

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

July 11, 2008

[Higher ed loses \\$96 million in budget vetoes](#)

With the state budget a couple of billion dollars out of whack, Governor Blagojevich whacked \$1.4 billion from appropriations approved by the General Assembly, including nearly \$100 million from higher education. Higher ed cuts included an \$18 million increase in Monetary Award Program funding; \$18.6 million for community colleges, including \$5 million for Student Success Grants and \$2.8 million for dual-credit programs; and \$39.5 million from IBHE grant programs, including health education grants, faculty diversity fellowships, and matching grants to leverage federal research dollars.

The budget provides a 2.8 % increase to public universities for salary enhancements, funds MAP at the 2008 level, preserves \$7.3 million in Illinois Veterans Grants in the ICCB appropriation, and maintains funding for IBHE grants in nursing, work-study programs, and STEM diversity.

The House returns to Springfield July 15 to take up the vetoes in HB 5701.

[Journalist to become new marketing director for ISAC](#)



Esther J. Cepeda has been appointed Chief Marketing and Communications Officer of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC), Andrew Davis, ISAC Executive Director has announced. Davis said Cepeda will craft new marketing, media, and outreach strategies as the 51-year old agency moves into a new phase with new purpose. “Esther J. Cepeda is an accomplished journalist, creative thinker and energetic advocate,” Davis said. “She is a role model for young Latinas, a key target audience for ISAC’s message. We are delighted to have someone of Esther’s stature on our leadership team.”

**IBHE commended for administration of NCLB grants**

The US Department of Education (USDOE) recently released the results of a June 11 State Monitoring Visit. The monitoring visit helps the DOE improve its role as an adviser to improve implementation of NCLB nationwide and meet the shared goal of improving teaching and learning. The monitoring report concluded that the IBHE has done a good job administering the NCLB federal grant funds and were given two separate commendations in the report – for its structured monitoring efforts that focus on reviewing outcomes rather than outputs and for its sophisticated program evaluation plan. The SAHE is focused on improving effectiveness, not just on compliance.

[School of the Art Institute names new president](#)

Wellington Reiter, dean of the College of Design at Arizona State University, has been named as the School of the Art Institute of Chicago’s fourth President. Reiter is an internationally recognized architect, artist, and urban designer. In addition to his academic role, Reiter was instrumental in shaping a new university campus in the heart of downtown

**UPCOMING**

**July**

**17** Council on Re-enrolling Students Who Dropped Out of School, Chicago

**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 FM will appear biweekly through July and August. Have a happy summer.*

*Next edition: July 25.*



Phoenix that unites progressive academic, architectural, and public art agendas.

## *People in the News*

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**[Mark D. Weber](#)**, a former student member of the Board of Higher Education, has been appointed to fill a vacancy on the Moraine Valley Community College Board of Trustees. Weber is a graduate of the University of Illinois and served as a student trustee on the Moraine Valley Board.

**[Senator Ed Maloney](#)** is featured in the current issue of *State Legislatures*, published by the National Conference of State Legislatures, in an article entitled, "Cease-Fire on the Umpire." Maloney, who refereed basketball games for 15 years, discusses legislation he passed four years ago to increase penalties for assaulting a sports official.

Fanaticism and faith are incompatible, writes **[Proshanta Nandi](#)**, IBHE Board member and professor emeritus at the University of Illinois at Springfield. In an op-ed article printed by the *Springfield State Journal-Register*, Nandi notes: "We see intrusion of religion into politics, increasing levels of intolerance as well as incidences of violence in the name of religion, destruction of religious shrines of other faiths, and a sharp rise in hateful and divisive sermons in places of worship. The faithful, too often, seemingly vitiate the faith."

**[James D. Anderson](#)**, the Gutzgell Professor of educational policy studies at the University of Illinois, has been elected to membership in the National Academy of Education, considered the highest honor in the field of educational scholarship.

The Chicago School of Professional Psychology has named **[Rebecca Stimson](#)** as its new vice president of institutional advancement. Stimson joins The Chicago School with 25 years of experience in development, alumni relations, government grants, and special projects.

