

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

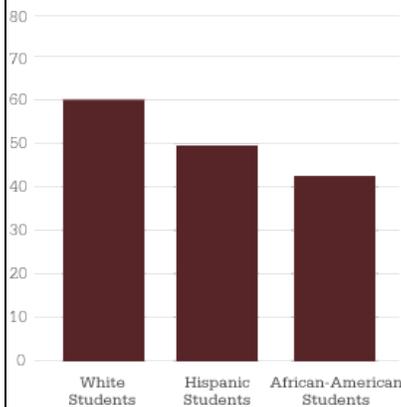
IBHE
Chairwoman Carrie J. Hightman
Executive Director Judy Erwin

ICCB
Chairman Guy Alongi
President/CEO Geoff Obrzut

ISAC
Chairman Don McNeil
Executive Director Andy Davis

March 5, 2010

PERCENT



60% of white students who attend four-year colleges full-time complete a bachelor's degree within six years, compared to 49% of Hispanic students and 42% of African-American students. *U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), 2007.*

substantial racial and income gaps persist. According to labor market projections, by 2020, 6 of 10 jobs will require a quality postsecondary degree or credential."

Experts offer ideas on closing affordability gap

A day-long summit on college affordability February 26th helped focus attention on ways the state can bridge the college affordability gap in Illinois, which



increasingly threatens the ability of low- and middle-income families to see a financially feasible path to college. About a dozen state lawmakers were present or represented by aides at the College Affordability Summit, which was sponsored by IBHE, ISAC, and ICCB, and was held at UIC.

In a presentation entitled, "Financing in Sync: Do the pieces of higher education funding fit together?", Dennis Jones, president of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, suggested that all the pieces of the financing pie – state appropriations, student financial aid, and student tuition – should be considered "in sync" to ensure the state's investment in higher education serves state goals. "In the absence of alignment between goals and finance policy, failure to achieve goals will be assured," he said.

INCOMPLETE

Illinois among states seeking to improve college attainment through Complete College America

Illinois is among 17 founding states in a new initiative launched this week by Complete College America (CCA) to increase the number of Americans with college degrees.

Stan Jones, former commissioner of higher education in Indiana, heads CCA, which is funded through grants from the Gates, Ford, Lumina, and Kellogg foundations, and the Carnegie Corporation.

"Unchanged for decades, the rate at which Americans complete postsecondary degrees falls woefully short of the nation's needs and potential," according to a statement from CCA. "Less than 40% of young adults hold an associate or bachelor's degree, and the

UPCOMING

March

- 10** Governor's Budget Address
 - 11** **HELC Legislative Breakfast**, Carrie J. Hightman, speaker, Springfield
 - 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 ICCB-SAC and IBHE-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

In addition to formal presentations by leading higher ed finance experts, the summit featured members of the ISACorps describing their work in assisting high school students on the journey to higher education.

[Illinois makes Sweet 16 in Race to the Top](#)

Illinois was among 15 other states and the District of Columbia to make the cut for Phase I of competition for \$4 billion in grants from the U.S. Department of Education through the Race to the Top initiative. "These states are an example for the country of what is possible when adults come together to do the right thing for children," Secretary Arne Duncan said.



The Phase I finalists were judged on plans to:

- extend reforms using college and career-ready standards and assessments;
- build a workforce of highly effective educators;
- create educational data systems to support student achievement;
- turn around their lowest-performing schools.

Winners for the Phase I Race will be chosen from the 16 finalists and announced next month.

[Teacher preparation reform is a complex journey](#)

Education secretary Arne Duncan's recent public pronouncements about the effectiveness of teachers' colleges have riled many veteran educators. Mary Kalantzis, the dean of the College of Education and professor of education at the University of Illinois, discusses teacher education and the Obama administration's educational reform strategy with News Bureau Education Editor Phil Ciciora.

Education Secretary Arne Duncan recently called for major changes to schools of education based on what he sees as their two major flaws: not enough in-class training time, and a lack of data-driven decision-making. Is he right?



Kalantzis: Secretary Duncan is not an educator so much as a change-agent. Of course, he is correct that on-site learning for teacher trainees and their capacity to make

knowledgeable decisions is a vital aspect of their preparation, but when he makes sweeping generalizations about the flaws of colleges of education, it's for strategic purposes. On the whole, he's trying to motivate us to do something different in order to turn around entrenched underperformance in the school system. He is taking a typical carrot-and-stick approach: If you want our money, you have to do certain things our way.

Mary Kalantzis

Serious, sustainable education reform is a complex task that must go beyond the redesign of our university programs and certification requirements. Blaming colleges of education for inadequate educational outcomes is too easy; and ignoring them as crucial partners in reform is shortsighted and self-defeating.



General Assembly [scholarship repeal](#) passes House; [borrowing measure](#) leaves the Senate

On a vote of 80-36, the House voted to eliminate the General Assembly scholarship program. [HB 4685](#) now goes to the Senate, which has its own version that forbids scholarships to campaign donors and their children.

On a vote of 43-14, the Senate approved [SB 642](#), giving public universities the authority to undertake short-term borrowing to handle cash flow problems. As of February 26, the state owed the public universities and community colleges \$879 million in appropriated funds.

BUDGET SQUEEZE

The state's financial crisis and its effect on colleges and universities have been much in the news. Here are some samples:

[Ill. university leaders argue against deeper cuts](#)

(Bloomington Pantagraph)

The leaders of two Illinois universities warned lawmakers Wednesday that further cuts in this year's higher education budget could mean layoffs, the loss of top professors and more tuition fee increases. Illinois has cut higher education funding already, they said, and the state isn't even coming up with the money it has promised. They warned more cuts would do serious harm.

