

Illinois Higher Ed  
*The Friday Memo*

IBHE  
Chairwoman Carrie J. Hightman  
Executive Director Judy Erwin

ICCB  
Chairman Guy Alongi  
President/CEO Geoff Obrzut

ISAC  
Chairman Don McNeil  
Executive Director Andy Davis

February 29, 2008

Prayers at NIU



[NIU Remembers](#)

[Thousands attend service day before classes to restart](#)

They came in waves, students and mothers, alumni and politicians, streaming across a mourning campus, clouds of breath trailing on cold evening air.

[Governor, Senators Obama and Durbin attend memorial service](#)

Governor Rod R. Blagojevich joined NIU President John G. Peters, NIU Board of Trustees Chair Cherilyn Murer, U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Michael O. Leavitt, U.S. Senator Richard Durbin and U.S. Senator Barack Obama at a memorial service on NIU's campus on Sunday to honor the victims of the tragic shooting on Valentine's Day.

[Condolences](#)

Universities, groups and organizations from across the country shared condolences, thoughts and prayers. Individuals can also post their regards.

UPCOMING

March

- 5 House Higher Education Committee, 4 p.m., C-1 SOB
- 5 Senate Appropriations III Committee, 5 p.m., 212 Capitol
- 6 House Appropriations-Higher Education Committee, 8 a.m., 118 Capitol
- 11 Public Agenda Briefing, 2 p.m., Roosevelt University, Chicago
- 12 Joint House Higher Education Appropriations- Higher Education Committees Briefing on Public Agenda, 5 p.m.
- 13 Public Agenda Briefing, 10 a.m., ICCB, Springfield
- 14 Illinois Community College Presidents Council, Oak Brook
- 14-15 Illinois Community College Trustees' Association, Oak Brook
- 20 Task Force on **A Public Agenda for Illinois Higher Education**, 9 a.m., DePaul University, Loop Campus, Chicago
- 28 Regional AAT meeting,



[Gayle Dubowski](#)



[Ryanne Mace](#)



[Daniel Parmenter](#)



[Catalina Garcia](#)



[Juliana Gehant](#)

**Five Minutes of Silence**

**Governor announces special capital initiative to replace Cole Hall**

DeKalb – To honor the victims and help the student body move forward, Governor Rod R. Blagojevich joined NIU President John G. Peters, legislators and students Wednesday at Northern Illinois University (NIU) to announce new plans for Cole Hall, the scene of the tragic shooting that claimed the lives of five students and injured 17 more.

**Public briefings scheduled on draft education needs report for Public Agenda initiative**

A series of briefings have been scheduled for legislators, higher education stakeholders,



and others to discuss Illinois' educational needs. A draft Public Needs Report is being prepared by the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, the consultant for developing a Public Agenda for Illinois Higher Education. The report will examine Illinois' demographic changes, workforce and economic trends, and educational attainment strengths and gaps. Please R.S.V.P. to Linda Oseland at [PublicAgenda@ibhe.org](mailto:PublicAgenda@ibhe.org). Public meetings to discuss the report include:

**March**

- 11** Public Agenda General Briefing, 2 p.m. Roosevelt University, Chicago
- 12** Joint House Higher Education/Appropriations- Higher Education Committees Briefing, 5 p.m.
- 13** Public Agenda General Briefing, 10 a.m., ICCB, Springfield
- 13** Joint Senate Higher Education/Appropriations III Committees Briefing, TBD
- 20** Public Agenda Task Force meeting, 9 a.m., DePaul University, Loop Campus, Chicago

**April**

- 1** Briefing, Illinois Board of Higher Education, 9 a.m.

Kaskaskia Community College

- 31** ICCB meeting, Sugar Grove

**April**

- 1** IBHE meeting, Bloomington-Normal
- 1-3** ICCB campus security conference, Bloomington
- 2** Private College Student Lobby Day, Springfield

ISU, Bloomington-Normal

### [Erwin discusses Public Agenda, budget, data project with Education Caucus](#)

IBHE Executive Director Judy Erwin this week briefed the legislature's Education Caucus on the Board's fiscal 2009 [budget](#) recommendations, the development of a Public Agenda for Illinois Higher Education, and progress in implementing an integrated student data system.

### [IBHE conducts campus-based diversity visits](#)

The Board of Higher Education staff has initiated a series of campus-based diversity visits to Illinois colleges and universities. During these visits to campuses, engaging meetings are held with all levels of the university community to discuss efforts to foster inclusive and diverse learning environments. The visits are an offshoot of the Board's longstanding [commitment](#) to promoting diversity.

### [Conference focuses on supports for new teachers](#)

The Illinois New Teacher Collaborative (INTC) held its third annual working conference entitled, "Induction and Mentoring: Supports, Solutions, and Successes," this week. The INTC coordinates a network of services and resources through a statewide partnership of concerned stakeholders to attract and retain new teachers and promote student learning. More than 300 administrators, mentors, novice teachers, postsecondary educators and others attended.

