

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

May 16, 2008

[You are CERTainly welcomed](#)

The Illinois Emergency Management Agency through their Citizen Corps project is sponsoring a Train the Trainer course for Campus CERT (Community Emergency Response Team). Campus CERT includes information and guidelines for teaching and implementing student/faculty emergency response teams in the unique context of the campus community. The program prepares teams on disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their campus and trains them in basic response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. The train the trainer course is scheduled for Aug 5-7, 2008 at Harper College in Palatine.

[SHEEO offers advice for the next President](#)



In a letter signed by 25 higher education leaders across the nation, the State Higher Education Executive Officers urge presidential candidates to “increase by one million the annual production of postsecondary degrees and certificates,” among other goals and recommendations presented to Sens.



Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton, and John McCain. The letter states:

“To achieve economic security – improved family incomes and a strong job market – is a top priority for the American people and a prerequisite for continued national security.” The letter is accompanied by a [White Paper](#) making the case for presidential leadership on educational attainment, the discovery of new knowledge, a retooling of federal higher education programs and policies, and deepening the nation’s scientific and technological prowess.



[Graduation Rate Watch: Big Gaps between Blacks and Whites](#)

A report by the Education Sector, a policy and research center, has revealed significant disparities in graduation rates between black and white students on many college campuses, raising questions about the experience of black students once enrolled. The author reports that some institutions have strategies that result in black students graduating at relatively similar rates to white students, while other institutions appear to accept gaps of 25 percentage points or more in the rates.

**UPCOMING**

**May**

- 19 ICCB meeting, Lewis & Clark CC, Godfrey
- 20 House Appropriations-Higher Education Committee, 8:30 a.m., 114 Capitol
- 20 House Higher Education Committee, 10:30 a.m. 115 Capitol
- 20 ISAC Commission meeting, Thompson Center, Chicago
- 21 Senate Higher Education Committee, 4 p.m., 409 Capitol
- 21 Senate Appropriations III Committee, 5 p.m., 212 Capitol
- 20, 22 [Illinois Division of Mental Health Conference 2008](#), Chicago, Springfield
- 29-30 [School Leadership Reform Conference](#), Bloomington

**June**

- 3 IBHE meeting, St. John’s School of Nursing, Springfield
- 9, 17 [Academic Application E-Submission Orientation](#) Oakton Community College & Southwestern Illinois College

### [U of I sets energy reduction goals](#)

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is seeking to curb energy consumption in existing buildings by 10 percent over the next three years and has set a five-year target of rolling back usage to 1990 standards, consistent with the Kyoto Protocol. The reduction is expected to save the equivalent of 300 million kilowatt-hours of energy by controlling growth, developing incentives to reduce usage, encouraging the campus community to be more energy conscious, and stimulating investment in energy-saving measures.



### *Statehouse Review*

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#### **Legislators to crunch numbers on FY09 higher education budget**

Higher education appropriations committees in both chambers will meet next week to consider bills for the fiscal 2009 budget. The [House Appropriations-Higher Education Committee](#), chaired by Rep. David Miller, will meet Tuesday, May 20, at 8:30 a.m. The [Senate Appropriations III Committee](#), chaired by Sen. Mattie Hunter, is scheduled for 5 p.m. on Wednesday, May 21.

This week, Senate Higher Education Committee reported out four bills:

- [SB 1908](#) increases the MAP maximum award \$500 per year over three years.
- [HB 3286](#) creates the Illinois Health Policy Center within the University of Illinois, to be sponsored by the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine and the University of Illinois Institute of Government and Public Affairs, and creates the Illinois Health Policy Center Advisory Panel, appointed by the legislative leaders and the Governor, to provide advice and oversight concerning the creation and operation of the Illinois Health Policy Center.
- [HB 4567](#) requires the Illinois Student Assistance Commission to report to the General Assembly: (1) the number of students designated State Scholars, (2) the number of State Scholars who applied to State universities, and (3) the number of State Scholars who were denied admittance into the State universities to which they applied.
- [HB5905](#) deems person on active military duty or dependents as Illinois residents for tuition purposes, if the person on active military duty has been stationed in this State for at least 3 years immediately prior to being reassigned out of State.

