

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

IBHE
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Executive Director Judy Erwin

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Chairman Guy Alongi
President/CEO Geoff Obrzut

ISAC
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Executive Director Andy Davis

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MAP Quest

[Governor plans Town Hall meeting](#)

[Rep. Pritchard proposes tax amnesty to fund MAP](#)

Rep. Bob Pritchard is sponsoring [House Bill 4622](#) to allow delinquent taxpayers to pay what they owe in income and sales taxes to the state during a month and a half period in early 2010 without interest or penalty. The revenue would be used to pay for college scholarships in the spring semester that were eliminated from the FY2010 state budget.

[News, editorials about the MAP crisis](#)

[DFI introduces new website](#)

A new website designed to help diversify the face of higher education faculty is now online.

The Diversifying Faculty in Illinois Higher Education (DFI) program is administered by the Illinois Board of Higher Education to provide opportunities for minorities to complete graduate education that will lead to faculty positions at Illinois colleges and universities.

The program addresses one of the key goals of the *Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success* by promoting expansion of educational attainment among underrepresented groups in Illinois. Faculty diversity is often identified as a key factor in strengthening college access and completion among minority students.



Washington Update

[Duncan praises passage of Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act](#)

U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan congratulated the House for passage last week of the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act. "The bill will help restore America's global leadership in higher education, paving the way for a stronger economy," Duncan said. "The bill ensures that more students who are willing to take responsibility for their education can go to college and earn a degree."

The White House also issued a [policy statement](#) endorsing the legislation, which now is being considered by the U.S. Senate.

UPCOMING

29 Governor's Town Hall Meeting to Save College Scholarships, UIC Student Center West, Chicago

October

2 Regional Meeting for Feedback on draft English and Math standards, Rend Lake Marketplace, Mt. Vernon

5 Regional Meeting for Feedback on draft English and Math standards, Harold Washington College, Chicago

6 IBHE Meeting, Loyola University North Shore Campus, Chicago

7 Newly Defined Principal Preparation, University of Illinois-Chicago

8 Regional Meeting for Feedback on draft English and Math standards, Springfield Crowne Plaza

14-16 General Assembly
28-30 veto session

15 Student Lobby Day for MAP funding, Springfield

15 DFI Board Meeting, Springfield

The bill eliminates subsidies for financial institutions under the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) program (converting all new federal student lending to the Direct Loan program) and redirects those savings to increasing Pell Grants and funding other early learning, K-12, and postsecondary education programs, including the [Early Learning Challenge Fund](#), the [American Graduation Initiative](#), the College Access and Completion Innovation Fund, and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). The bill also makes it easier for students and families to apply for federal financial aid by simplifying the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#) (FAFSA).

[What works? Guide offers steps to lead 9th graders to college](#)

A new practice guide from the What Works Clearinghouse, titled “Helping Students Navigate the Path to College: What High Schools Can Do,” recommends steps that educators, administrators, and policymakers can take, beginning in the ninth-grade, to increase access to higher education. Recognizing that simply providing students with information is insufficient, the guide recommends that high schools offer hands-on assistance and guidance in preparing students for college. The guide also acknowledges implementation challenges and suggests solutions for circumventing roadblocks. What Works is an initiative of the Institute of Education Sciences (IES).

[SCHOOL OF HARD SHOCKS: SHOULD EVERYONE GO TO COLLEGE?](#)

The road to the American dream has a four-year pit stop on a college quadrangle.

- 55 % of Americans say that college is necessary in today’s economy, Public Agenda polling indicates, up from 31 percent in 2000. But only
- 33 % of public school teachers say that “virtually all students” are better off going to college, while 65 % believe that many students should take a different career path, even though
- 67 % of Americans believe that not all qualified students have the opportunity to go to college, and
- 55 % say that higher education is run like most businesses, with the bottom line trumping the educational mission.

The subject of whether everyone should go to college was the subject of a September 17 forum sponsored by Public Agenda and the Urban Institute.

Listen to the panel, which included Paul Lingenfelter, president of SHEEO, and other notable education leaders [here](#).