**[Michael A. Pagano](#)**, professor of public administration at the University of Illinois at Chicago, has been appointed dean of the UIC College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs effective July 28.

**[Jess House](#)** has been named the chairperson of Western Illinois University's educational leadership department.

Governor Rod Blagojevich has appointed Bloomington business owner **[Bob Dobski](#)** to a six-year term on the Illinois State University Board of Trustees. Blagojevich also reappointed Bloomington resident **[Joanne Maitland](#)** to a six-year Board term.



The latest Edward R. Murrow award snagged by **[Charlie Schlenker](#)**, newswriter for ISU's public radio station, GLT, is for writing. It's his second Murrow for writing. He has also won in the sports category. GLT competed in a field of 3,459 entries from several hundred news organizations from round the country. The station is one of 54 to actually win awards and GLT is the only Illinois Radio station to win a national Edward R. Murrow Award this year.

## *Campus News*

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### **NIU makes match that leads to \$1 million grant**

SAVANNA — Savanna-based N-Ovation and Naperville-based Packer Engineering owe their partnership to the “matchmaking” skills of Northern Illinois University’s ROCK program. ROCK (short for Rapid Optimization of Commercial Knowledge) is the outreach arm of NIU’s College of Engineering and Engineering Technology. Created in 2003, the program’s purpose is to help small manufacturing companies in the Rock River Valley become contributors to the Department of Defense supply chain, and to harness the resources of NIU to improve the manufacturing climate throughout northern Illinois.

### **Illinois state scientific surveys become part of U. of I.**

CHAMPAIGN — The four state scientific surveys – the Illinois State Geological Survey, the Illinois Natural History Survey, the Illinois Waste Management and Research Center, and the Illinois State Water Survey – have become part of the U. of I.’s Urbana campus, under a measure signed Monday by Gov. Rod Blagojevich. The surveys will be organized as a new unit, the Institute for Natural Sciences and Sustainability, under the university’s auspices in Fiscal Year 2009, which began Tuesday.

### **UIC in NIH-Funded Islet Transplantation Study for Type 1 Diabetes**

The University of Illinois at Chicago is one of 11 centers in the United States, Canada, Sweden, and Norway to participate in the Clinical Islet Transplant Consortium funded by the National Institutes of Health. Consortium researchers have begun clinical studies to test new approaches to islet transplantation that may lead to improved outcomes and fewer side effects for adults with difficult-to-control type 1 diabetes.

### **Loyola study finds homelessness a growing problem for seniors**

CHICAGO- The number of homeless people over 50 is increasing at an alarming rate, and they have limited resources for support, according to a new report issued today by the Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness and Loyola University Chicago’s Center for Urban Research and Learning (CURL).

### **MORE CAMPUS NEWS**

## *News from Higher Education*

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### **New bill allows veterans to go to college** (Peoria Journal Star)

PEORIA — GIs will now get the same benefits as their predecessors in World War II under the new Montgomery GI Bill which will now guarantee a four-year college education for those who served in Iraq and Afghanistan.

### **Ecologist says cancer center could improve life in country** (Springfield State Journal-Register)

The new cancer institute headquarters that will open soon at Springfield’s Southern Illinois University School of Medicine could improve life in rural America by investigating potential links between environmental chemical exposure and cancer, a prominent ecologist said Wednesday.

### **As Textbooks Go 'Custom,' Students Pay** (The Wall Street Journal)

College students, already struggling with soaring tuition bills and expenses, are encountering yet another financial hit: Publishers and schools are working together to produce "custom" textbooks that can limit students' use of the money-saving trade in used books. And in a controversial twist, some academic departments are sharing in the profits from these texts.

### [Online 'textbooks' see college doors opening](#) (USA Today)

As textbook prices skyrocket, college students and faculty seeking more affordable options increasingly are turning to "open textbooks" as an alternative.

### [The New Exit Exam ... for Jobs](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

If college degrees represent courses of instruction completed, what measures what a graduate can do with the knowledge obtained?

