

**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**BOARD OF ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 519**  
**Counties of Stephenson, Ogle, Jo Daviess and Carroll**

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

A special meeting of the Board of Illinois Community College District No. 519 was called to order by Mr. Doug Block, Chairperson, at 3:04 p.m. on April 24, 2017, in the Robert J. Rimington Board Room (Room H-228) in the Highland Community College Student/Conference Center, 2998 West Pearl City Road, Freeport, Illinois in said district.

Members Present: Mrs. Diane Gallagher, Mr. David Shockey, Mr. Doug Block, Mr. Jim Endress, Dr. Steve Jennings, Ms. Whitney Zumdahl, Mr. Blake Musser, and Ms. Staci Hammer

Members Absent: None

Guests Present: Mr. Jerry Montag, Director, Registration and Records, Northern Illinois University (NIU); Mr. Ron Smith, Director, Community College Partnerships, NIU; Dr. Anne L. Birberick, Vice Provost, Undergraduate Academic Affairs, NIU; and, Mr. Derrick Mason, *The Journal-Standard*

Also Present: Mr. Tim Hood, President; Ms. Chris Kuberski, Executive Vice President; Ms. Liz Gerber, Vice President, Student Development and Support Services; Ms. Rose Ferguson, Associate Vice President, Human Resources; Ms. Pennie Groezinger, Trustee-Elect; Ms. Abby Endress, Student Trustee-Elect; Mr. Pete Willging, Director, Marketing & Community Relations; Mr. Jeremy Bradt, Director, Enrollment and Records; Ms. Jane Lethlean, Communication Specialist; and, Ms. Terri Grimes, Board Secretary

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**COMMENTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF HIGHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY**

Mr. Block noted that one value of a strong relationship with NIU is a seamless transfer for students to continue their education at NIU. Mr. Hood welcomed everyone to the public signing of the reverse transfer articulation agreement with NIU, noting that this is a momentous occasion. He introduced Dr. Anne Birberick, Mr. Ron Smith, and Mr. Jerry Montag from NIU, and each provided comments regarding the ongoing relationship with the College and how the agreement will benefit students.

### **CEREMONIAL SIGNING OF AGREEMENT**

Representatives from Highland Community College and Northern Illinois University signed the reaffirmation of the agreement.

Dr. Birberick stated that the importance is not the document itself but the symbolism of a shared commitment to student success and wanting to make sure that learning is credentialed. Mr. Smith expressed his appreciation for the partnership, noting that students drive interest, and students are choosing business, education, and health care, which are viable programs. Mr. Montag explained that this is an opportunity for students who transfer to NIU without an associate's degree from Highland to transfer credits back to the College to complete their degree. The agreement will provide a simple, seamless process for students.


### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

### **ADJOURN**

Dr. Jennings moved and Mr. Musser seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. At 3:28 p.m., there being no further business, the Chairperson declared the motion carried and the special meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Terri A. Grimes, Board Secretary  
Illinois Community College District No. 519