ISBE, IBHE sponsor workshop on preparation of school principals

What: [Newly Defined Principal Preparation for Illinois](#)

Presenters: Dr. Linda Tomlinson, Assistant Superintendent, ISBE
Ms. Debbie Meisner-Bertauski, Associate Director, IBHE

When: **October 7, 2009**

Where: 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM, Student Center East,
The Cardinal Room, 750 S. Halsted St.
UIC

[Common Core Standards Initiative gathers feedback](#)

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (ISBE), Illinois Community College Board (ICCB), and Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) are sponsoring a series of regional meetings during October to provide feedback on the draft national Common Core College and Career Readiness Standards for math and English. Register as soon as possible at: <http://www2.learningpt.org/ccssi>.

[ARRA Grant of the Week](#)

Recovery Act Limited Competition: Building Sustainable Community-Linked Infrastructure to Enable Health Science Research (RC4)

Eligibility: This FOA is particularly directed towards Academic Health Centers who have engaged with the community and may have collaborated on projects of mutual interest.

Description: This NIH Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), supported by funds provided to the NIH under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Public Law 111-5, solicits applications from domestic (United States) institutions/organizations proposing to support the development, expansion, or reconfiguration of infrastructures needed to facilitate collaboration between academic health centers and community-based organizations for health science research.

Deadline

[A complete list of ARRA competitive grant opportunities is on the IBHE website](#), and is updated as grant announcements become available.

[Fall ICCCA Conference and Leadership and Core Values Institute—Registration is now underway](#)

This year's Illinois Council of Community College Administrators' conference "Leading the Way to an Ethical and Sustainable Future," will feature four nationally recognized keynote speakers including former Governor Jim Edgar, Attorney Patrick Collins (former U.S. Attorney and former chair of the Governor appointed Illinois Reform Commission), Sam Glenn (motivational/humorous) and Dr. Anthony Cortese (Sustainability) For the conference brochure, registration and hotel information, please check out the ICCCA website at www.iccca.org.

People in the News

[John Rogers](#), the Lee J. Flory-Founder Chair in Engineering Innovation and a professor of materials science and engineering at the University of Illinois has been named a 2009 MacArthur Fellow by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

Governors State University recently named **Theresa M. Tofiga** of Oak Lawn, who is studying for her Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies, as the 2009 recipient of the Robert A. Pringle Memorial Scholarship.

News from Higher Education

[KS: Regents approve one-year compensation freeze for state college presidents](#)

(The Wichita Eagle)

The Kansas Board of Regents has imposed a one-year salary freeze for state college presidents. The move is in response to state budget cuts and the current economic climate. Salaries will hold constant for college presidents hired this year.

[MD: Regents approve furloughs](#)

(Baltimore Sun)

The University System of Maryland has approved a furlough plan that would require top administrators to take as many as 10 unpaid workdays in the next year. The plan will give university presidents autonomy to develop furlough plans to meet the demands of each campus. The furloughs, estimated to save \$26 million, are a part of a \$94 million spending reduction package for the state's public higher education system. The system chancellor expects to receive campus plans from each president next week and approve them by the end of the month.

[MS: Higher education officials ask for 5 percent budget increase](#)

(The Sun-Herald)

Mississippi's College Board has requested a \$42.9 million, or 5 percent, budget increase from the state legislature for the year that begins July 1. Lawmakers will consider the request next spring or summer. Budget committee members indicate that state agencies are requesting at least \$1.5 billion more than the state is projected to collect in the coming year. University officials have not ruled out the possibility of a tuition increase at state college campuses.

[NC: Board votes to allow undocumented students to attend state community colleges](#)

(The Charlotte Observer)

North Carolina's State Board of Community Colleges has passed a new admissions policy that will permit undocumented students to attend any of the state's 58 community colleges. The new policy stipulates these students must graduate from a U.S. high school, pay nonresident tuition and will only be allowed to register for classes after legal residents have enrolled. This reverses a May 2008 decision that barred undocumented students from enrolling at the state's community colleges.

[MI: Legislature restores Promise scholarship program](#)

(The Detroit Free Press)

The Michigan House committee voted Thursday to restore \$120 million in funding to the Michigan Promise Scholarship, a day after a legislative conference committee voted to discontinue the program. The funding restoration is contingent upon the legislature developing a revenue stream to fund the program.

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