

Illinois Higher Ed *The Friday Memo*

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ICCB
Chairman Guy Alongi
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ISAC
Chairman Don McNeil
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[Legislators seek answers on college affordability](#)



(photo by Brandy Renfro)

Sen. Ed Maloney announced plans for a College Affordability Summit to be held next Friday, Feb. 26th, in Chicago. All members of the General Assembly have been invited to the one-day, invitation-only summit aimed at offering national perspectives on the issue of college affordability and higher education finance. The summit is the result of [HJR 54](#), sponsored by Rep. Cynthia Soto and Maloney, which directed IBHE, ISAC, and ICCB to undertake a study of affordability and finance issues. Dennis Jones and Aims McGuinness, of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, and David Longanecker, president of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, will lead discussions on linking all elements of higher education funding – state appropriations, student financial aid, and tuition – to achieve state goals. Maloney said the summit will help legislators better understand how budget decisions can advance the goals of the *Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success*, which he is holding in his hand.

[University borrowing bill advances](#)

Legislation to give eight public universities the authority to undertake short-term borrowing against “anticipated moneys” was passed, 8-5, by the Senate Executive Committee this week. [Senate Bill 416](#), which applies to all universities except Northeastern Illinois University and the three University of Illinois campuses, is now at passage stage in the Senate.

UPCOMING

February

21 [College Goal Sunday](#)

March

11 State Universities
Retirement System Board
Meeting, Springfield

16 Community College
Presidents Council
Lincoln Land Community
College

19 Illinois Community College
Trustees Association, Oak
Brook

19 IBHE Faculty Advisory
Council, UIUC

20 Joint IBHE-SAC and ICCB-
SAC meeting, Oak Brook

26 ICCB Meeting, Harry L.
Crisp II Community
College Center,
Springfield

26 ISAC Meeting, Illinois
State University, Normal

27-28 IBHE-SAC meeting, Illinois
State University

April

6 IBHE Meeting, Harold
Washington College,
Chicago



It authorizes the universities to borrow up to 75% of payroll and other vouchers submitted to the comptroller but unpaid 30 days before the anticipated borrowing. The legislation sunsets Aug. 31st.

[Legislative committee hearing set on budget projections](#)

The **Senate Appropriations I and II Committees** will hold a joint hearing Feb. 23rd to hear testimony on budget deficit and revenue projections for FY 2010 and FY 2011. Scheduled to testify at the 4 p.m. hearing are the Governor's Office of Management and Budget, the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability, the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability, and the Civic Committee.

Other committee sessions of note next week include:

- The [Senate Executive Committee Subcommittee on Legislative Tuition Waivers](#), which will consider [SB 2472](#), sponsored by Sen. Bill Brady; [SB 3511](#), sponsored by Sen. Michael Frerichs; and [SB 3652](#), sponsored by Senate Minority Leader Christine Radogno, all aimed at eliminating the General Assembly scholarship. The subcommittee hearing is scheduled for 11 a.m., Feb. 23rd.
- The [Senate Higher Education Committee](#) will meet at 2:30 p.m., Feb. 23rd, to consider, among other measures, [SJR 88](#), sponsored by Sen. Ed Maloney, to set up a study commission to consider the adequacy and equity of higher education funding, accountability, best practices for improving degree and certificate completion, tuition and financial aid policies, and alternative funding schemes to advance the goals of the *Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success*.
- The [House Higher Education Committee](#) will convene at 4 p.m., Feb. 24th, to consider bills to elect the U of I Board of Trustees ([HB 4608](#), Rep. David Reis) and eliminate tuition waivers for children of university employees ([HB 4706](#), Rep. David Winters).
- The [House State Government Administration Committee](#) will meet at 2 p.m., Feb. 24, to hear, among a long list of bills, [HB 4633](#) (Rep. Bill Black) also aimed at eliminating the General Assembly scholarship program.



[U.S. Department of Education grant program seeks to improve school leaders](#)

The U.S. Department of Education has announced a School Leadership Grant Program. The program supports the development, enhancement, or expansion of innovative programs to recruit, train, and mentor principals (including assistant principals) for high-need districts. A high-need district is one that (1) either serves at least 10,000 children from low-income families or serves a community in which at least 20% of children are from low-income families and (2) has a high percentage of teachers teaching either outside of their certification or with emergency, provisional, or temporary certification.

[Federal department focuses on priority performance goals](#)

As part of developing the Fiscal Year 2011 budget, the Department has identified a limited number of high-priority performance goals that will be a particular focus over the next two years. These goals, which will help measure the success of the Department's cradle-to-career education strategy, reflect the importance of teaching and learning, at all levels of the system. These goals are consistent with the agency's five-year strategic plan that is under development and will be used to monitor and report progress.

