

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 30, 2010

[Lack of funds leaves 5,000 eligible students MAP-less – so far](#)

**ISAC expects total to reach 220,000, announces weekly updates and plan for additional funding**

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) announced that it has received 5,074 eligible Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant applications in the four days since the agency began denying eligible applicants due to lack of funds; award announcements were suspended starting Monday, April 19. Students who were eligible but denied could still receive a full or partial MAP grant for the 2010-2011 academic year if additional program funds are received or if award claim rates are not as high as anticipated.



THE ILLINOIS PUBLIC AGENDA  
FOR COLLEGE AND CAREER SUCCESS



**Bills to advance Public Agenda goals advance to the Governor**

[SB 3705](#), sponsored by Sen. Ed Maloney and Rep. Keith Farnham, passed the House 82-30 and now goes to the Governor. The bill extends the pilot College and Career Readiness Act another three years and expands it to additional community colleges.

[SB 3699](#), sponsored by Sen. Michael Bond and Rep. Kevin McCarthy, passed the House 68-44-1. The bill provides \$1,000 grants to students who graduate from a community college and have financial need to pursue a bachelor's degree. Students in STEM fields would qualify for an additional \$1,000 grant.

**Action on other bills related to higher education:**

[SB 3222](#), sponsored by Sen. Martin Sandoval and Rep. Robert Burke, passed the House, 66-44-1, sending the bill to the Governor. The bill would standardize practices of public universities in charging tuition for students who extend beyond the four-year tuition guarantee.

[SB 3249](#), sponsored by Sen. Sandoval and Rep. Will Burns, passed 111-0. The legislation, which requires recipients of state grants for capital projects to comply with requirements of the Business Enterprise for Minorities, Females, and Persons with Disabilities Act, now returns to the Senate for concurrence on a House amendment.

**UPCOMING**

**May**

- 3 House Higher Education Committee, 3 p.m., Room C-1 Stratton Bldg.
- 4 Senate Appropriations II Subcommittee on Containing Costs and Lowering Tuition at Public Universities, 8:00 a.m., Room 212. Capitol  
  
House Higher Education Committee, 10:00 a.m., Room C-1 Stratton Bldg.
- 14 IBHE-Faculty Advisory Council, DeVry University, Addison

**[Webinar set on Common Core Standards](#)**

The American Council on Education (ACE) and Achieve will host *Common Core Standards: What Are They? And What Could They Mean to You?*, a webinar, on **Monday, May 3 from 3:00-5:30 p.m.**

### **Upcoming legislative action:**

A hearing of the [Subcommittee on Containing Costs and Lowering Tuition at Public Universities](#), 8 a.m. Tuesday, May 4, Room 212, Capitol. Subcommittee members include Sens. Martin Sandoval, chair, Ed Maloney, Donne Trotter, Chris Lauzen, and Matt Murphy.

[SB 1840](#) would lower the eligible age for a Firearm Owner Identification Card (FOID), without a parent's consent, from 21 to 18. The bill has been assigned to the House Executive Committee, although not yet posted for a hearing.



### **[U.S. DOE launches initiative to link education in fight against poverty](#)**

The U.S. Department of Education has officially launched the Promise Neighborhoods program, the first federal initiative to put education at the center of comprehensive efforts to fight poverty in both urban and rural areas. The \$10 million in grants available this fiscal year will support nonprofit organizations with one-year of funding to plan for the implementation of cradle-to-career services designed to improve educational outcomes for students within distressed neighborhoods. "The Promise Neighborhoods program brings all of the Department's strategies together – high-quality early learning programs, high-quality schools, and comprehensive supports -- to ensure that students are safe, healthy, and successful," Secretary Duncan said. "These services must be comprehensive, and they must put education at the center." This program is based on the experience of programs such as the Harlem Children's Zone, which serves a nearly 100-block area in New York City and has boosted student outcomes dramatically. The Department intends to make up to 20 planning grants, ranging between \$400,000 and \$500,000, with applications due June 25.

