

## 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

October 10, 2008



A PUBLIC AGENDA FOR  
COLLEGE AND CAREER SUCCESS

### [Draft Public Agenda hits the road for public hearings](#)

The Public Agenda for College and Career Success moves into a new and crucial phase next week with the first of several public hearings to gather feedback about the planning blueprint for higher education. A preliminary Public Agenda was presented to the Task Force overseeing the planning process on October 6 and to the Illinois Board of Higher Education the next day. With revisions based on those discussions, the draft document will be available on the IBHE website for public comment and take to the road for hearings at five public universities. A sixth hearing, in Chicago, is being planned.

### [Need to boost college completion for lowest income students, ISAC chief says](#)

“A wealthy student is about five times more likely to complete some formal postsecondary education program by age 24 than a poor student. It does not take a bold logician to hypothesize that college affordability is a barrier to entry for our low-income students.” So noted Andy Davis, Executive Director of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, in an address this week to the Illinois Board of Higher Education. Davis said that no public university has total tuition and fees below \$9,000, need-based student aid has failed to keep pace with rising costs, and the average cumulative loan debt for graduates is now \$18,000 and rising. Davis urged more effort to better prepare students for college and diminish time-to-degree as measures to help increase attainment, lower costs, and improve affordability.



### ***And the winner is . . .***

*IBHE Members Elmer Washington (right) and Lucy Sloan pose with DeShun Smith, engineer at WYCC-TV 20, the public television station at Kennedy-King College, showing off one of the many Emmy Awards won by the station over the past 20 years. This year WYCC is nominated for 8 Emmys.*

### UPCOMING

#### October

#### [Public Agenda Hearings](#)

17 SIU-C  
20 NIU  
22 EIU  
27 WIU-Quad Cities  
31 UIS

#### 24 [AAT Regional Conference:](#)

Dare to Communicate,  
Cooperate, Collaborate  
Heartland Community  
College, Bloomington

#### 30 [Ill. HS to College Success Report Regional Forum](#)

College of Dupage, Glen  
Ellyn

#### November

#### 5 [Ill. HS to College Success Report Regional Forum](#)

Southwestern Illinois  
College, Belleville

21 Public Agenda Task Force,  
Chicago

### [State speaks Polish to parents of high school students](#)

CHICAGO – High school students whose parents speak Polish primarily are the target of a unique outreach strategy crafted by the State of Illinois. To observe Polish-American Heritage Month, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) will conduct a training session - entirely in Polish - for high school guidance counselors and Polish-American community groups to help them organize financial aid workshops for Polish-speaking parents and students.

### [On the Move](#)

*Study reveals complex patterns of transfer for students looking for a college home*

A survey of 100 randomly selected students who used the Course Applicability System (CAS) as a transfer tool found intriguing and complex patterns. While CAS initially has focused on community colleges and public institutions, the transfer credit flow study found that support for transfer students must extend to private institutions and even beyond the Illinois borders. The 100 students attended 158 institutions before transferring in the fall 2007, including 84 unique institutions. Among the 84 institutions, 54 were in Illinois, 30 from out-of state in 18 different states, 68 were public, and 16 were independent or proprietary. The survey results were contained in a report to the Board of Higher Education at its October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### [Study shows link between university R&D and state economic goals](#)

A report by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities outlines the important role university research can play in bolstering state economic growth. Applied research and development activities at regional state colleges and universities bolster their primary mission of undergraduate education as well as contribute to local and statewide economic growth. As states boost efforts to fund and stimulate research as part of an integrated economic development strategy, they should seek to fully harness the research and innovation capacity of all four-year public colleges and universities.

### [Tour the White City](#)



Nearly a century ago, some of the world's top architects transformed a portion of Chicago's South Side into a gleaming "White City" for the 1893 World's Columbian Exhibition. Most of the architectural wonders are long gone, but UCLA's Lisa Snyder can still take you on a stunning tour. Snyder, a senior member of the Urban Simulation Team at UCLA, has created a highly detailed, computerized visual reconstruction of the exhibition, also known as the Chicago World's Fair. She will provide a virtual tour at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 5, in the Regency Room of the Holmes Student Center at Northern Illinois University.

### [A Promise In Jeopardy](#)

WYCC-TV20, the Kennedy-King public TV station, makes history this month as it hosts a nationally broadcast Town Hall Meeting addressing the presidential candidates' views on education—especially the critical link between affordable higher education and economic opportunity for lower- and middle-income Americans. The show will air live on Friday, October 24 from 7:00 pm-9:00 pm coming from the new state-of-the-art theatre at Kennedy-King College in Chicago, and will be rebroadcast in the same time slot on Sunday, October 26. Joining in this first of its kind broadcast via live satellite sites are nine of the largest U.S. community college districts- Miami, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Kansas City, San Antonio, Sacramento, New York City, Salt Lake City and Phoenix. Together with the City Colleges of Chicago, these districts represent 1.1 million students of voting age. WYCC-TV20, a full-power high-definition station owned by the City Colleges of Chicago, is the largest minority-controlled public television station in the nation.

## [Illinois High School to College Success Report Workshops](#)

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE), and Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) have developed an Illinois High School to College Success Report which will be piloted in early 2009. A series of regional meetings are planned for this fall, prior to the dissemination of the pilot report, to inform secondary and postsecondary educators of its contents and how the data may be used to support and promote collaborative discussions between these stakeholders. Each high school, college and university is invited to convene an institutional team to attend one of the regional meetings.

