

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

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Executive Director Judy Erwin

ICCB
Chairman Guy Alongi
President/CEO Geoff Obrzut

ISAC
Chairman Don McNeil
Executive Director Andy Davis

January 16, 2009

[Legislature passes new academic fees bill](#)

The Senate completed action this week on [SB 2603](#), which gives the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) authority to charge fees to for-profit Illinois institutions and all out-of-state colleges and universities for review of applications for new academic programs and authorization to operate in Illinois. The bill now goes to the Governor for his signature. The IBHE decided to seek authority to charge fees to enhance resources needed to conduct reviews of new program and operating authority applications, particularly the fast-growing proprietary sector. Pending approval of the Governor, the Board will develop rules to implement the fee legislation.

[Dear Mr. President – Lumina counsels Obama transition team](#)

The Lumina Foundation recently provided advice on advancing postsecondary access and success to the presidential transition team, at the team's request. Lumina recommended:

- developing human capital as a cornerstone of U.S. economic policy,
- ensuring that all children are prepared for college success,
- defining quality outcomes for postsecondary education,
- approaching college affordability in novel ways.

[4th annual INTC Winter Conference: Moving Toward High Quality Induction and Mentoring](#)

The conference, February 24-25 at the Hilton in Springfield, is designed to offer ideas, strategies, and tools to help design, assess, or improve teacher induction/mentoring programs based around the Draft Illinois Standards of Quality and Effectiveness for Beginning Teacher Induction Programs. The conference will be most effective for those who participate as part of a team.

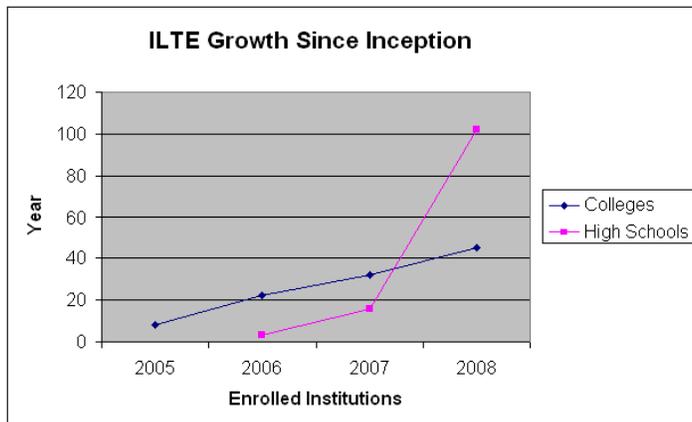
[Use of electronic transcripts hits record](#)

UPCOMING

January

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|-----------|--|
| 20 | Presidential Inaugural |
| 23 | IBHE Faculty Advisory Council, Olney Central College |
| 27 | IBHE meeting, Springfield |
| 30 | ISAC meeting, Benedictine University, Lisle |

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) announced record usage of its [Illinois Electronic Transcript Exchange](#) service (ILTE), with 2,086 transcripts sent in 2008. A new universal computer driver developed by XAP Corporation, ISAC's technology partner in this venture, allows schools utilizing virtually any student information system (SIS) to create



an electronic version of a student's transcript to send to a college or university. As a result of this technological advance, ILTE participation increased 561 percent among state high schools in 2008.

[Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois Fellowship Application online](#)

Applications are now available for the Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois (DFI) Program for the 2009-10 academic year. The application is available on the IBHE website. Applicants should contact the DFI Institutional Representatives at participating institutions to complete the application process, which must be submitted by February 20, 2009. For more than 20 years, the DFI program and its predecessor programs have provided financial awards to more than 300 underrepresented minority students who have earned graduate degrees from an Illinois higher education institution.

[People in the News](#)

Trustee [Niranjan S. Shah](#) was elected chairman of the University of Illinois Board of Trustees on January 15, 2009. Shah, chairman and chief executive of a Chicago-based engineering firm, was the unanimous choice of trustees for Board chair. He is the first Asian-American to hold the office. Shah succeeds Trustee Lawrence C. Eppley, who after six consecutive one-year terms as Board chairman chose not to seek re-election.



Loyola University Chicago has appointed [Dr. James Marshall Eames](#) as the University's new Sustainability Director, a position that will be housed within Loyola's Center for Urban Environmental Research and Policy (CUERP). Dr. Eames, currently an instructor in the University's Department of Natural Science, will be responsible for directing Loyola's sustainability initiatives on both lakeside campuses and working to incorporate sustainability into the curriculum.

[Bruce P. Smith](#), a noted legal historian and award-winning University of Illinois law professor, has been named dean of the university's College of Law. Smith, who joined the U. of I. law faculty in 2001 and has served as associate dean for academic affairs since April, will replace Heidi Hurd, who was dean from 2002 to 2007.

[Campus News](#)

[Oakton waives tuition for recently unemployed](#)

Five select career programs at Oakton Community College are available tuition free to local residents who have lost a full-time job in the last year, college officials announced. Programs range from computer diagnostics and project management to "green" marketing, manufacturing, and pharmaceutical preparation. "Waiving tuition for these programs is one way for Oakton to immediately and meaningfully assist those whose lives have been disrupted by the economic downturn," said Margaret B. Lee, president. "We hope to help people whose finances are strained by a missing paycheck quickly return to work in job areas where there is growth."

[University makes \\$13 billion annual impact on Illinois Economy](#)

The University of Illinois, with a student body of nearly 70,000 and more than 23,000 faculty and staff on its three campuses, is an engine that pumps more than \$13 billion into the state's economy each year, according to a new report from the University's Institute of Government and Public Affairs.

[MORE CAMPUS NEWS](#)

News from Higher Education

[Stimulus Bill Includes Billions of Dollars in Help for Students and Colleges](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

Students, researchers, and colleges would benefit from new spending and tax breaks included in an \$825-billion economic-stimulus plan that Democratic leaders in the U.S. House of Representatives unveiled on Thursday.

[Seeking Financial Aid for College? Better Get FAFSA Forms in Early](#)

(The Wall Street Journal)

For all the families worried about paying for college next year, here's more cause for concern. While federal loans and grants will still be available for everyone who qualifies, state- and school-based fund pools are expected to dry up very quickly for the 2009-2010 academic year.

[Hearing Offers Insight Into Education-Secretary Nominee's Priorities for Higher Education](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

Arne Duncan, Barack Obama's nominee to be secretary of education, pledged to work toward the president-elect's goals of increasing the maximum Pell Grant and simplifying the process of applying for student aid during his confirmation hearing in the U.S. Senate on Tuesday.

[Additional Aid More Carrot Than Stick](#)

(Inside Higher Ed)

Community college students often face a wide array of barriers to academic success, ranging from burdensome work and family obligations to inadequate financial aid. As a result, of all students who enroll at two-year institutions, only about a third of them earn a certificate, associate degree or bachelor's degree within six years.

[Families await sharp increases in college tuition](#)

(MSNBC News)

Most high school seniors and their families have not made final college plans for next fall. But they know this: It's probably going to cost more than they had planned.

[MORE NEWS FROM HIGHER EDUCATION](#)

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