

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 16, 2009



THE ILLINOIS PUBLIC AGENDA
FOR COLLEGE AND CAREER SUCCESS

MAP Quest

Thousands rally as legislators vote to restore MAP



Gov. Quinn poses with students from Lake Land College after speaking to the student rally on saving MAP grants.

UPCOMING

October

28-30 Veto session

November

23 Working Together to Prepare Illinois School Leaders Part 4: Next Steps, Parke Hotel, Bloomington

More than 2,000 – some estimates were as high as 5,000 – students from colleges and universities across Illinois rallied in Springfield Thursday as the culmination of a six-week campaign to convince the General Assembly to restore funding the Monetary Award Program (MAP) to finance grants for the spring semester. By the time most students left the capital, both the House and Senate had passed [SB 1180](#) providing an additional \$225 million to underwrite grants for nearly 138,000 students in the second semester. Scores of colleges – public, private, four-year, two-year – sent busloads to Springfield for the rally, which was held on the parking lot of the Illinois Education Association headquarters a block south of the Capitol. Featured speakers included Governor Quinn, Rep. David Miller, Sen. Ed Maloney, SIU President Glenn Poshard, and numerous students.

[Higher ed leaders praise student activism](#)

The chairs of the three state higher education boards congratulated students from across Illinois for their potent advocacy for restoring \$200 million in funding for the state's need-based financial assistance program.

"This unprecedented outpouring of concern of students from across Illinois is a powerful testament to the need for and value of the Monetary Award Program," said Carrie J. Hightman, chairwoman of the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE).

"On behalf of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, I am grateful to the thousands of students who have championed the cause of MAP funding," Donald McNeil, chairman of ISAC, said.

"Community college students represent more than a third of all recipients of MAP grants and I am very proud of the way in which they have responded in this effort to restore funding and make their voices heard," said Guy H. Alongi, chairman of the Illinois Community College Board.

[House passes resolution to study MAP program](#)

The House has passed HJR 75, sponsored by Rep. Kevin McCarthy, to direct IBHE – in consultation with ISAC and ICCB – to study the "efficiency and sustainability" of the Monetary Award Program (MAP). McCarthy told the House Higher Education Committee that the MAP funding crisis raised questions about the future of the need-based financial aid program. The study will examine the success rates of MAP recipients, demographics of students receiving grants, efficiencies in the disbursement of funds, potential restructuring to "maximize educational impact and economic efficiency, and the relationship of state appropriations for public university and community college operations, tuition and fee policies, and MAP funding." The resolution has been assigned to the Senate Higher Education Committee.

[Students, educators urge funding for MAP, DFI](#)



Michelle Rivera, a communications doctoral candidate at the University of Illinois at Chicago and a DFI Fellow, addressed a news conference Thursday, Oct. 15, in the pressroom at the Capitol. A group of students, minority higher education leaders, and legislators urged the General Assembly to fully fund the MAP program for fiscal 2010 and also to restore \$1.6 million cut from the Diversifying Faculty in Illinois Higher Education (DFI) program. DFI provides stipends to African American and Latino graduate students with the aim of helping them earn degrees that will enable them to gain faculty positions at Illinois colleges and universities. The program – like all IBHE grants – was cut in half by the budget approved by the legislature for FY10.

[Community college FTE enrollment sets record](#)

The statewide Full Time Equivalency (FTE) Fall enrollments at Illinois community colleges reached an all-time record 223,353 for the current semester, an increase of 9.5% from last year, according to recently released figures from the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB). The statewide Fall 2009 headcount enrollment is at a 27-year high, up 6.4% from Fall 2008, or more than 380,000 students for this spring compared to about 357,200 for the previous Fall semester.

WASHINGTON UPDATE



[Duncan applauds teachers as the 'unsung heroes of society'](#)

U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan told students from the University of Virginia's Curry School of Education that they are answering a call that is as important as any career available to them now and in the future. "To make the American dream of equal educational opportunity a reality, we need to recruit, train, learn from, reward, and honor a new generation of talented teachers," he said. "I believe [teachers] are absolutely the unsung heroes of our society." The Obama Administration considers elevating the teaching profession and expanding the pool of talent as critical to closing the achievement gap and promoting the nation's long-term prosperity. Duncan will speak with teachers as well as teacher

candidates three times this month. Next, on October 20, he will convene a group of teachers from the Washington, D.C., metro area for a virtual town hall meeting on evaluating the teaching profession. Then, on October 22, he will deliver a speech at Columbia University's Teachers College on the needs of the country's colleges of education.

[Duncan, Attorney General urge 'national conversation' on youth violence](#)

In the wake of the fatal beating of a Chicago high school student, Secretary Duncan and Attorney General Eric Holder met with students, parents, city officials, and community leaders and issued a call for a national conversation on values to address youth violence. Duncan, former CEO of the Chicago Public Schools (CPS), announced that the Department is working with CPS to award a \$500,000 grant to help Fenger High School and the elementary and middle schools that feed into Fenger restore learning environments. However, "This is not about the money," the Secretary explained. "Money alone will never solve the problem. It's about our values. It's about who we are as a society. And it's about taking responsibility for our young people to teach them what they need to know to live side-by-side and deal with their differences -- without anger and violence."

