

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

March 28, 2008

[Panel on campus security to brief IBHE at April 1 meeting](#)

Representatives of the Campus Security Task Force will brief the Board of Higher Education and the higher education community when the **[IBHE meets on April 1](#)** at the Illinois State University Bone Center. President John Peters of Northern Illinois University will make brief remarks, followed by a discussion of emergency response, training for all-hazards emergencies, mental health issues, and legal matters related to student privacy. Carrie J. Hightman, Chairwoman of the Board, said, "We want this to be a moment of remembrance while recognizing that we have a teachable moment as well, an opportunity to learn from the pain in ways that won't make it go away, but can point us to the future."

[Public Agenda consultants to discuss report of educational needs](#)

Dennis Jones, President of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS), will



A PUBLIC AGENDA FOR
COLLEGE AND CAREER SUCCESS

present an updated report on the state's public needs for education at the IBHE meeting April 1 at ISU. NCHEMS, a respected research and public policy institute, has studied Illinois' population demographics, workforce trends, educational attainment, and economic development strengths and shortcomings. "We are beginning to see real, tangible progress in this process," Chairwoman Hightman said. "Already, with the Public Needs Report and the upcoming analysis of state policies, we are starting to get a sense of the value of assessing the condition of higher education in Illinois and the potential the planning process holds for making stronger connections between our colleges and universities and the state's economic wellbeing."

[NIU seeks suggestions for memorial to honor victims of Feb. 14 tragedy](#)



NIU Vice President for University Advancement Michael P. Malone, who has been named chair of the February 14th Memorial Committee, is soliciting suggestions for the creation of a permanent physical memorial to honor the victims of the tragic events of last month.

Members of the NIU community are encouraged to send their suggestions to memorial@niu.edu.

[National study reveals interest in study abroad continues to grow among high school students](#)

College-bound students demonstrate high levels of global awareness, and significant proportions anticipate

UPCOMING

March

29-30 IBHE Student Advisory Committee, Urbana

31 ICCB meeting, Sugar Grove

April

1 IBHE meeting, Bloomington-Normal

[DFI](#) Program Board, Bloomington

1 House Higher Education Committee, 5 p.m., D-1, SOB

1-3 ICCB campus security conference, Bloomington

2 Private College Student Lobby Day, Springfield
www.federationedu.org

4 ISAC meeting, Springfield

9 Higher Education Lobby Day, Springfield

11-12 **[Student African American Brotherhood Conference](#)**, Matteson

15 Community College Student Lobby Day, Springfield

29 ICCTA, Council of Community College Presidents, Springfield

international learning experiences in college.

[Video conference to examine groundbreaking “value-added” teacher prep assessment](#)



Dr. [George Noell](#), researcher in the Department of Psychology at Louisiana State University and A&M College, will discuss the design, development, and implementation of the [Louisiana Value-Added Teacher Preparation Assessment](#) model in a video conference April 3. Noell developed the groundbreaking model that examines the effectiveness of teacher preparation programs based upon the actual achievement of children. Three sites across the state are available to attend the videoconference.

[Lights out](#)

Lt. Governor Pat Quinn joins the International Dark-Sky Association and the World Wildlife Fund in asking Illinois residents to participate in Earth Hour by turning off their lights from 8 to 9 p.m. this Saturday night. “This movement conserves energy, protects wildlife, and reminds all of us of the natural beauty of a starry night,” Quinn said. “This Saturday night, I hope people throughout Illinois will extinguish all unnecessary lights to participate in Earth Hour.”

People in the News

[James C. Schroeder](#) has been named vice chancellor for institutional advancement at the Urbana campus of the University of Illinois. He also becomes senior vice president of the U. of I. Foundation.

[Patrick José Dawson](#) of the University of California, Santa Barbara has been selected to take the reins of Northern Illinois University Libraries.

[Alina-Carmen Cojocaru](#), assistant professor of mathematics, statistics and computer science at the University of Illinois at Chicago, has been awarded a National Science Foundation Career award to study elliptic curves, fundamental objects in the theory of numbers, that may play a role in improving computer security.

Campus News

[Research fails to support current rapid growth of charter schools](#)



The case for charter schools, by all appearances, has been made with politicians and the public. Forty states now have them, their numbers are rapidly increasing, and they now serve more than a million students. The research, however, on issues from student achievement to equity and integration, is limited, often overstated, often based on suspect methodology, and largely outside the normal system of academic peer review, says Christopher Lubienski, an education professor at the University of Illinois.

Education professor
Christopher Lubienski,
left, and graduate student
Peter Weitzel

[Conference to Explore Contemporary Family Issues](#)

National experts on modern-day family issues and policies will gather April 25-26 for "Family Issues in Contention," the annual conference of the University of Illinois at Chicago-based Council on Contemporary Families.

[CSU to host 1st Annual Leadership and Policy Conference](#)

David E. Sanger, chief Washington correspondent for *The New York Times*, will be among the featured speakers at a conference, entitled, "Emerging Issues in the New Knowledge Economy: Changing Roles for Higher Education," April 11 at the Emil and Patricia Jones Convocation Center at Chicago State University.

