

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 8, 2009

The Federal Stimulus Program and Illinois Higher Education: Opportunities with Outcomes

The Friday Memo asked Jack Lavin, Governor Pat Quinn's point person on the Federal stimulus program for Illinois, to give the latest update on the plans and requirements for the Federal funds being made available to the state from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Lavin, who serves as the Governor's Chief Operating Officer, is primarily focused on directing the Federal stimulus program for Illinois while assisting in the management of the Governor's office. He served as the Director of the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity from 2003 to 2009. Lavin has a Master's degree in business with a specialization in finance as well as a Master's degree in international relations from the University of Chicago. [Read more here...](#)

[Soto proposes study of affordability, higher ed efficiencies](#)

Rep. Cynthia Soto,
chairman of the House
Appropriations-Higher
Education Committee, is



THE ILLINOIS PUBLIC AGENDA
FOR COLLEGE AND CAREER SUCCESS

calling for a joint study of college affordability and funding of higher education. HJR 54 directs IBHE, ICCB, and ISAC to partner in the study of:

- State financial aid programs for low-income students to ensure that programs are effective, efficient, widely understood, and aligned with all Public Agenda goals.
- Strategies to help student achieve their educational objectives faster.
- Measures to assist middle-income students who do not typically qualify for need-based grant aid; and
- Steps to find institutional operating efficiencies that reduce costs while expanding access and maintaining quality.

UPCOMING

May

- 12 Senate Higher Education Committee, Capitol
- 15 IBHE Faculty Advisory Council, McHenry Community College
- 30 IBHE Student Advisory Committee, Springfield

June

- 2 IBHE meeting, Governors State University
- 5 ICCB meeting, Chicago
- 12 IBHE Faculty Advisory Council, UIC
- 15-16 4th Annual Coalition for High Schools Conference, A Push & Pull Journey, Bloomington



D.C. Update

[House Education and Labor Committee Holds Hearing on Common Academic Standards](#)

On Wednesday, the House Education and Labor Committee held the first of a series of hearings as Congress prepares for the reauthorization of the No

Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). The focus of the hearing was the state-led common standards initiative being guided by the National Governors Association (NGA) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). The committee heard from former Gov. James Hunt of the Hunt Institute and Ken James, commissioner of the Arkansas Department of Education, as well as representatives from the American Federation of Teachers, KIPP: Knowledge is Power Program and California Business for Excellence in Education.

[Subcommittee examines best practices in adult ed, literacy](#)

On Tuesday, May 5, the House Subcommittee on Higher Education, Lifelong Learning, and Competitiveness held a hearing to examine best practices for improving adult education and family literacy. This was the fourth hearing the committee held as it works toward reauthorizing the Workforce Investment Act, which provides job training, education programs, vocational rehabilitation and other services to Americans.

IBHE Visits Three Nursing Schools



(photo by Karen Helland)

Truman College nursing students practice skills in a safe environment by using a human patient simulator

Northern Illinois University, Harry S Truman College, and Loyola University of Chicago hosted site visits for staff from the IBHE and the Illinois Center for Nursing last week. The objective of the meetings was to discuss the experiences, challenges, and lessons learned by the institutions while they expanded the capacity of their high performing nursing programs. Funding for the expansion projects was provided through the competitive [Nursing School Expansion Grant program](#) administered by the IBHE. This fall the IBHE will be seeking new applicant institutions for the program, pending the appropriation of state funds.

Women Employed lunch to focus on pay discrimination

Women Employed will honor [Lilly Ledbetter](#), a champion in the fight against pay discrimination, and the woman who inspired the first bill signed by President Barack Obama, at its annual Working Lunch event May 19 in Chicago. Ms. Ledbetter will speak about her passionate campaign for passage of the law and the need to continue the fight for fair pay.



Evelyn Murphy, author of *Getting Even: Why Women Don't Get Paid Like Men and What to Do About It*, will address strategies for making pay equity a reality. [Dr. Murphy](#) is an economist, former health care executive, and was the first female Lieutenant Governor in Massachusetts history.

Pools must comply with safety law

Summer is rapidly approaching, and swimming pools will soon be filled with waders, swimmers, and divers. Colleges and universities with pools should be sure they are compliant with the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act, which requires that anti-entrapment drain covers and other safety equipment be installed in all public pools and spas. The law became effective for year-round public pools and spas in December 2008, and seasonal pools and spas must be in compliance by the day they reopen in 2009.

Commencements at Illinois Colleges and Universities



The Friday Memo is receiving news about graduation plans at our institutions of higher learning.

- ❖ **[Lewis University](#)**: Honorees at Commencement include United States Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, Irving B. Harris Professor of Child Development at the Erikson Institute, Barbara Taylor Bowman, WTTW's Geoffrey Baer and Illinois State Senator Edward D. Maloney (D-18).

People in the News



Springfield attorney [Thomas Lamont](#), former director of IBHE and trustee to the University of Illinois Board, has been nominated by President Barack Obama to serve as assistant secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs — overseeing personnel for all components of the Army. Photo by T.J. Salsman/The State Journal-Register

[Dr. Craig D. Swenson](#), President of Argosy University, has been elected to the board of the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), effective July 1, 2009.

[Aimee Carbaugh](#), a junior at the University of Illinois, is among 21 students nationwide to receive a Beinecke Scholarship. The award, valued at \$34,000, is to be used toward graduate study in the arts, humanities, or social sciences. It has been more than a decade since an Illinois student has been awarded a Beinecke scholarship.

Campus News

[Black Diamond Harley donating community college scholarships to students in 44 local high schools](#)

Rodney Cabaness, co-owner of Black Diamond Harley-Davidson announced his company will be providing scholarship money to graduating seniors at more than 40 Southern Illinois high schools. Cabaness met with Guy Alongi, chairman of the Illinois Community College Board, and outlined a plan to donate the scholarship money directly to the foundations of four community colleges in the region — John A. Logan College in Carterville, Rend Lake College in Ina, Shawnee Community College in Ullin, and Southeastern Illinois College in Harrisburg. Scholarship recipients will be encouraged to sign up with Southern Illinois University Carbondale's "Two-Plus-Two" program that allows the university to track a student's progress from community college to the university.

[UIC Receives Grant for Child Welfare Traineeships](#)

The Jane Addams College of Social Work at the University of Illinois at Chicago has been selected as one of only nine social work programs in the United States — and the only one in Illinois — to receive a five-year \$538,000 grant from the National Child Welfare Workforce Institute to administer a new Child Welfare Traineeship Project.

[More Campus News](#)

[News from Higher Education](#)

[Incoming ISU students may see 9 percent increase in tuition](#)
(Bloomington Pantagraph)

SPRINGFIELD -- Incoming Illinois State University students may see about a 9 percent increase in tuition next year, said university President Al Bowman on Thursday.

[Tuition, fee hikes OK'd by board](#)
(The Southern Illinoisan)

CARBONDALE - Members of the Southern Illinois University Board of Trustees continued to wonder about state appropriations as they approved a 4.5 percent tuition increase Thursday. Trustees also approved a bevy of student fee increases.

[Holding College Chiefs to Their Words](#)
(The Wall Street Journal)

The university presidents were struggling with a task that tortures high-school seniors around the country every year: writing the college admissions essay. In a particularly competitive year for college admissions, The Wall Street Journal turned the tables on the presidents of 10 top colleges and universities with an unusual assignment: answer an essay question from their own school's application.

[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