

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

June 27, 2008

[Governor requests House's assistance in balancing fiscal 2009 budget](#)

Governor Blagojevich released a plan to balance the FY09 budget if no additional revenue measures are passed by the House of Representatives. The plan would make **\$1.5 billion in reductions** from the General Assembly-passed fiscal year 2009 budget, including \$110 million in reductions to education. The cuts would include virtually all IBHE grant programs – HSEGA health services grants, HECA Innovation grants, and the DFI faculty diversity grants. An \$18 million increase in MAP student aid also would be eliminated.



A PUBLIC AGENDA FOR
COLLEGE AND CAREER SUCCESS

[Task Force discusses Public Agenda goals, benchmarks](#)

The Task Force to create a Public Agenda for College and Career Success met for the third time June 20 to review preliminary goals for a Public Agenda, performance measures to gauge progress in meeting the goals, and benchmarks for comparing Illinois standards with competing states and nations.

The goals include improving educational attainment for underrepresented and underserved groups, ensuring affordability for students and taxpayers, increasing production of degrees and other postsecondary certificates, and strengthening the link between higher education and economic development.

[It's off to the Regionals for Public Agenda planning process](#)

After about 3,500 miles, stops at 17 community college campuses, and discussions with 700-some stakeholders, the Public Agenda road show came to an end this week. Consultants from the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS), assisted by IBHE staff, presented demographic, economic, and educational portraits of the state's 10 economic development regions and solicited feedback from business, civic, labor, and educational leaders across Illinois to help guide development of a Public Agenda for Illinois higher education.

[Robin Steans to head Advance Illinois, new education advocacy group](#)

The Board of Advance Illinois, a nonprofit education alliance planning a fall launch as a new education advocacy organization, has announced the appointment of Robin Steans as its first executive director. Ms. Steans has been a

UPCOMING

August

5-7

[IEMA Campus Emergency Response Training \(CERT\)](#)

Harper College, Palatine

6-7

[School Leadership Conference Part 2](#) Doubletree Hotel & Conference Center, Bloomington

12

IBHE Board Meeting, 9 a.m.
Kendall College, Chicago

Public Agenda Task Force Meeting, 1 p.m., Kendall College



Dog Days

The Friday Memo has returned from its 2-week hiatus.

However, starting with this edition, the FM will appear biweekly through July and August. Have a happy summer.

teacher in public schools in Chicago and elsewhere, and a long-time activist in school policy reform. Advance Illinois is gearing up for a fall launch as a new education policy organization. It is aimed at improving performance of Illinois students and erasing achievement gaps among low-income and minority students. Advance Illinois is supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Joyce Foundation.

[CPS seniors show big jump in completing FAFSA's](#)

More than 55 percent of 12th graders in the Chicago Public Schools had completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid as of mid-June, according to the district's Department of Postsecondary Education and Student Development. The figure represents nearly a 13 percent increase over the number who had filed FAFSA's a year ago. The FAFSA is the universal form used to access state and federal financial aid for low-income students, and a barometer of college aspirations. The number of CPS students completing the FAFSA was almost 14 percent above the statewide total.

[Good, but not great is verdict of public on Illinois higher education](#)

The public holds higher education in esteem as a key to success, but not necessarily Illinois colleges and universities. A survey undertaken by the University of Illinois found the public values education but grades Illinois institutions as good, if not great. The survey was among the topics discussed at the U of I's Higher Education Summit held in Chicago June 24. The summit featured panel discussions involving a broad array of state political, business, and education leaders, including Comptroller Dan Hynes and former Governor Jim Edgar.

[Conference on learning draws 400 to "connect the dots" on leadership and learning](#)

The Coalition for Illinois High Schools held its third annual conference, *Leadership and Learning: Connecting the Dots*, on June 16th and 17th in Bloomington. Over 400 participants attended keynote sessions featuring Dr. Debra Pickering, an internationally known expert in curriculum and instruction, and Dr. Doug Reeves, founder of the Leadership and Learning Center. Conference breakout sessions focused on research-based strategies to support student learning in various content areas and tools to use for data analysis and decision-making. Superintendents, principals, teachers, school board members, curriculum directors, special education directors, business leaders and university personnel came together for this event.

Illinois and USDOE conduct monitoring visit

The US Department of Education (USDOE) was in Illinois on June 11 for an annual "State Monitoring Visit." The monitoring visit helps the DOE improve its role as an adviser and partner to improve implementation of NCLB nationwide and meet the shared goal of improving teaching and learning throughout the US. IBHE and ISBE staff participated in the visit. [The IBHE- NCLB Improving Teacher Quality State Grant Programs](#) were included in the monitoring.

[MHEC report of campus safety initiatives now available](#)

The final report of the Midwest Higher Education Compact campus safety survey, *The Ripple Effect of Virginia Tech: Assessing the Nationwide Impact on Campus Safety and Security Policy and Practice*, is now available online. The report summarizes the results of a nationwide survey assessing the actions taken by colleges and universities to improve campus safety and security in response to the tragic events at Virginia Tech in April 2007. The initiative was sponsored by Lexington Insurance Company, the underwriter for the MHEC Master Property Program.