[Latino rights icon Dolores Huerta to speak at NIU](#)

Prominent Latino rights leader Dolores Huerta, who with Cesar Chavez co-founded the United Farm Workers union, will visit NIU April 16 for a public address on the labor movement, civic engagement and the importance of the Latino vote in the upcoming election. Huerta will deliver an address titled, "The Need for Social Change: From the Fight in the Fields to the Halls of Congress."

[DePaul Research On Homes For Recovering Addicts Spurs State To Reinstate Housing Loan Program](#)

The Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (DASA) recently reinstated its group home loan revolving fund initiative, citing DePaul University's [Center for Community Research](#) studies on the successful [Oxford House](#) model as supplying the critical data needed to support new funds for the program.

[WIU Parks and Recreation Program Celebrates 40th Anniversary](#)

Forty years ago, Tony Mobley created the department of recreation and park administration at Western Illinois University to prepare students to enter the leisure services field. Since its inception in 1968, the department – which was renamed recreation, park and tourism administration (RPTA) in 1989 – has graduated more than 3,000 students.

[U. of I. recognized as CFA Program Partner institution](#)

The University of Illinois Master of Science in Finance Program has been named a CFA Program Partner, joining 54 other degree programs worldwide that meet the prestigious financial institute's professional and ethical standards.

[More Campus News](#)

News from Higher Education

[Researchers Bemoan Lack of Progress in Closing Education Gaps Between the Races](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

Gloom filled a room on Tuesday as affirmative-action advocates and researchers assessed progress toward closing the gaps that have left many colleges relying on race and ethnicity-conscious admissions policies to enroll black and Hispanic students.

[Study: Record for college earmarks](#)

(Chicago Tribune)

Congress set aside a record \$2.3 billion in pet projects for colleges and universities last year for research on subjects like reducing odors from swine and poultry, according to an analysis by The Chronicle of Higher Education.

[After Campus Shootings, U.S. to Ease Privacy Rules](#)

(The New York Times)

The Federal Education Department proposed on Monday new regulations to clarify when universities may release confidential student information and, after the Virginia Tech shootings last year, reassure college officials that they will not face penalties for reporting fears about mentally ill students.

[More News from Higher Education](#)

Edlines from AASCU

[AL: Colleges unite against cuts to higher education](#)

Auburn University and the University of Alabama have teamed up against budget cuts proposed by Governor Bob Riley (R). Governor Riley has proposed 14 percent cuts to 4-year colleges, 8-9 percent cuts to two-year colleges, and 2-3 percent cuts to K-12. The chancellors of both university systems argue that these cuts are inequitable and call for 5 percent across-the-board cuts. *The Montgomery Advertiser*

[CO: Draft budget outlines increases in higher education funding and tuition charges](#)

The Joint Budget Committee of the Colorado General Assembly has drafted a budget recommending an additional \$53 million in higher education funding, an 8.5 percent increase from last year. *The Coloradoan*

[OH: State chancellor outlines vision for higher education](#)

In a recent speech, Ohio Board of Regents Chancellor Eric Fingerhut argued that bachelor's degrees in targeted subjects should be offered at Ohio public colleges within 30 miles of all state residents. *Cleveland Plain Dealer*

[CO: Governor Ritter expected to sign Textbook Affordability Act](#)

Colorado Governor Bill Ritter (D) is expected to sign legislation mandating publishers of college textbooks to make key information more transparent. The Textbook Affordability Act will require that publishers make available to faculty and students the prices, revision histories, and predicted length of time that textbooks will be on the market. In addition, the legislation allows students to purchase textbooks without having to buy supplemental materials, such as CD-ROMs. *The Campus Press*

[IL: State universities increasingly bear the cost of veterans' tuition benefits](#)

Universities across Illinois are increasingly paying the cost of veterans' tuition grants and want the state to pay a greater share. Non-veteran students are indirectly paying for the costs through increases in tuition. The state currently pays only \$19 million of the \$32 million in annual veterans' tuition benefits. *The Pantagraph*

[TX: Tuition increases on the horizon for Texas students](#)

Tuition and fees are predicted to increase 9 percent in 2008, and higher increases are likely in 2009 under a tuition plan approved by the University of Texas (UT) Board of Regents. The Texas A&M System Board is expected to adopt similar increases. *Houston Chronicle*



News from the U.S. Department of Education

AP and IB – The Department has awarded \$11 million in grants to 39 states to enable them to pay part or all of the fees for Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) tests for low-income students. The program aims to encourage low-income students to take AP or IB tests and obtain college credit, reducing the time and cost required to complete a postsecondary degree.

Privacy regulations – On March 24, the Department proposed new regulations to clarify when colleges and universities may release confidential student information and reassure top officials that they will not face penalties for reporting concerns about mentally ill students to appropriate authorities in an emergency. Comments on these and other proposed changes to FERPA must be received by May 8.

Stats – The "Digest of Education Statistics, 2007," from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), is the 43rd in a series of publications initiated in 1962. It provides a compilation of statistical information covering the broad field of American education -- from pre-kindergarten through graduate school -- drawn from government and private sources, but especially from surveys and other activities directed by NCES.

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