## **NAMES IN THE NEWS**

[Elizabeth Lowe](#), associate director and associate scholar in the Center for Latin American Studies at the University of Florida in Gainesville, has been selected as the first director the new Center for Translation Studies at the University of Illinois.



A stamp commemorating the achievements of former University of Illinois faculty member and two-time Nobel Prize-winner [John Bardeen](#) will be unveiled at a ceremony on campus March 6.

Chemists and engineers know which metals work as catalysts for given processes, but a fundamental understanding of why catalysis works has only recently emerged. [Randall Meyer](#), assistant professor of chemical engineering at the University of Illinois at Chicago, has just won a five-year National Science Foundation Career award of more than \$400,000 to further this understanding.

DePaul University Management Professor **Raman Chadha** has won a national teaching award inaugurated this year by the Texas-based

Acton Foundation to recognize superior entrepreneurship educators.



[Roger Viadero](#), director of Western Illinois University's Institute for Environmental Studies (IES) and a professor of biology, has been installed as the president of the Aquacultural Engineering Society (AES).

## **CAMPUS NEWS**

### **[Award honors U. of I. for efforts in campus internationalization](#)**

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has been selected to receive the 2008 Senator Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization.

### **[Midwest Meets West Coast, The Chicago School of Professional Psychology to Open New Campus in Downtown Los Angeles](#)**

After nearly 30 years of addressing the need for more professional psychologists in the Midwest, The Chicago School of Professional Psychology is taking its unique approach to psychology training to new frontiers. Starting in fall 2008, Los Angeles, Calif., will become home to the school's first out-of-state campus.

### **[WIU Libraries Donate Music Materials to Tulane](#)**

When Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans three years ago, thousands of people lost their homes and all their belongings. While the rebuilding continues, it becomes more evident that the damage extends beyond homes and businesses; historical documents and countless collections were also swept away.

### **[Politics and biology to be subject of two-day conference at Illinois](#)**

Champaign – Biology and politics may seem like strange bedfellows, especially in higher education, but for a growing number of social and natural scientists on college campuses across the country, the intersection of these disciplines offers intriguing potential for scholarly inquiry.

### **[Dominican Offers Discussions of Hemingway's Short Stories in Birthplace Home](#)**

David Krause, associate provost at Dominican University, is presenting a six-week class on the short stories of Ernest Hemingway in Hemingway's Oak Park birthplace home.

[More Campus News](#)

## NEWS FROM HIGHER EDUCATION

### [EDITORIAL - Fate of UI budget rests with lawmakers, not governor](#)

(News-Gazette)

That the University of Illinois is to get a slight cut in Gov. Rod Blagojevich's budget next year is essentially meaningless. The Legislature likely will do what it's done in recent years – ignore the budget of an increasingly irrelevant governor.

### [Colleges Have Better-Prepared Police and Less Crime Than They Used To, Report Says](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

Not only are college campuses safer than they used to be but they also have less crime than the country at large does, according to a report released last week by the U.S. Department of Justice.

### [Chicago Public Schools hopes to solve dropout problem](#)

(Chicago Tribune)

Nearly half of Chicago public school 9th graders who started high school in the last seven years have dropped out without earning a high school diploma, according to a study to be released Monday.

### [More News from Higher Education](#)

## Edlines from AASCU

### [AL: Editorial: State's tax system pits higher ed against K-12](#)

The *Tuscaloosa News* contends that Alabama's budget shortfall has rival higher education institutions teaming up in a quest to be a top priority for state funding.

### [IL: Governor proposes flat funding for higher education](#)

Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich (D) proposed a budget last week that provides nearly the same higher education funding as last year. Lawmakers warn that high tuition increases could be on the horizon because of the stagnant budget for the state's colleges and universities.

### [MI: Editorial: Elevate higher ed: new aid formula helps, but there's more to do](#)

The editors of the *Detroit Free Press* express support for a new higher education funding plan by Governor Jennifer Granholm (D).

### [NJ: State's county and four-year public colleges face 10 percent cut](#)

County and state colleges in New Jersey will confront a 10 percent budget cut for fiscal year 2009. A combination of tuition hikes and spending reductions will be used to offset the cut.

### [FL: Poll shows Florida residents would approve of tuition increase](#)

A recent poll by the *St. Petersburg Times* indicates that 58 percent of Florida residents would approve of a tuition increase at the state's

colleges and universities.

**[MO: Tuition assistance for veterans passes Missouri Senate](#)**

Last week the Missouri Senate passed a measure that would allow state veterans who served in armed combat after September 11, 2001 to attend any state college or university for \$50 per credit hour.

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