

## 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

April 18, 2008

### [Campus Security Task Force presents report to Governor](#)

During a ceremony on the University of Illinois-Chicago campus, Governor Blagojevich this week commended members of the Campus Security Task Force (CSTF) and accepted the group's comprehensive 259-page [report](#), which details recommendations for increasing security at the more than 180 institutions of higher learning in Illinois. The Governor also embraced the task force's legislative proposals to create a \$25 million grant program to boost campus security and require campus emergency response and violence prevention plans.

### [Community college system unveils public awareness campaign](#)



Perry Buckley, head of the Cook County Teachers Union Local 1600, Kathy Wessel, chair of the community college trustees association, and Wayne Watson, chancellor of City Colleges of Chicago, stand before a promotion of the value of Illinois community colleges. The billboard is part of a new public awareness campaign sponsored by several higher education advocates.

### [ISBE, IBHE team up on school leadership reform conference](#)

The State Board of Education and IBHE will sponsor a conference May 29 and 30 in Bloomington for college and university administrators and faculty to discuss and build support for the action agenda set forth by the School Leader Task Force. The conference program includes presentations of school leader preparation reform

### UPCOMING

#### April

**23** Briefing on Public Agenda for Illinois Latino Council on Higher Education, Chicago

**26** Briefing on Public Agenda for public university trustees, Naperville

**29** ICCTA, Council of Community College Presidents, ICCTA lobby day, Springfield

**29** Capitol Showcase, exhibit of NCLB projects, Capitol, Springfield

#### May

**1** [Task Force on Illinois Higher Education Public Agenda](#), Roosevelt University, Chicago

**2** Briefing on Public Agenda for Illinois Committee on Black Concerns in Higher Education & Chicago Urban League, Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago

**19** ICCB meeting, Lewis & Clark CC, Godfrey

**20, 22** [Illinois Division of Mental Health Conference 2008](#), Chicago, Springfield

**29-30** School Leadership Reform Conference, Bloomington

efforts in Alabama and Iowa, school and university partnership models, and systemic change in state and higher education.

### [No worry on student loans, Davis tells financial aid officers](#)



Despite unnerving news across the country regarding student loans, Andy Davis, ISAC Executive Director, assured an annual gathering of student financial aid administrators that education loans *will* be available for Illinois students this fall. Davis described a positive meeting with the U.S. Secretary of Education and characterized lenders' proper role as that of "investment bankers in human capital." Davis also urged the financial aid officers to learn about and engage in the Illinois Public Agenda for Higher Education, telling the group that student financial assistance is critical for both student opportunity and civil society.

### [Easy being green](#)

As part of its continued efforts to communicate the broad-based contributions of higher education to society at large, the American Council on Education is launching a new *Solutions for Our Future* web site, Higher Education Goes Green. The site will highlight green initiatives at campuses across the country in the areas of research, conservation, and best practices.

### [A compelling case to focus on high-need schools](#)

The Associated Colleges of Illinois' Center for Success in High-Need Schools presented its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual symposium, "From Classroom Success to Community Responsibility: The Compelling Case for Improving Teaching and Learning in High-Need Schools," on April 17. Among the speakers was IBHE Executive Director Judy Erwin, who stated the case: "Making a compelling case for improving teaching and learning in high-need schools has never been more important, nor more urgent."



## *Statehouse Review*

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### [Harper College bill gets new life](#)

HB 1434, commonly known as the Harper College bill, was reported out of the Senate Rules Committee this week and assigned to the State Government and Veterans Affairs Committee. The bill, now sponsored by Sen. Dan Kotowski, would give Harper College permission to offer two pilot baccalaureate completion programs.

Meanwhile, the General Assembly left Springfield for a week-long Passover recess after a flurry of activity to pass bills in the house or origin by the third reading deadlines, which, at least in the Senate, have been extended to the end of May.

