

Members Present: Purva DeVol, Hilary Meyer, Shelley Tiwari, and Kurian Tharakunnel

Members Absent: Mike Garrity, Dmytriy Havrylyak, Joe Klinger, Colleen Rockafellow, Katie Rullo

Others Present: Denise Jones, Tina Lilly, Jo Perez, Stephanie Townsend, and Julia Willis

Meeting called to order at: 2:31pm

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the June meeting was made by Kurian Tharakunnel and seconded by Purva DeVol.

I. DEI Representative – *Purva DeVol*

Black History Month Event:

- Scheduled for Thursday, February 12, from 1:00–2:00 p.m.
- Theme: “Unsung Heroes”
 - Focuses on celebrating the impact and contributions of often-unrecognized individuals in the Black community.
- Event highlights include:
 - Cultural celebration
 - Music
 - Food
 - Recognition of community strength and impact
- Anticipated to be a well-attended and engaging campus event.

II. Guided Pathways Representative – *Shelley Tiwari*

Overview:

- Guided Pathways update focused on Basic Needs under the Troy Care Collective.
- Presentation shared by Dean Julia Willis.

Troy Care Collective Services:

- Umbrella for multiple basic needs initiatives (Troy Mart, Troy Ride, Troy Style Station, etc.).
- Continues to expand scope and campus partnerships.

Troy Mart (Food & Resource Support):

- 1,059 students served during the Fall semester.
- Remains a key access point for basic needs resources.

Troy Rides (Transportation Support):

- Supported through donations and Perkins funds.
- 270 rides provided in Fall using Perkins funds.
- Supports CTE students (e.g., HVAC, cosmetology) for:
 - Travel to campus classes

- Travel to clinicals and required off-site learning
- New expansion of services in Fall.

Troy Safe Haven (Homelessness Grant):

- Grant period: February–December (last year).
- Outreach conducted to 171 students identified through Financial Aid data.
- Services included:
 - Rent arrears assistance
 - Emergency housing support
 - Childcare assistance and deposits
- Partnerships with:
 - Local hotels (e.g., Motel 6, Four Points Sheraton near O’Hare)
 - Community organizations (Housing Alliance, New Moms, etc.)
- Ultimately, 30 students directly supported, with increased uptake later in the grant period.
- Other students also accessed support through Troy Ride and Troy Mart.

Troy Style Station (Clothing Closet):

- There was a high student usage during the Fall semester.
- Offers:
 - Professional attire
 - Everyday clothing (jeans, t-shirts, coats, etc.)
- Supported students attending:
 - Interviews
 - Banquets and special events
- Partnership with Goodwill:
 - Clothing vouchers
 - Pilot program for young men focused on mindfulness and mental health

Troy Tech (Laptop Loan Program):

- Launching in Spring.
- Designed specifically for students with demonstrated needs.
- Targeted outreach coordinated with Jason Lemberg, Student Assistance Team.
- Not a general loan program — prioritized for students already using support services.

Care Team:

- Approximately 15 cross-campus members.
- Provides:
 - Referrals
 - Resource coordination
 - Ongoing communication and collaboration
- Meets regularly and communicates frequently via email.

Student Outcomes & Data:

- Efforts underway to streamline data collection with Institutional Research.

- Early observations show:
 - Students who utilize services are more likely to register for the following semester.
 - Students are successfully connected to advising and enrollment support.

III. Research & Institutional Effectiveness – *Kurian Tharakunnel*
Annual Program Reviews (ICCB):

- Preparing and finalizing annual program review templates.
- Templates will be sent out within the next couple of days.
- Programs under review include:
 - Business & Technology
 - Arts & Sciences
 - Selected non-academic areas
- Review process launching imminently.

