

## Student Council Referendum

Good Morning.

Let me reintroduce myself, my name is Michael Sanford; and I am ICCI Student Council President. Two of my colleagues present with us today are Derrick Johnson, ICCI Student Council Vice President and Felicia Bodden, ICCI Student Council Treasurer.

Thank you for inviting the Student Council to this year's spring quarter, quarterly meeting held by the Board of Trustees.

This quarter has been an eventful as well as another successful quarter for the ICCI Student Council. To recap on last quarter's report we highlighted the following line items.

- Populi App for Cell phones.
- Implementing new courses. (Accounting, Law, Marketing, Public Administration, etc.)
- More interaction with online courses.
- Boosting the awareness of volunteer programs.
- Coffee Machine donations.

These were the first line items addressed by the Student Council this quarter and we felt that it helped show ICCI Student Council had a voice that could be heard and would be auctioned accordingly.

Dr. Marshall was quick to action these items and they have all successfully been implemented or implementation has started.

A Populi App was already being looked at by Dr. Marshall and he confirmed its availability. However, its availability was limited to only Iphones and the app itself is still in the early production stages. When Student Council Vice President contacted a Populi representative we were able to confirm that its full release would be available to all phones in January 2017 and the app itself would be at a more advanced and developed stage for better interaction with users.

Previously we also discussed the possibility of new course being introduced to the ICCI academic programs. This was something that Mike and I discussed at length and we would see more courses being introduced once we had greater numbers of students and instructors able to teach the courses in the future. The key being with a greater number of students attending the school we will be able to expand and offer various degrees on all types of programs. As you all may know, the Student Council has 4 members who are currently Accounting majors. The implementation of new accounting courses was brought up and looked to be auctioned earlier on last quarter, but since we have come up with a new and improved idea, "The Pathway to CPA Program" which we will discuss some more later on in the report.

Tagging this item along with courses, we saw this quarter a greater use of the online resources being used at our disposal. In every class we were required to have online discussions, quizzes, homework, etc being done within Populi. The work load increased, but it also showed what a greater influence the virtual world is having on schools around the world and ICCI here today. Next quarter two online courses

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are being offered and we hope to see even more virtual interaction with online courses, such as having an orientation to help students navigate through Populi and MyLabs.

In an idea inspired by the Student Council, we've decided to create a sub-committee under the Student Council. The Volunteer and Health Awareness committee that is head by Jose Ardilla, who we selected for his enthusiastic personality and kind-hearted ways to be the coordinator for the committee and help boost and come with ideas to better get students involved at ICCI.

Thank you again Mr. Ormond Williams, Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees for generously donating to the students a brand new Keurig Coffee Machine and some K-Cups to get students started. The coffee machine has been used beyond our wildest expectations. It was originally thought that we would need to replenish our stock with around \$80.00 worth of k-cups a quarter, but in 9 weeks various donations from students and members of staff have exceeded over \$200.00 and the sad part about this is, we are out of coffee for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time this semester.

The Student Council would like to thank you all for actioning these items accordingly. Onto the Spring Quarter's report and items listed on the agenda by the ICCI Student Council.

The Spring Quarter's agenda consisted of the following items:

- Summer Event for Students.
- Accounting/Finance Club.
- Pathway to the CPA.
- Instructors for Accounting/Finance Courses.

Much like how ICCI had the Dr. J. Hugh Cummings Memorial Walk, the Student Council would like to have another event conducted this summer. Based on the fact that it is the summer, it would be a great idea to host a competitive event at the Public beach where students will compete in challenges such as beach volleyball, beach football, relay sack races, relay egg races, swimming/water events and sand castle building, etc. Students can pay a onetime entry fee to participate in the event and get a free ICCI t-shirt along with a water bottle, ICCI wrist band, and swim cap. ICCI can give the donations towards the building of a new sign or renovations to be done for the school or for the safety net fund that was created for students who are struggling financially to pay their tuition.

Since last summer when students went on the Finance Seminar in New York the idea of creating an Accounting/Finance Club has been circulating through the campus. When the idea was brought forward to Ms. Melisa Hamilton she had said that the idea has been around for quite some time and she was already looking into implementing it. Well, Ms. Melissa made the Accounting/Finance Club a reality this quarter. The club is lectured by CFA's Robert Tate and ICCI Instructor Craig Walker and so far it has been a very eventful and interactive club to date. With members being invited to the "Putting Investors First" CFA Seminar and being invited to participate in this year's CFA Challenge which will be held in Miami where students at ICCI will be competing with students from throughout the Caribbean to move on to the next round of the CFA Challenge. Members are also being urged to sign up with CIIPA as a student member.

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The final two line items creating a pathway towards the CPA and having more instructors to teach the Accounting/Finance courses available align quite agreeably together. In the previous board meeting we asked if there was a possibility to have more accounting classes introduced to better prepare students for the rigors of the CPA. ICCI Student Council have come up with the idea of creating a Pathway that the Accounting Degree will align perfectly with the goal of passing the CPA by introducing CPA courses being taught right here at ICCI. The required amount of credit hours necessary to get the CPA licenses have gone up and the fact that ICCI goes by Quarter Hours, students have to be selective of what states they are eligible to do the CPA in. My proposal is this by January 2017; ICCI will be able to offer CPA Courses along with an advanced accounting course that will be taught at the same time to offer the best chance of a student passing the CPA exam. In hindsight, we will require more instructors that can adequately teach the new courses on offer as well as the current courses being slated.

### **Example of Design:**

#### **Florida CPA State Requirements:**

**120 semester hours / 160 quarter hours to sit exam.**

**150 semester hours / 200 quarter hours to attain license.**

#### **ICCI Accounting Undergraduate:**

**Graduates with 180 quarter hours.**

**20 more hours/4 more courses are required to meet credit hour criteria to attain license.**

#### **Winter Quarter (January – March):**

**1 CPA Prep Course (Such as one preparing for Audit Exam)**

**1 Advanced Accounting Course (Such Advanced Accounting)**

#### **Spring Quarter (April – June):**

**1 CPA Prep Course (Such as one preparing for Regulation Exam)**

**1 Advanced Accounting Course (Such Advanced Tax/Regulation Course)**

#### **And so on...**

Thank you all for listening and I hope that what has been said by the student council on behalf of the students of ICCI can be replicated in the future. Special thanks to Dr. Marshall and other staff members for guiding us through this quarter and we hope to continue a successful partnership through the betterment of students at ICCI.

Thank you!

Student Council President

Michael Sanford