[Ikenberry: U of I tuition on rise](#) (Springfield State Journal-Register)

University of Illinois tuition rates will go up by 9.5-percent next fall under the best-case scenario, University of Illinois interim president Stanley Ikenberry told The State Journal-Register's editorial board Wednesday. Facing \$487 million in late payments from state government, the U of I is going through some tough times.

[U. of I. might hike tuition 20 percent](#) (Chicago Sun-Times)

The amount of money the state owes the University of Illinois keeps growing: It's \$487 million -- up from \$431 million in January.

[Poshard: No layoffs this fiscal year](#) (The Southern Illinoisan)

Southern Illinois University President Glenn Poshard remains adamant there will be no layoffs or furloughs for fiscal year 2010 and that such action will remain a last resort for both campuses in Carbondale and Edwardsville.

[Community colleges feel the squeeze from the state](#) (The Southern Illinoisan)

John A. Logan Community College is not the only local community colleges with smaller enrollment feeling the pinch of delayed state funding. Southeast Illinois College of Harrisburg and Rend Lake College of Ina officials said they are having similar problems.

[SIU will not pull a U of I with tuition](#) (The Southern Illinoisan)

While the University of Illinois is considering a 20 percent hike in tuition to help weather a lagging state budget, SIU will see no such increase, President Glenn Poshard said.

[SCC avoid personnel cuts - for now](#) (The Southern Illinoisan)

ULLIN - According to a representative from Shawnee Community College's public relations department, board trustees at the college made no decision on personnel cuts or tuition increases for the upcoming year during a closed session Monday. That does not mean layoffs and tuition increases are not in the college's future.

[SIUC educates veterans despite cost](#) (The Southern Illinoisan)

While SIUC does not receive funding for the Illinois Veteran Grant, Chancellor Sam Goldman wants the veterans to keep coming. Goldman said the IVG is an unfunded state mandate that will cost the university more than \$3 million in 2010. However, Goldman said helping veterans get an education after their service is much more important than money.

[Poshard: SIU can get by for now](#) (The Southern Illinoisan)

CARBONDALE - SIU President Glenn Poshard on Thursday continued to insist layoffs and furloughs will be one of the last measures he takes to keep the university's doors open.



IBHE Executive Director **Judy Erwin** celebrates a milestone birthday this weekend. Congratulations and/or condolences welcome.

[Community college system sets record enrollment second spring in a row](#)

Both headcount and Full Time Equivalency (FTE) Spring enrollments at Illinois community colleges reached all-time record levels for the current semester. According to recently released figures from the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB), statewide headcount enrollment increased 7.8% over the record Spring 2009 enrollment. This semester's increase set an all-time record with 390,142 students, an enrollment that was also higher than the near-record Fall 2009 semester enrollment of more than 380,000. The statewide FTE Spring enrollments at Illinois community colleges reached a record 224,076 for the current semester, an increase of 10.5% from last spring's previous all-time record 202,804 FTE. "Not only do we have record numbers of students, but they are taking record numbers of classes. The continuing severe economic crisis and the loss of jobs drive people to our doors, and these figures emphasize the need to keep our community colleges well-equipped to handle the demands that the public expects of them," said Guy H. Alongi, chairman of the ICCB.

[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). The application deadline is April 15, 2010.

[People in the News](#)

[Heba Hamouda](#), an attorney with Accenture LLP, and [Santos Rivera](#), who retired in December 2008 as the senior executive director for affirmative action and institutional outreach initiatives at Northeastern Illinois University, have been appointed by Gov. Pat Quinn to serve on the Illinois Board of Higher Education.



City Colleges of Chicago's Board of Trustees appointed [Cheryl Hyman](#) as Chancellor, effective April 1, 2010. Hyman is a graduate of Olive-Harvey College and holds an Executive Master of Business Administration degree from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management, a Master of Arts degree in Community Development from North Park University and a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from the Illinois Institute of Technology. She currently serves as vice president of Operations Strategy and Business Intelligence at ComEd.



University of Illinois Springfield Chancellor [Richard D. Ringeisen](#), who led the campus through a decade of transformation to become ranked among the top universities of its size, announced March 1 that he will retire as chancellor effective October 31.

[Julia Fish](#), a professor of studio arts at the University of Illinois at Chicago is one of 55 artists selected nationally to exhibit in the 2010 Whitney Biennial, the signature exhibition of the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York. Fish has taught painting and drawing to undergraduate and graduate studio art students at UIC since 1989.

[News from Higher Education](#)

[17 states join efforts to increase college completion rates by 2020](#)

(Los Angeles Times)

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — More than a dozen states have formed an alliance to battle dismal college completion rates and figure out how to get more students to follow through and earn their diplomas.

['New York Times' rethinks decision to shrink education coverage](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

A decline in advertising revenues that has plagued the newspaper industry nationwide has forced even the titans to cut back. Two years ago, The New York Times disbanded its education desk, bought out or reassigned a few of its education reporters, and dispersed the rest to other parts of the newsroom.

[In a day of campus protests, California marchers take to the freeways](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

Students and faculty members in California staged dozens of protests on Thursday, marching in major cities and attempting to blockade freeways in the broadest demonstration yet of anger against state budget cuts to the nation's largest public-university system.

[In Britain, university tuition is too low](#)

(Christian Science Monitor)

The government must abolish the cap on university tuition fees, according to a new report from think tank the Adam Smith Institute. The Broken University, by academic and education expert James Stanfield, argues that if the UK is to be a world leader in the higher education in the 21st Century, all institutions must be free to sell their services at whatever price they choose.

[Graduates fault advice of guidance counselors](#)

(The New York Times)

Most people who graduated from high school in the last dozen years believe that their guidance counselors provided little meaningful advice about college or careers, a new study has found. And many said the best advice on their futures came from teachers.

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