[Survey finds widespread exposure to violence among youths](#)

Also: Underscoring the nationwide challenge, the Department of Justice released a new survey that found more than one in 10 children 14- to 17-years-old said they had witnessed a shooting in the past year.



[Duncan spars with Colbert – on court and in studio](#)

On October 5, Secretary Duncan was interviewed on the Colbert Report. Before the show, he and Stephen Colbert played a [game of horse](#) outside the studio. Highlights include bank shots off a wall, an apparent foul by the Secretary, and a long shot Colbert sank from the studio steps.

[Lewis & Clark Community College nabs workforce grant](#)

The U.S. Department of Education recently announced \$11.25 million in grants for 29 projects to aid working adults and displaced workers pursuing degrees and credentials in community colleges, including \$294,158 for Lewis and Clark Community College in Godfrey.

[It's the Learning, Stupid!](#)

Lumina chief urges focus on higher education's 'true purpose'

What exactly are students learning in higher education? What should they be learning? What knowledge, skills, and competencies must they have to thrive both as workers in the 21st century global economy and as productive citizens in this democracy? Jamie Merisotis, president and CEO of Lumina Foundation, challenges American higher education to tackle these urgent questions in his provocative recent Claremont Graduate University Bowen Lecture.

SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendar for a meeting sponsored by the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Board of Higher Education to discuss the next steps in planning principal preparation and teacher instructional leader programs as well as the review of the professional teaching standards. Details on electronic registration will be available soon.

What: *Working Together to Prepare Illinois School Leaders Part 4: Next Steps*

When: Monday, November 23, 2009

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Where: Parke Hotel & Conference Center

1414 N. Towanda Barnes Road

Bloomington, Illinois 61704

Campus News

Teacher preparation program will serve high-need schools

Congressman Aaron Schock (R-IL) has announced a grant of \$190,000 to Illinois College that will improve teacher preparedness to serve urban and rural area students in high-need schools. Dean of Illinois College Elizabeth Tobin, who joined Mrs. Joy French Becker, chair of the Illinois College Board of Trustees, in accepting the grant, said the college will use the majority of grant funds to further deploy its Type IX Certification Program, which has a Latino focus.

Multicultural Center ribbon-cutting

MACOMB, IL – The ribbon-cutting and grand opening for Western Illinois University's Multicultural Center, which houses Casa Latina Cultural Center, the Gwendolyn Brooks Cultural Center and the Women's Center, will be held at 3 p.m. Friday, Oct. 16 in conjunction with Western's 2009 Homecoming Celebration.

GSU reflects on the past and looks to the future

As it commemorates its 40th Anniversary of providing educational opportunity, Governors State University is sponsoring a discussion featuring a panel of distinguished guests on Friday, November 6, at 3 p.m., in Engbretson Hall. The discussion will focus on the birth, growth, and future of the university. Current GSU president, Dr. Elaine Maimon and past president Dr. Goodman-Malamuth, II will be joined by Dr. Adenuga Atewologun, Vice President of Academic Affairs at Prairie State College and Dr. Blondean Davis, Superintendent of Matteson School District 162. The moderator will be Dr. Paul Green, Director, Institute for Politics and the Arthur Rubloff Professor of Policy Studies, at Roosevelt University. After the discussion, a permanent, interactive history wall commemorating the past 40 years will be unveiled in the main entrance atrium.

Baker rises to premier instructor in one sweet program

Few people can resist a cake. Mark D. Seaman makes the head-turning kind, which requires considerable skill. Some people consider his cakes to be works not just of cuisine, but of art. More than a handful of ingredients led to his new job as a premier chef instructor at L'Art du Gâteau, the new cake-baking and -decorating program at the French Pastry School of the City Colleges of Chicago.

People in the News

Millikin University [President Douglas Zemke](#) announced October 13th that he plans to retire. Zemke became the school's 13th president in 2003 and will remain in the position until Dec. 31, 2010.

For only the 16th time in its 160-year history, Northwestern University inaugurated a president. The University celebrated the inauguration of [President Morton Schapiro](#) with a celebratory concert featuring Northwestern-affiliated performers and another with Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter John Legend.

News from Higher Education

As online education grows, national providers struggle with state regulations

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

Washington -- In the 1980s, higher-education leaders convened to study the emerging issue of regulating distance-learning programs that cross state borders. As technology became more accepted, they predicted, the inevitable result would be a more coordinated, national approach to regulation. Not quite.

[Diversity takes a hit during tough times](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

Some campuses try to protect gains, but others scale back their efforts

[Remediation worries and successes](#)

(Inside Higher Ed)

SAN FRANCISCO -- At one session on remedial education here, a speaker asked the audience of community college trustees how many of them knew their institution's graduation rate. A minority of hands -- maybe 20 percent -- went up. But if trustees are not as well versed on student success at their institutions as the question suggested they should be, that doesn't mean that they aren't interested.

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