeting materials.

### **Higher Education Shared Information**

- IAI – conversations around the IAI courses having four classes in the IAI and the possibility of a hold over in the ESL coursework. The next IAI meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2019.
- ACCESS – Have a telenet scheduled for February 15<sup>th</sup> and a face to face meeting before the Gateways Higher Education Forum on March 28th.
- ILAECTE – At the end of 2018 put together a response letter to the TEACH Illinois recommendations with more than 60 signatures of faculty from around the state.
  - Excited to report that new members have joined ILAECTE in the past semester.

- First monthly newsletter went out in December, all members will now be getting a monthly emailed newsletter. ILAECTE has started a blog.
- Please feel free to share the recent Wall Street Journal article that was included in your meeting materials with your deans and colleagues as it has good information about the state of the teaching profession.
- Early Childhood Capacity Study
  - Mapping the landscape higher education faculty with two phases of work:
    - Deploying a survey
      - Getting the picture of what types of programs are offered, where housed, faculty workload, support of the work you do as faculty members, and various roles and responsibilities.
    - Will hold regional focus groups to dig into the data from the survey and next steps.
    - Marie Donovan will send the draft survey to the members of the PDAC Higher Education Committee for any input before sending out to faculty.

## Adjourn