## *D.C. Update*

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### [Higher ed has "major skin in the game," Spellings says](#)

"[W]e need to ask ourselves, is our education system all it should be?" U.S. Education Secretary Spellings asked in an address October 1. "In all candor, we must answer no. [W]e need the support of the higher education community. You have a major skin in this game. You pick-up where the schools leave off -- paying the price with remedial coursework and lost opportunities. Over the past three decades, federal investment in higher education tripled. Yet, college enrollment and attainment is virtually flat. In 1975, the U.S. was number one in college completion rates. In 2005, we were number 10... We may have 'the will.' But it's 'the way' that has me worried."

### ["What works" in the classroom is a mouse click away](#)

The U.S. Education Department's Doing What Works website, a growing collection of research-based tools for teachers, has developed new, interactive sections on how to organize teaching to improve student learning and the critical foundations for algebra. This site has a user-friendly interface to quickly identify practices that have been determined effective by the agency's research arm, the Institute of Education Sciences (IES), and similar organizations. It also offers examples of possible ways -- although not necessarily the only ways -- this research may be used to help students reach their academic potential.

### [Nursing Workforce Diversity Grant Opportunity](#)

The Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has announced a [grant opportunity](#) to help diversify the nursing workforce. Grants are awarded to increase nursing education opportunities for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds (including racial and ethnic minorities underrepresented among registered nurses) by providing student scholarships or stipends, pre-entry preparation, and retention activities.

## *People in the News*

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[Yoichiro Nambu](#), the Harry Pratt Judson Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus in Physics at the University of Chicago and the Enrico Fermi Institute, and one of the leading figures in the development of modern particle physics, was awarded the 2008 Nobel Prize in Physics this week. The Nobel Foundation credited Nambu with "the discovery of the mechanism of spontaneous broken symmetry in subatomic physics."



[Allen Lanham](#), dean of Library Services at Eastern Illinois University, has been named the 2008 Illinois Academic Librarian of the year. The award is given annually by the Illinois Association of College and Research Libraries.

Native American literary voices and the impact of American Indian thinking on interpreting literature will be the subject of a book talk by Western Illinois University professor [Penelope Myrtle Kelsey](#), author of the recently published "Tribal Theory in Native American Literature." Kelsey, who is of Seneca descent, is an assistant professor of English and journalism at WIU.

Recently honored as "Champions for Change" by Women Employed (WE) were several leaders and advocates in higher education. Among those recognized by WE at its 35<sup>th</sup> birthday party were:

- **Judy Erwin**, IBHE Executive Director and former state representative;
- **Ashley Dearborn**, IBHE nontraditional student member, and a student at Northwestern University;
- **Evelyn Diaz**, Deputy Chief of Staff for Chicago Mayor Richard Daley, and a higher education advocate;
- **Susan Lambert**, associate professor in the School of Social Science Administration at the University of Illinois at Chicago, who is conducting groundbreaking research on low-wage hourly workers;
- **Deidra Lewis**, former Executive Vice Chancellor, City Colleges of Chicago, and an advocate for low-income students;
- **Lizzette Richardson**, Vice Chancellor, Adult Education for City Colleges of Chicago, a leading advocate for adult students;
- **Linda Uzureau**, President of the Illinois Community College Chief Academic Officers, Vice President at Prairie State College, and an advocate for the Student Success Grant.

## *Campus News*

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### [NIU receives \\$1.6 million from DOJ to recoup expenses](#)

Northern Illinois University announced that it has received a grant of \$1,682,225 from the U.S. Department of Justice to cover a portion of the expenses incurred to help the campus recover from the tragic shootings of Feb. 14.

### [Loyola Co-Hosts Conference to Address Critical Issues Facing Women and Children in Africa](#)

Loyola University Chicago, in conjunction with nonprofit organization African Women in America (AfWiAm), will host "The Voice of African Children: The Mission of Women." The conference will be held on October 17 and 18 and will focus on the critical issues facing women and children in Africa. Immaculee Ilibagiza, *New York Times* best-selling author of *Left to Tell: Finding God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust* will deliver the keynote address.

### [IBHE Approves Engineering, Nursing at WIU](#)

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) today (Oct. 7) approved Western Illinois University's requests to offer a Bachelor of Science in Engineering degree and the four-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree.

### [Grand opening set for new, 'green' Business Instructional Facility](#)



A new, \$60-million-plus Business Instructional Facility, the first "green" building on the University of Illinois campus, will be officially dedicated during a grand opening on Oct. 17.

Photo by L. Brian Stauffer

## **New UIC Nursing Program to Aid Underserved with Cardiometabolic Diseases**

The University of Illinois at Chicago College of Nursing has received a federal grant to develop a new advanced practice nursing program to aid elderly individuals suffering from diseases such as type 2 diabetes, obesity, stroke and heart disease.

## **MORE CAMPUS NEWS**

### *News from Higher Education*

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## **Last 2 Years Saw Modest Tuition Increases—but Those Days May Be Gone**

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

Tuition and required fees at American universities increased at a measured rate over the past two years, according to a report released on Tuesday by the U.S. Department of Education. But given the recent downturn of the nation's economy, that trend is unlikely to continue, say officials at the American Council on Education.

## **Career Academies Seen to Pay Off in Higher Earnings** (Education Week)

The longest-running, most rigorous study yet of high school career academies has found that, in the long run, it pays to attend a career academy—literally.

## **Helping Community College Students Beat the Odds**

(Inside Higher Ed)

Each semester, many community college students have to address an important and nagging question, "Should I stay or should I go?"

## **E-Textbooks for All**

(Inside Higher Ed)

Many observers, both in academe and in the publishing industry, believe it's only a matter of time before electronic textbooks become the norm in college. Some campuses in particular may already be getting a glimpse of the future through partnerships with individual publishers or with consortiums.

## **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](mailto:FridayMemo@ibhe.org)