

Senate Report-October 2009

The FAC met at Spoon River College in Canton, IL on September 18.

The meeting was dominated by two items-The first being budget. 1<sup>st</sup> the bad news about next year-The federal stimulus money is gone after this fiscal year. Under the stimulus package terms, the state may not maintain its FY General Funds level support at less than the FY 06 amounts. Under those terms, state universities would lose about \$87,000,000 and CCs would lose nearly \$7,000,000. Those are disaster numbers.

The second budgetary item was the MAP program. We passed a resolution urging the restoration of MAP funds and pledged to go back and have our faculty senates and other campus bodies pass similar resolutions. All of the university resolutions are being packaged together by Don Sevener of the IBHE and sent to every legislator and the governor's office. As you know, Thursday is a MAP rally day in Springfield. Will it make a difference? I sure hope so. What scares me a bit is that when the Governor was here last week, our local Republican legislators were not present. Hopefully, our friends in Springfield can put the politics aside.

Our other issue dealt with a seat on the board itself. Under a 2005 amendment to the statute governing seats on the IBHE, one of the seats is to be filled by a full time faculty member at one of the public universities. The group nominated me and another faculty member from the U of I for that seat.