People in the News

[Jeff Cooley](#), vice president for business affairs at Eastern Illinois University, has announced his retirement, effective Dec. 31, 2008.



[Paula Allen-Meares](#), dean of the nationally top-ranked school of social work at the University of Michigan, has been selected as the next chancellor of the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), pending formal approval by the Board of Trustees. In addition to the UIC chancellorship, Allen-Meares would hold faculty appointments in social work and education at the UIC and Urbana campuses, pending action by the university's Board of Trustees in July.

[John H. Mace](#), chair and associate professor at the University of New Haven (Connecticut), has been named the new chairman of Eastern Illinois University's Department of Psychology. An experienced educator and accomplished researcher and author, Mace will assume his duties at the Charleston campus on July 1.

[Anne George](#), professor of oral biology at the University of Illinois at Chicago, has been named the recipient of the 2008 Distinguished Scientist Award for Pulp Biology and Regeneration from the International Association for Dental Research.

The Board of Managers for the Northern Illinois Proton Treatment and Research Center, LLC, has named [John Lewis](#) as the center's executive director.

[Steven Nelson](#) of Moline, an attorney with Snyder, Park & Nelson, P.C. of Rock Island and a Western alumnus, has been elected chair of the WIU Board of Trustees, taking over for William Epperly, a graduate of Western and owner of Stoneage Marketing in Chicago, who has served as chair since 2006. [J. Michael Houston](#) of Springfield, president and CEO of Town & Country Bank in Springfield, was elected vice-chair. Houston served as chair from 2004-2006. [Donald \(Bill\) Griffin](#), of Macomb, emeritus professor of geography and former director of the Institute for Regional and Community Studies at Western, was elected Board secretary.

Campus News

[WIU Photographers Capture National Awards](#)

Western Illinois University's Visual Production Center (VPC) photographers earned an honorable mention and second place awards at the recent University Photographers Association of America annual convention held last week in Alabama. Nearly 250 photographers submitted work in seven categories.

[UIC Psychiatry Program Honored for Excellence in Clinical Service](#)

The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) has named the University of Illinois at Chicago's Behavioral Health and Welfare Program -- part of UIC's Department of Psychiatry and Institute for Juvenile Research - as the 2008 recipient of the Rieger Service Program Award for Excellence.

[Exelon Foundation gives \\$400,000 to DePaul science campaign](#)

The Exelon Foundation announced it will contribute \$400,000 to DePaul University in support of its \$20 million Campaign for Excellence in Science. The gift will go toward construction of the Monsignor Andrew J. McGowan Science Building on DePaul's Lincoln Park Campus, which will house the school's chemistry and environmental sciences departments and provide space for DePaul's growing biology department.

[Pulitzer Prize-Winning Author to Lecture at Loyola Museum of Art](#)

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Daniel W. Howe will visit the Loyola University Museum of Art (LUMA) to discuss his newest book, *What Hath God Wrought: The Transformation of America, 1815-1848*, and relate the work to the museum's current exhibition, *Manifest Destiny/Manifest Responsibility: Environmentalism and the Art of the American Landscape*.

[Deere investment to create tech innovation center at UIUC](#)

Deere & Company is investing \$1 million to create a John Deere Technology Innovation Center with the University of Illinois to leverage the skills and knowledge of faculty members and students in the areas of agriculture, business, engineering, and information technology. The new facility, which is expected to be ready by July, is in the Research Park in Champaign.

[WIU, Illinois Community Colleges Establish Partnership](#)

Community college students from schools across the state of Illinois may soon have the opportunity to optimize their earned college credits, while remaining in their home community, through the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees Bachelor of Arts (BOT/BA) degree program.

[Groundbreaking celebrates advanced new cancer treatment for Chicago area](#)

West Chicago — Cancer survivors and local and state officials celebrated along with Northern Illinois University at an official groundbreaking held June 19 for the \$159 million Northern Illinois Proton Treatment and Research Center.

[MORE CAMPUS NEWS](#)

News from Higher Education

Career Programs Stress College, Too, and Give Students a Leg Up, Study Says

(The New York Times)

Forget the old-fashioned “vocational ed” classes that sent students on a decidedly noncollege track. Over the last quarter-century, a new kind of high school program known as a career academy has proliferated, especially in low-income districts, that combines job placement, college preparation and classes beyond the vocational trades, from accounting to health care.

Global gulp

(Chicago Tribune)

About a year ago, the University of Illinois launched its grand-sounding Global Campus. University President B. Joseph White wagered that the university could lead the next generation of higher education, or at least a lucrative cyberventure.

Education could spur Rock River Valley's economy

(Rockford Register Star)

ROCKFORD — Raising educational attainment across the Rock River Valley could spur economic development and raise quality of life, community, business and political leaders said during a forum Monday at Rock Valley College.

[MORE NEWS FROM HIGHER EDUCATION](#)

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