

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 2, 2009

## MAP Quest

### Governor leads Chicago rally for MAP funding

CHICAGO –Governor Pat Quinn on Tuesday joined hundreds of Illinois college students at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) Student Center in an effort to rescue the Illinois Monetary Award Program (MAP). Those attending the Governor’s Town Hall Meeting to Save College Scholarships rally called on the Illinois General Assembly to restore critical second-semester MAP funding for nearly 138,000 eligible students.

### **Quinn to cover the map for MAP**

The Governor’s office has released a tentative schedule for Governor Quinn to visit college and university towns next week to promote restoration of MAP funding.

#### Oct 7th

9:30 a.m. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
1:30 p.m. Southern Illinois University Carbondale

#### Oct 8th

9:00 a.m. Bradley University, Peoria  
10:30 a.m. Black Hawk College, Moline  
1:00 p.m. John Wood Community College, Quincy  
4:00 p.m. Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

### IBHE to focus on affordability, MAP crisis

The Illinois Board of Higher Education will focus attention on the financial aid crisis at its regular meeting October 6<sup>th</sup> at the Lakeshore Campus of Loyola University in Chicago, featuring a presentation by Andrew Davis, executive director of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, which administers the MAP program.

“There is no higher priority for the Board of Higher Education than to ensure that we remove any barriers – including financial obstacles – to college opportunity,” Carrie J. Hightman, IBHE Chairwoman, said. “One of the key recommendations of the *Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success* is to ‘make Illinois one of the five most affordable states in the country to get a college education.’ Pulling the financial rug out from beneath students in the middle of the academic year is hardly the way to achieve this critical objective.”

Davis, whose agency has been coordinating efforts to rescue the MAP program, will update the Board on measures undertaken to restore funding for MAP grants. In addition, Davis’ presentation will offer perspective

## UPCOMING

### October

- 2** Regional Meeting for Feedback on Common Core Standards, Rend Lake Marketplace, Mt. Vernon
- 5** Regional Meeting for Feedback on Common Core 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 Common Core 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

on the issue of affordability of college in Illinois, outline ISAC initiatives, and discuss how those initiatives advance the goals and priorities of the *Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success*.

#### **MAP advocates petition their government**

Signature  
goal: 50,000

5,255  
signatures!

The virtual headquarters for the campaign to restore MAP funding – [www.saveillinoismapgrants.org](http://www.saveillinoismapgrants.org) – features an electronic petition drive for supporters to sign and voice their views. As of Friday morning, October 2, the number of signatures was at 5,255 and climbing.

Here is a sample of comments from petition signers:

#### **From a student...**

Oct 1, 2009 Colleen Ryan

*MAP grants make up a significant portion of my financial aid. I am not sure I will be able to continue my education without them. Even though tuition at NEIU is very reasonable the MAP grant allows me to go to school full time and work part time, all while raising three children.*

#### **From a husband of a student...**

Oct 1, 2009, Jeremy Krisko

*My wife has one more semester to complete. If she does not do her student teaching, she will not receive her teaching certificate. Please do not let this happen. Our family is depending on this.*

#### **From a MAP alumnus...**

Oct 1, 2009, Sam Yingling

*I was a first generation college student in my family. I could not have completed school without the assistance of the MAP Grant program. It would be detrimental to the State to prevent students from receiving a college degree by cutting funding to the vital program.*

#### **From a mother of a student...**

Oct 1, 2009, Linda Swed

*My daughter is currently enrolled as a sophomore at Millikin University. We chose Millikin over another, out-of-state school in large part because of the MAP grant she was to be awarded. Without that grant, I'm not sure how we will be able to pay the tuition for the spring semester, especially as our out of pocket expenses doubled this year over last year. I really don't want to tell my straight A, incredibly talented daughter that she cannot finish her education. Please do what you can to save the MAP grants for all our students who are counting on them. The Illinois MAP grant put a college education within our daughter's reach.*

#### **From a sister of a student...**

Oct 1, 2009, Heather Walters

*My sister is in her 4th year of college and has gotten straight A's the whole time. Our family doesn't have much money and our parents are not a part of our lives at all and refuse to help financially with school. My sister needs all of the help she can get to finish her last year of school.*

### [It takes a village](#)

The Save MAP campaign also sponsors a **Facebook** page where thousands have “joined the cause.”

### ***How large is the cause?***

**8,241 MEMBERS**

### [Hamlet](#)

**Next Size:**

**Village**

**1,759 members needed**



## **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

## **WASHINGTON UPDATE**



### [3 Illinois universities share in federal grants to improve teaching in high-need schools](#)

Illinois State University, National-Louis University, and the University of Illinois at Chicago will receive five-year Teacher Quality Partnership grants, U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan has announced. In all, the grant program will total \$43 million to reform traditional teacher preparation programs with the ultimate aim of improving teaching in struggling schools. UIC will receive \$2.9 million for its Chicago Teacher Pipeline Project; National-Louis will receive \$2.9 million for its Teacher Residency Program; and ISU will receive \$1.7 million for its Teacher+Plus project.

### [Education Secretary: Reauthorization of ESEA Can't Wait](#)

On September 24, Secretary of Education Arne Duncan delivered a speech calling for the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Invoking the words of Dr. Martin Luther King's "Letter from Birmingham Jail," Secretary Duncan urged stakeholders to work together to fix ESEA and address the civil rights issue of ensuring a quality education for all students.