## **June**

**3** IBHE meeting, St. John's School of Nursing, Springfield

Bills of interest to higher education include:

[\*\*HB 4903\*\*](#) (Rep. Jakobsson) – Requires publishers of textbooks to disclose retail price, revision history, and existence of alternative formats, and to offer textbooks “unbundled” from supplementary materials. 3rd Reading in the House.

[\*\*HB 5059\*\*](#) (Rep. Brosnahan) – Requires Department of Public Health to provide scholarships for nurse educators for up to 3 years. Passed the House.

[\*\*HB 5109\*\*](#) (Rep. Miller) – Creates the MAP-Challenge program to encourage low-income students to finish high school and take a rigorous college-prep curriculum in exchange for a guarantee of financial aid incentives upon entering college. Passed House, referred to Senate Rules.

[\*\*SB 1908\*\*](#) (Sen. Maloney) – Increases the maximum award for Monetary Award Program grants by \$500 per year, with similar percentage increases for students not subject to the maximum award, such as community college students. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading in Senate.

[\*\*SB 1982\*\*](#) (Sen. Frerichs) – Directs IBHE to emphasize high-demand occupational fields, such as STEM areas and nursing, in awarding grants under the Cooperative Work-Study Grant program. Passed the Senate, referred to House Rules.

### [\*\*Urban League study assesses economic future of African Americans in Chicago\*\*](#)

White males are nearly 3 times as likely as black males to hold a college degree and more than 4 times as likely to hold a graduate degree. These are among statistics cited in a study by the Chicago Urban League that concluded that improving educational attainment among African Americans will be a key driver for economic change in the minority community.

### [\*\*Mike Lawrence to retire from Paul Simon Institute\*\*](#)



Mike Lawrence, who has had a distinguished career as a journalist and served as press secretary to Governor Jim Edgar, has announced he will step down next fall as director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University.

### [\*\*FICU lobby day promotes MAP funding, research grants\*\*](#)

Nearly 70 students participated in the Federation's private college student lobby day in Springfield on April 2nd. Students from a dozen different colleges and universities met with legislators and legislative leaders to emphasize the importance of protecting funding for the Monetary Award Program (MAP). The students also urged legislators

to sign on as co-sponsors to SB 1908 which will increase the statutory cap on award sizes for the first time since 2001 and asked them to seek restoration of the Higher Education Matching Grant funding which was eliminated by the Governor in 2007.



## *Washington Corner*

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### [Grant program seeks to engage students in service](#)

The Corporation for National and Community Service (the Corporation) has announced that \$2.3 million of grant funding is available to support better engagement of college students in service through social media. Examples of social media include: social networking (i.e. Facebook, MySpace), podcasts, blogs, RSS feeds, social bookmarking, widgets, etc. Successful applicants must demonstrate how their program can use these tools to engage increased numbers of college students, especially in partnership with other nonprofit or for-profit entities.

## *People in the News*

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[Samuel Goldman](#) was appointed interim chancellor at Southern Illinois University Carbondale after he stepped down as a trustee on the university's governing board.

Governor Rod R. Blagojevich has appointed [Mark Pruitt](#) as the first Executive Director of the newly created Illinois Power Agency (IPA). Pruitt comes to the state from the University of Illinois at Chicago's Energy Resources Center where he managed energy procurement for State agencies and local municipalities.

Dr. [Elnora D. Daniel](#) received an award for outstanding leadership at the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO) during its national convention. Presenters noted Dr. Daniel's exemplary national service on its Board as well as her decade of service as president of Chicago State University, a predominantly minority serving institution.

The University of Illinois Moms Association has named [Jamil Johnson](#) and [Nisa Agrawal](#) as the graduate and undergraduate recipients of its 2008 Humanitarian Awards. The annual award is given to people who have developed innovative approaches to community service work and have translated their ideas into practical results.

Nobel Laureate [Gerard 't Hooft](#), a professor of theoretical physics at the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands, will visit NIU April 22 to deliver a lecture on quantum physics.