[MHEC report examines college access and success](#)

The Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) and the Wisconsin Center for the Advancement of Postsecondary Education (WISCAPE) have released the publication "New approaches to improving college access, persistence, and success: Three examples of postsecondary opportunity programs." The report is the second in MHEC's series Promising Practices: What Works in the Midwest. The series was launched to showcase innovative initiatives and

effective ways to address common challenges and unique opportunities in higher education. Written by WISCAPE staff, the report describes three initiatives – in Illinois, Iowa, and Michigan – aimed at promoting postsecondary access and degree attainment through efforts at the institutional, state, and local community levels, respectively. The publication is available [online](#).

[Grant application packet is available for Independent Colleges Capital Program \(ICCAP\)](#)

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) has released the Fiscal Year 2010 application materials for the Independent Colleges Capital Program (ICCAP), a part of the Illinois Jobs Now! capital program. ICCAP is a formula-based grant program created to provide independent colleges with financial assistance for capital projects (Public Act 96-37, Sec. 25). The program is funded with an appropriation of \$300 million in Build Illinois bond proceeds (Public Act 96-35). Conference calls to walk through the application process are scheduled for Monday, February 22 at 2 p.m. and Thursday, March 4 at 2 p.m. The application deadline is April 15, 2010.

[Save the Date: 4th Bi-Annual Statewide Higher Ed Forum sponsored by Gateways to Opportunity](#)

On April 30, 2010 at the Parke Hotel in Bloomington, IL, Gateways to Opportunity will be hosting a Conversation on Collaborating for Success. This support network coordinates education and training for those seeking careers in services to children, youth and families. Registration will begin in March.

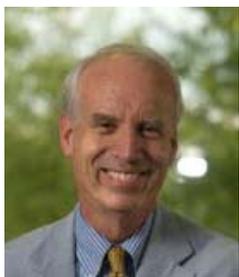
People in the News

Saint Xavier University's Board of Trustees elected a new chair, [John T. Costello](#), and a new vice chair, [Sister Georgine Scarpino, R.S.M.](#), at its February meeting.

[William D. Gropp](#) has been elected to membership in the National Academy of Engineering. Gropp is the Paul and Cynthia Saylor Professor of Computer Science at the University of Illinois. Gropp is among 68 new members and nine foreign associates announced by the academy on Feb. 17. Election to the NAE is one of the highest professional honors an engineer can garner.

Campus News

[Burlingame's biography of Lincoln wins 2010 Lincoln Prize](#)



A two-volume biography that was 30 years in the making, by one of the foremost living authorities on Abraham Lincoln, has won the 2010 Lincoln Prize. Michael Burlingame will receive the \$50,000 Lincoln Prize for his book, "Abraham Lincoln: A Life" (Johns Hopkins University Press), as well as a bronze replica of Augustus Saint-Gaudens life-size bust, "Lincoln the Man." Burlingame is the Chancellor Naomi B. Lynn Distinguished Chair of Lincoln Studies at the University of Illinois Springfield. The prize, sponsored by Gettysburg College and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, will be awarded April 27 at the Union League in New York.

[NIU announces 2010 Forward Together Forward Scholarship recipients](#)

DeKalb, Ill.— The compassion, devotion to service and thirst for knowledge displayed by the five students lost at Northern Illinois University two years ago will live on through the recipients of this year's Forward Together Forward scholarships.

The recipients – Deidre Cwian, Michele Johnson, Yesenia Juarez, Caley Lanahan and Brittany Sheldon – will each receive a one-time scholarship of \$4,000 for the 2010-11 academic year.

"The Forward Together Forward scholarship is one of the most prestigious honors NIU can bestow upon a student,"

says Provost Raymond Alden. "To be selected for this award, a student must not only display academic excellence, but also embody the best qualities of those fallen students."

[Governors State University receives \\$4.9 million Department of Labor grant](#)

University Park, Ill. -- Governors State University was awarded a \$4.9 million dollar grant from the U.S. Department of Labor. The competitive grant was one of only 55 awarded nationwide. Part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, the grant will help provide training and placement services to unemployed, dislocated, and low-wage incumbent workers enabling them to pursue healthcare careers.

News from Higher Education

[Obama's efforts to improve teachers' training stir old debates](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

At Arizona State University, education majors are studying less education than they used to.

[Slipping \(further\) off the pedestal](#)

(Inside Higher Ed)

Headlines (here and elsewhere) will blare the results of a new public opinion survey about higher education, which finds that Americans are increasingly convinced that higher education is essential to a successful career and life, but are growing more doubtful that college is affordable and ever more suspicious of colleges' motives, viewing them as "just another business."

[University inventions sparked record number of companies in 2008](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

Academic inventions in medicine, plant genetics, and alternative energy helped to spur the creation of a record 543 new university spinoff companies in the 2008 fiscal year, while generating more than \$2.3-billion in licensing revenue for 154 institutions and their inventors, according to a survey released.

[More Latino students are going away to college](#)

(Los Angeles Times)

Many find it difficult to break from cultural traditions, but they and their families can see benefits.

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