Among the priorities in his ESEA reauthorization speech, the Secretary called for stakeholders to “build a law that

respects the honored, noble status of educators, who should be valued as skilled professionals -- rather than mere practitioners -- and compensated accordingly." To advance the discussion, he will engage teachers in a national [town hall](#) meeting, 7:00-8:00 p.m. CT). He will take comments and questions from teachers in a studio audience and via telephone, email, and video.

### [Duncan applauds coalition on draft Common Core Standards](#)

Secretary Duncan also issued a statement regarding the first public draft of college- and career-readiness standards in English/language arts and math as part of the Common Core State Standards Initiative led by the National Governors Association and the Council of the Chief State School Officers: "I applaud the leadership of this coalition . . . joining together to develop a common core of academic standards. The draft college- and career-ready standards that were released as part of those efforts are an important step forward, and it is now in the hands of the public to provide critical feedback to state leaders. There is no work more important than preparing our students to compete and succeed in a global economy, and it is to the credit of these states that this work is getting done."

The Board of Higher Education, the Illinois Community College Board, and the Illinois State Board of Education have scheduled field hearings to receive feedback on the proposed Core Standards:

- October 2** Rend Lake Marketplace, Mt. Vernon
- October 5** Harold Washington College, Chicago
- October 8** Crowne Plaza Hotel, Springfield

### [Duncan honors first recipients of ACI awards for educational equity](#)

"Educational equity is social equity. When children don't have it, they're condemned to failure because adults haven't given them the opportunity to be successful," U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan told an audience of more than 250 higher education and K-12 leaders, educators and donors in Chicago for the Associated Colleges of Illinois-Arne Duncan Awards for Educational Equity.

The Secretary also praised the work of six individuals honored for their efforts towards closing the achievement gap as the first recipients of the ACI-Arne Duncan Awards for Educational Equity: **Linda Darling-Hammond**, the Charles E. Ducommun Professor of Education at Stanford University; **Linda Lenz**, founder and publisher of Catalyst Chicago, a print and online publication that covers Chicago school reform; **Barbara Eason-Watkins**, Chief Education Officer of Chicago Public Schools; **Ernesto Matias**, principal of Wells Community Academy in Chicago; **Maria Zavala**, 2nd grade bilingual teacher at Parks Cultural Studies Academy in Joliet, Illinois; and **Eliseo Martinez**, a North Central College senior majoring in music education.

### [NCES study finds wide variation in high school grad rates among states](#)

According to "High School Dropout and Completion Rates in the U.S.: 2007," the latest in a series of reports from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), 73% of high school freshmen, nationwide, graduated on time with their peers. However, this four-year graduation rate in 2006 varied widely across states -- from a low of 55.9% to a high of 87.5%. Another key finding: students living in low-income families were approximately 10 times more likely to drop out of high school, between 2006 and 2007, than students living in high-income families.

## [People in the News](#)

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[Tom Bennett](#), vice chairman of the Parkland College Board of Trustees, will become the first Illinoisan to chair the Association of Community College Trustees, when he takes the reins of the trustees' national organization next week at its conference in San Francisco.

Northern Public Radio's [Tim Emmons](#) received the Don Otto Award given by the Public Radio Program Directors

Association (PRPD) and Audience Research Analysis, two of public radio's leading professional organizations.

[Kazuya Kawamura](#), UIC associate professor of urban planning and policy and an expert on urban transportation, has been named head of the Department of Urban Planning and Policy at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

## *Campus News*

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### [Morrill Act document on display at Illinois as part of Lincoln Bicentennial](#)

The University of Illinois will display the Morrill Act, one of the seminal documents of higher education in the United States, beginning Sept. 30 at the Krannert Art Museum and Kinkead Pavilion, 500 E. Peabody Drive, Champaign.

### [WIU, University of Iowa Sign Engineering Transfer Agreement](#)

The University of Iowa College of Engineering and Western Illinois University recently signed an agreement made possible, in part by Deere and Company, for select WIU students to transfer to the UI College of Engineering, beginning this fall. Students who also complete the requirements for the engineering physics program at WIU -- in addition to University of Iowa engineering degree requirements -- will receive a second baccalaureate degree in engineering physics from Western.

## *News from Higher Education*

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### [Hiring outside academe](#)

(Inside Higher Ed)

We face a looming crisis in higher education in sustaining the quality of our workforce. Much has been written about the retirement of the baby boomers, the comparatively small size and lower educational attainment of the generation next in the queue (the so called Gen Xers), and how those factors will affect faculty hiring.

### [Boom for community colleges](#)

(Chicago Tribune)

When Amar Bhatia was weighing his postsecondary options, he chose Indiana University over DePaul University because DePaul's downtown Chicago campus was just too close to Mom and Dad.

### [8 Strategies for Recruiting Adult Students to 4-Year Colleges](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

As the number of adults seeking higher education has increased, the competition to recruit them has become more intense. Although many four-year institutions have enhanced their outreach to adults in recent years, others are still wading into that nontraditional market.

### [Aggressive Plan for State Data Systems](#)

(Inside Higher Ed)

WASHINGTON -- It has become an article of faith among many federal and especially state policy makers that the United States cannot possibly improve the performance of its higher education system without a significantly better way of collecting data about the performance of individual students and colleges.

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