University of Illinois at Chicago professor [Roger Weissberg](#), an expert on social and emotional learning in childhood education, was

chosen by Edutopia magazine for its "Daring Dozen," which honors those who are "reshaping the future of education."

[Mohsen Pourahmadi](#) in the Division of Statistics and [John Skowronski](#) in the Department of Psychology have been awarded 2008 Presidential Research Professorships, Northern Illinois University's top recognition for outstanding research.

## *Campus News*

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### [WIU, Macomb Host International African Literature Conference](#)

Many of the world's finest scholars, poets, authors and reviewers of African literature, as well as film makers and traditional performers, will convene at Western Illinois University April 22-27 for the 34th Annual African Literature Association (ALA) Conference, "African and African Diaspora Women Writers, Global Challenges and Cultural Identity."

### [Loyola professor explores human rights of children in new book](#)

In his new book, *Children and the Dark Side of Human Experience: Confronting Global Realities and Rethinking Child Development*, author James Garbarino, blends insights from the fields of psychology and philosophy with his own wide-ranging, first-hand experiences around the world, taking readers on a personalized journey into the dark side of human experience as it is lived by children.

### [Conference to focus on issues affecting claims to heritage items](#)

A group of international scholars will gather at the University of Illinois for a conference to discuss how forces of religion and nationalism may act to heighten intergroup tension around heritage claims – even to the point of causing the destruction of ancient and historic sites.

### [Poll finds most still undecided about constitutional convention](#)

Support is lagging for Illinois' first constitutional convention in four decades, but could get a boost from growing unrest over political infighting that many citizens fear has paralyzed state government, according to a new University of Illinois poll.  
<http://www.news.uiuc.edu/news/08/0415convention.html>

### [More Campus News](#)

## *News from Higher Education*

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[Indiana: Daniels debuts college plan](#)  
(Stateline.org)

Gov. Mitch Daniels set a goal Wednesday of guaranteeing two years

of free college tuition for all Indiana high school graduates, and he challenged a room full of university administrators to help advance the initiative.

### [Wisconsin's Flagship Is Raided for Scholars](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

Public institutions can't match job offers from private universities

### [Fewer Options Open to Pay for Costs of College](#)

(The New York Times)

Parents will have to navigate unfamiliar and difficult terrain when it comes time to pay for college this year, with student loan companies in turmoil and banks tightening their standards and raising rates on other types of borrowing.

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

## *Edlines from AASCU*

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### [CA: Governor Schwarzenegger's higher education cuts met with resistance](#)

Higher education officials across California are galvanizing in protest against Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposed 10 percent cut in higher education funding. The cuts outlined by the governor would mean reductions in financial aid, fewer classes, and decreases in student services, according to university officials. They believe the universities still have not recovered from previous cuts and may not recover from the governor's proposed cuts for 10 years. *Los Angeles Times*

### [KY: Editorial: Foolish cuts to higher education](#)

The editorial board of the *Cincinnati Enquirer* chides Kentucky lawmakers for making a "gutless short-term fix" by cutting higher education funding to balance the state budget. The editors believe institutions of higher education are of great economic benefit to the region and state, and that increases in college graduation rates and the creation of new degree programs tied to growth industries will garner new businesses. *Cincinnati Enquirer*

### [MO: Missouri Senate approves 7.8 percent higher education funding increase](#)

The Missouri Senate has approved funding increases of 7.8 percent for higher education, translating to a total budget of \$451.7 million for the University of Missouri System. However, some lawmakers argue that this budget is still less than 2001 levels, and that funds are being diverted to scholarship programs at private colleges and universities. *Columbia Missourian*

Illinois Board of Higher Education  
431 East Adams, 2nd Floor, Springfield, Illinois 62701-1404  
Phone: (217) 782-2551  
<http://www.ibhe.org>  
[FridayMemo@ibhe.org](mailto:FridayMemo@ibhe.org)