Fact Book & Fact Sheets:

- Continuing work on the new academic year Fact Book and fact sheets.
- The content is nearly complete.
- New requirement this year: ADA compliance review.
- Anticipated completion by January 16.
- Once finalized, materials will:
 - Go to the President for review
 - Be published on the college website

IV. Student Representative – *Dmytriy Havrylyak*

- No report

V. Academic Affairs Representative – *Katie Rullo (submitted via email)*

Business & Technology:

- New Business & Technology Office Assistant started January 5.
- The T Building renovations are completed, including new flooring and carpeting in hallways and entryways.

Adult Education:

- Awarded \$44,000 from the FY26 Expansion of ESL Services Grant.
- Funding supports adult education students enrolled in ICAPS programs.
- Grant period: January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026.

Continuing Education:

- Finalized contract with District 97 and Friday Night Place for College for Kids Camp.
- Camp runs March 30 – April 2.
- The program provides career exploration for middle school students, focusing on career fields and workforce skills.

Child Development Center (CDC):

- Awarded ExceleRate Illinois Gold Circle of Quality, the highest level of accreditation.
- Recognition affirms:
 - High standards in early childhood education
 - Continued support for families utilizing CCAP
- Accreditation is valid for three years, with annual reporting.
- CDC will be publicly listed on the ExceleRate parent website as a high-quality learning option.

Center for Education, Community Health & Programs (CECHP):

- Preparing for 11 virtual information sessions to promote health programs.
- The first session scheduled for January 12, features the Pharmacy Technician program.

Corporate, Business & Professional Development (CBPD):

- The ongoing training contract with Pace Bus began on January 5.
- Training prepares students for the CDL Permit Test.
- 10 students enrolled in the January cohort.
- Historical permit test pass rate: 90–95%.
- Since July 2023, approximately 150 potential bus drivers have graduated from the program.

RSVP (Retired & Senior Volunteer Program):

- Ongoing service projects:
 - Making mats for individuals experiencing homelessness (partnering with Housing Forward)
 - Collecting soda/pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House (Hines, IL)
- Preparing for the 36th year of the Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) program.
 - Serving adults 60+ with low-to-moderate income (\approx \$69,000 or less).
 - Volunteers trained every Saturday in January to become IRS certified.
 - Appointment scheduling begins January 26 at 9 a.m. via RSVP (ext. 3895).
 - 7 confirmed sites across the Triton District, with up to 9 additional sites pending.
 - Anticipated staffing:
 - 36 tax-filing volunteers
 - 10 appointment schedulers
 - 4 site greeters

Arts & Sciences:

- Philosophy faculty Dr. Daniele Manni led Triton students at the 2-Year National Ethics Bowl at Harper College.
 - Triton was one of two undefeated teams.
 - Finished 3rd overall out of 11 teams.
- Dr. Michael Flaherty's Scholars Program outcomes:
 - Two students continued their education at Georgetown University and Hampton University.

- o A 2022 Triton graduate is completing their bachelor's degree at Georgetown University this spring.

VI. Student Affairs Representative – *Hilary Meyer*

Academic Success:

- Library:
 - o Crowns of Excellence photography exhibit opens Jan. 20
 - o Troy Tech (needs-based student laptop lending program) launches this Spring
- Early Alert and Intervention:
 - o Partnering with faculty members across the disciplines to keep grades current in Blackboard

Admissions:

- We have received over 1900 applications through the Common App for Fall 2026.

Financial Aid:

- DNPs have proportionately decreased over past semesters

Retention & Student Engagement:

- Testing Center completed recertification

VII. Business and Facilities Committee – *Colleen Rockafellow*

- No report

VIII. Human Resources Committee – *Joe Klinger*

- No report

IX. Technology Representative – *Mike Garrity*

- No report

X. Old Business

- AI Guidelines: Move forward with updating the Privacy and Data Collection Notice, unless a better placement is identified.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 2:55 PM

Next Meeting

Date: Monday, February 9th, 2026

Time: 2:30–4:00 PM

Submitted by Xavier Skinner