### [Education Caucus briefed on Public Agenda](#)

#### **9-23** [Public Agenda Regional Forums](#)

**20** Public Agenda Meeting  
Robert Morris College,  
Chicago

**27** ISAC Commission Meeting  
Carl Sandburg College,  
Galesburg

Aims McGuinness, senior research associate for the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) briefed the legislative Education Caucus on the status of the Public Agenda initiative. McGuinness explored the [six themes](#) that have emerged from the study of Illinois demographic, education, and economic data and from discussions with scores of stakeholders in higher education. McGuinness also invited legislators to participate in a series of upcoming [regional forums](#) designed to receive feedback from local elected, business, labor, civic, and education leaders. The forums begin June 9.

## *People in the News*

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Northwestern University's School of Music will be named the [Henry and Leigh Bienen School of Music](#) in honor of the retiring University president and his wife, announced Patrick G. Ryan, chair of Northwestern's Board of Trustees on May 13, 2008. President Bienen, who announced in March that he plans to retire next year, and his wife, Leigh, are avid music-lovers and strong supporters of the arts, including the School of Music.

[Sarah C. Mangelsdorf](#), the Harry E. Preble Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, has been appointed dean of the Northwestern University Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences.



*Matt Konfirst*

Two Northern Illinois University students have won fellowships through the highly competitive Fulbright U.S. Student Program. [Matt Konfirst](#), 31, of West Chicago, a geology student working on his Ph.D., will travel to Germany to work with scientists on climate change research. [Shari](#)



*Shari Meggs*

[Meggs](#), 21, of Skokie, a graduating senior majoring in communication, will work as an English language teaching assistant in Hong Kong.

University of Illinois at Chicago Honors College student [Jessica Harper](#) will be one of just nine students who has been awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to Greece, where she will study stem cell biology. Harper, a biological sciences major from Homer Glen, will work at the Biomedical Sciences Research Center-Alexander Fleming and study how neural stem cells from mice can be manipulated and controlled, and she will look for possible human applications from the research,

including new cancer treatments.

[Roger Runquist](#), assistant professor in engineering technology at Western Illinois University, has been named the director of the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Research (CITR).

[Carol Ferrans](#), professor and associate dean for research at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Nursing, will be presented with the Distinguished Researcher Award from the Oncology Nursing Society at the organization's annual meeting on May 16 in Philadelphia.

[Alan Kozikowski](#), professor of medicinal chemistry and pharmacognosy and director of the drug discovery program at the University of Illinois at Chicago, was one of four international scientists to receive the third annual Novel Approaches to Drug Discovery for Alzheimer's Disease award.

## *Campus News*

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### [SIU Med School awarded National Family Medicine Honor](#)

The Department of Family and Community Medicine at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine has received a "Top Ten Award" from the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) as one of the top ten medical schools in the nation for producing family medicine physicians. The award recognizes SIU's efforts to foster student interest in family medicine.

### [Moraine Valley featured in campus security article](#)

Moraine Valley Community College in Palos Hills was featured in a recent story on campus security in eSchool News. In an article titled "[Latest trend in campus security: Convergence](#)," MVCC was used as an example of a college where IP communication systems are central to its campus safety strategy.

### [What's the buzz?](#)

On Wednesday, May 28, 2008 Chicago State University will host a distinguished panel discussion entitled "Colony Collapse Disorder: Where have all the honeybees gone?" from 1:00PM to 3:00PM. For individuals who are unable to come to campus, the entire event will be available online via live webcasting at [www.csu.edu](http://www.csu.edu).

