

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

April 9, 2010

[Board apprised of Public Agenda progress](#)

Noting formation of the P-20 Council, progress in development of a statewide data system spanning from preschool to grad school, a new initiative on degree completion, IBHE Executive Director Judy Erwin noted to members of the Board of Higher Education this week that significant strides are being made to implement the *Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success*.

[Lumina chief: California must set clear college-attainment goals](#)

*Merisotis tells California lawmakers that state needs advanced knowledge and skills for economic and civic vitality*

Lumina President and CEO Jamie Merisotis testified before the California Joint Committee on the Master Plan for Higher Education April 7, and told lawmakers that achieving Lumina's "Big Goal" of increasing the share of Americans with high-quality college degrees and credentials to 60 percent by 2025 is vital to California and the rest of the nation. [Watch](#) video clips.



[Simon Institute plans conference on college affordability](#)

Bob Shireman, deputy undersecretary of the U.S. Department of Education, will give a keynote address April 22 at a conference sponsored by the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute, "Going Broke on Education: How Can We Make College More Affordable?" The day-long conference, which is free to the public, also will feature Sandy Baum, a professor of economics at Skidmore College and a senior policy analyst at The College Board, as the luncheon speaker.



[College Illinois!® Sponsors Baseball Reading Programs](#)

*Partners with Peoria Chiefs, Kane County Cougars baseball to promote children's literacy programs, college savings*

SPRINGFIELD — The College Illinois!® 529 Prepaid Tuition Program is joining with the Peoria Chiefs and Kane County Cougars to promote college savings and early literacy in their respective communities.

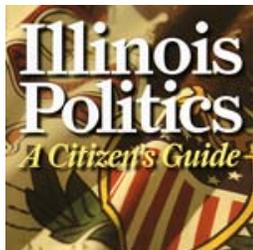
**UPCOMING**

**April**

- 13** Senate Convenes, noon  
House Convenes, 1 p. m.  
Senate Higher Education Committee, Room 409, Capitol, 2:30 p.m.
- 14** House Higher Education Committee, 4:00 pm  
Room C-1 Stratton Bldg
- 21** Save our Schools Save our State Rally, Springfield
- 21** University of Illinois Day at the Capitol, Springfield
- 22** UNITED to Save Education Rally—ICCB-SAC, IBHE-SAC, FIICU students, Springfield
- 30** DFI Program Board Meeting, Kennedy King College, Chicago

## [New book points finger at Illinois citizens for 'culture of shady ethics'](#)

CHAMPAIGN — Illinois residents share the blame for a state government dogged by a legacy of corruption and paralyzed by a deep, festering budget hole, according to a co-author of a new book on state politics.



"Illinois Politics: A Citizen's Guide," published by the University of Illinois Press, was co-written by Samuel Gove, Jim Nowlan and Rick Winkel, all affiliated with the Institute of Government and Public Affairs.

Citizens feed an entrenched Statehouse culture of shady ethics and unresolved problems by failing to demand better, said Nowlan, a former state lawmaker and now a senior fellow with the Institute of Government and Public Affairs at the University of Illinois.

## [People in the News](#)

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North Central College student [Emily Albright](#) of Naperville has earned a prestigious National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Fellowship. The three-year award carries a \$30,000 annual stipend and nearly \$12,000 in additional funding for educational expenses and travel. Albright, a senior majoring in biochemistry, plans to pursue graduate studies in molecular biology and has been accepted to several top institutions.

[Darrell Kruger](#), associate dean for research, graduate and international studies in Illinois State University's College of Education has been named an American Council on Education (ACE) Fellow for the 2010-11 academic year. Kruger is one of forty-six ACE Fellows chosen nationwide this year for the prestigious program.

[David Changnon](#) in the Department of Geography, [Ross Powell](#) in the Department of Geology and Environmental Geosciences and [Pam Smith](#) in the Department of Accountancy have been named as the 2010 Board of Trustees Professors. Established in 2007, the professorships recognize faculty members who have achieved a consistent record of excellence in teaching, academic leadership, scholarship or artistry, and service and outreach.

Southern Illinois University President, [Glenn Poshard](#), was featured this week in an article in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* describing his efforts to contend with the state's dire fiscal situation.

## [Campus News](#)

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### [ITI to lead Center on Security of Electronic Health Information Systems](#)

The Information Trust Institute (ITI) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is set to lead a multi-university consortium of researchers who intend to make the technologies involved in electronic health records, health information exchange, and telemedicine trustworthy enough to earn the confidence of doctors and patients. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has just announced an award of \$15 million in research funding to help put those concerns to rest.

### [Sen. Durbin promotes SIUC nursing](#)

CARBONDALE - U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin stopped by the Student Health Center to announce \$500,000 in federal funding to establish a regional nursing program at SIUC. The program will be part of the SIU Edwardsville School of Nursing and will admit 42 students in the fall. Durbin said with a state nursing shortage, it is imperative that Southern Illinois trains students to step into an important profession.

## ***News from Higher Education***

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### **Students line up as colleges add more 'green' programs**

(Daily Herald)

For 20-year-old Louis Wren, job security is about predicting future trends.

### **Study finds more woes following foster care**

(The New York Times)

Only half the youths who had turned 18 and “aged out” of foster care were employed by their mid-20s. Six in 10 men had been convicted of a crime, and three in four women, many of them with children of their own, were receiving some form of public assistance. Only six in 100 had completed even a community college degree.

### **Hispanic-serving institutions are best path for increasing Latino STEM success, report says**

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

To increase the number of Latino students with degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, a new report recommends that community colleges improve student-transfer access to programs in those disciplines, known as the STEM fields, at Hispanic-serving institutions.

### **Community colleges feel crunch of the recession**

(Chicago Sun-Times)

Salvador M. Lopez had no idea what he wanted to do when he left the Marines in 2005. A year of private college didn't work out. Jobs led nowhere. Then he enrolled in community college.

### **Student loan legislation won't affect local community college lending**

(Daily Herald)

While community college officials across the suburbs express resounding support for the student loan overhaul signed into law by President Barack Obama, they also admit the legislation won't change much about the way they're doing business.

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