### [U. of C. cuts ties with state lender amid market flux](#) (Chicago Tribune)

Thousands of University of Chicago graduate students will have to scramble for new federal and private loans after the university alerted them Wednesday that it will no longer work with the state's loan agency.

### [Former FCC Leader Says Colleges Must Aggressively Compete With Online Education](#) (Chronicle of Higher Education)

Reed E. Hundt, a senior adviser on information industries to McKinsey & Company, said at a recent conference about the future of the Internet that leading colleges must "embrace massive experimentation" to compete with online choices available to students.

## [MORE NEWS FROM HIGHER EDUCATION](#)

### *EdLines from AASCU*

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#### [MI: Legislature passes higher education budget](#)

The Michigan Legislature passed a higher education budget resulting in a 1 percent, or \$15 million, increase in state appropriations. Governor Jennifer Granholm (D) proposed a 3 percent increase in January, but a lack of state revenues resulted in the 1 percent increase. Gov. Granholm requested a cap on tuition hikes at the rate of inflation, which was voted down. This increase marks the first time the state higher education budget has increased in 7 years. *The Detroit News*

#### [US: State Budget Cuts May Lie Ahead](#)

Research conducted by the Rockefeller Institute of Government shows that state tax revenues declined by 5.3 percent last quarter, the third quarter in a row that total adjusted state revenues demonstrated a decline. According to the [report](#), total growth in state tax revenues was barely one-third the historical average of 4.9 percent. Weak economic performance in June and a continued economic slide may result in midyear budget cuts for some states. Regionally, the Southeast and the Rocky Mountain states witnessed the slowest growth, while the New England states demonstrated strongest overall growth. Tax revenues fell in 15 states, while 4 states saw total revenue growth in excess of 10 percent. *Rockefeller Institute*

#### [US: Federal legislation aims to lower college cost, increase transparency](#)

Legislation has been introduced in the U.S. Congress that is intended to give students and families a greater understanding of the actual cost of college attendance. The bill would order institutions to post data on how much the average student pays for school and financial assistance availability. The information would be accessible through an online database. The legislation would also create a "blacklist" highlighting schools with the largest tuition increases; those schools would be required to explain to Congress how they intend to cut future costs. Also, the federal financial aid form would be reduced from seven pages to two, and a pilot program would be started to give high school juniors financial aid estimates. *Chicago Tribune*

#### [US: AASHE Releases Annual Report on Sustainability in Higher Education](#)

The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) has issued its annual [report](#) on sustainability efforts at colleges and universities throughout the United States and Canada. The report demonstrates continued growth in environmentally conscious efforts such as education programs, research centers, and green

building elements of campuses. For example, the number of institutions committing to reduce greenhouse gases grew from 20 to almost 500; the number of “green” buildings increased by more than 60; and at least 25 universities hired sustainability managers. *Environmental Leader*

**MI: Op-ed: States can raise aid to halt tuition increases**

AASCU Director of State Relations and Policy Analysis Dan Hurley argues in a *Detroit News* op-ed that recent newspaper editorials condemning tuition increases at Michigan’s public colleges and universities fail to recognize the fundamental role reduced state funding plays in tuition hikes. Resident students in Ohio and Maryland will not see tuition increases because those states have increased appropriations to colleges and universities. Hurley contends that “maintaining an affordable and high-quality public higher education system requires a three-way compact: between universities, students and families, and the states. The state’s role in maintaining the former without expense to the latter is paramount to the question.”

*The Detroit News*

**US: U.S. Supreme Court refuses to consider challenge to Kansas law on tuition rates for undocumented students**

The U.S. Supreme Court has refused to consider a challenge to a 2004 Kansas law allowing some undocumented students to qualify for in-state tuition at state universities, community colleges, and technical schools. The group of parents and students challenging the law contends it discriminates against legal residents of other states and endorses illegal activity. A federal judge dismissed previous actions challenging this law, citing that the students and parents who filed the petition could not show harm. The group plans to continue their efforts to change the law.

*Fort Mill Times*

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