### [New Loyola University Museum of Art Exhibition Celebrates the Modern Landscape](#)

The Loyola University Museum of Art (LUMA) will present the photographic landscapes of Illinois-based artist Gary Kolb in the Harlan J. Berk Ltd. Works on Paper Gallery, beginning May 17. *Landscapes by Photographer Gary Kolb*, an exhibition of gelatin prints

that explores the natural and sacred beauty of the untamed American landscape, will be on display through August 10, 2008.

### [Western Students Selected for National Nonprofit Leaders Program](#)

Two Western Illinois University students were selected, along with 64 other students from colleges and universities across the United States, for a leadership program that prepares leaders for the nonprofit and philanthropic sector.

### [More Campus News](#)

## *News from Higher Education*

### [U of C plans \\$200M Friedman Institute](#) (Crain's Chicago Business)

The University of Chicago announced Thursday that it is creating a \$200-million economics institute to honor the late Milton Friedman, Nobel Prize winner and longtime faculty member.

### [How States Make Use \(or Not\) of Community Colleges](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

The various roles of community colleges in state higher education systems — educating students who will transfer to four-year institutions, providing job training and so forth — may seem similar from state to state. But a study by the Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government — a research arm of the State University of New York — highlights vast differences in the way states make use of and support their community colleges.

### [More CPS grads heading off to college](#) (Chicago Sun-Times)

"A huge sign of progress" is how Chicago Public Schools CEO Arne Duncan described new figures that show a 6½ percent increase in college enrollment of CPS graduates during the last four years, far outpacing the national rate for that period.

### [Emerging Higher Ed Act Compromise](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

A small group of U.S. senators and representatives and their staffs are working at breakneck speed with the hope that Congress can wrap up its work by Memorial Day on compromise legislation to renew the Higher Education Act.

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

## *EdLines from AASCU*

### **CA: Governor plans to borrow against future state lottery profits**

California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger presented a plan this week to borrow up to \$15 billion and repay the money using profits generated by revitalizing the state lottery. Gov. Schwarzenegger would cap lottery money spent on public education at \$1.2 billion, and would use \$5 billion of the bonding for closing the \$15.2 billion budget deficit as well as place \$10 billion in reserve to use during times of fiscal crisis. *San Francisco Chronicle*

### **TN: Governor to cut higher education budget**

Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen told lawmakers this week that additional cuts needed to balance the budget should come from healthcare, higher education, and employee salaries. Gov. Bredesen proposes to cut the higher education budget by \$55.8 million. The cuts are in addition to \$37 million in reduced funding in capital maintenance funds for the state's public higher education institutions. *The Tennessean*

### **US: Editorial: Vets deserve free college tuition**

The editorial board of The Atlanta Journal-Constitution argues in support of federal legislation authored by Senator Jim Webb to cover college tuition costs for veterans up to the cost of the most expensive public college in their state. The benefit would be available to any veteran serving at least three years of active duty since September 11, 2001. Senator John McCain and President Bush do not support the Webb legislation on the grounds that it is too generous and could negatively impact re-enlistment. *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

### **NC: Feds will allow schools to make decisions on admittance of undocumented students**

Officials from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement stated last week that North Carolina may admit undocumented students into public colleges and universities and are not required to use immigration status as a criteria for admission. *The News & Observer*

### **KY: Tuition hikes limited**

The budget committee of the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education has recommended that Kentucky state colleges and universities reduce their proposed tuition hikes by one percent. Most state colleges and universities will have proposed tuition hikes around 8-10 percent. *The Courier-Journal*

### **TN: Colleges and universities try to keep tuition hikes under control**

In the face of a proposed \$55 million cut by Governor Phil Bredesen (D), Tennessee higher education officials hope to keep tuition hikes below 10 percent. Lawmakers are also indicating that they would like to see tuition hikes in the single digits. The Board of Regents is considering offering early retirement packages and/or more outside contracting to cut costs. In addition, the governor's plan to provide two percent raises for higher education employees may have to be abandoned. The Board is most concerned about keeping rates low for in-state undergraduates, and indicated that there "may be some variance" in out-of-state, graduate, or

professional tuition. *Chattanooga Times Free Press*

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