### **[Federal study offers analysis of campus violence](#)**

The Department, U.S. Secret Service, and Federal Bureau of Investigation have released a study of targeted violence incidents on U.S. campuses of higher learning. Overall, 272 incidents were identified through a comprehensive search of nearly 115,000 results. The findings are pertinent and far-reaching, and incidents studied include all kinds of targeted violence, ranging from domestic violence to serial killers.

### **[Sobering news](#)**

#### ***U of C study shows 'default' college-prep curriculum not sufficient to boost student performance***

As state and national policymakers look for ways to improve the rigor of the high school curriculum and enhance students' readiness for college, many have turned their attention to increasing course requirements in core academic subjects. But a study by the University of Chicago Consortium on Chicago School Research and the University of Michigan has found that, though there are benefits to adopting a rigorous curriculum for all students, the policy does little to move the needle on student test scores or other performance measures.



Coalition for Illinois High Schools' 5<sup>th</sup> Annual High School Challenge Conference on June 14-15, Double Tree Hotel, Bloomington. For registration information contact: Coalition for Illinois High Schools, P.O. Box 2715, Bloomington, IL 61702-2715 309-663-6377.

## People in the News



An educator whose background includes world-class accomplishment in track and field, military intelligence for the U.S. Army and management roles inside Fortune 500 companies is the new dean of the Northern Illinois University College of Education. [La Vonne I. Neal](#), currently dean of the College of Education at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, will assume the top job July 1 pending Board of Trustees approval. Neal replaces Lemuel Watson, who took over the college in 2007.

[Robert Andersen](#), senior associate director of the Office of Student Financial Aid at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, has been named director of the Western Illinois University Office of Financial Aid, effective June 1.

Four scientists from three Illinois universities have been elected to the National Academy of Sciences. Physics professor [Nigel Goldenfeld](#) of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, was elected. Also elected were geophysical sciences professor [David Jablonski](#) of the University of Chicago, chemistry professor [Chad Mirkin](#) of Northwestern University and chemistry professor [Richard Van Duyne](#) also of Northwestern University.

## Campus News

### [WIU selected as model institution for degree completion](#)

According to the Southern Regional Education Board's (SREB) recent report, "Promoting a Culture of Student Success," Western Illinois University was cited among just 15 U.S. colleges and universities – and was the only Illinois university listed – that are outperforming most similar institutions in helping students succeed and graduate. "We are especially pleased to be recognized as a best practice institution by the SREB for our retention and graduation rates. Being included in this study further demonstrates our commitment to our students' success and that our primary commitment is to serve students," said WIU President Al Goldfarb. "I am also pleased that since this report was completed, our graduation rate has increased to a historic high of more than 59 percent."



## Commencement

[Loyola University Chicago](#) has announced the speakers to give the addresses for the University's 140<sup>th</sup> annual commencement ceremonies, to be held May 13-15, May 22, and June 6. Illinois Board of Higher Education's executive director, Judy Erwin, will be speaking to School of Education graduates on May 15.

Pulitzer Prize winning-columnist Clarence Page will deliver the keynote address Sunday, May 16, when [Illinois College](#) gathers to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the first college commencement service in the State of Illinois.

[Lincoln College-Normal](#)'s 17<sup>th</sup> annual commencement ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, May 8. John Hutchinson will deliver the commencement address – his last – as President of the institution. Eighty-four students – including the inaugural group of graduates from the Accelerated Bridge to Education program – will graduate during the ceremony.

[Lincoln College](#) announced its 143<sup>rd</sup> commencement ceremonies will be held on Saturday, May 8. John Hutchinson, who will retire as President later this summer, will deliver his final commencement address. In addition to Dr. Hutchinson's address, Mubeen Khan of Wheeling will deliver the student address. This year's honorary degree recipient is Ms. Dionne Warwick, the Grammy® - winning recording artist, TV personality, and noted humanitarian.

Civil rights advocate Thomas Perez, will present the commencement address and receive an honorary degree from [Northeastern Illinois University](#) at the commencement exercises on Saturday, May 8. Perez is Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice.

*Editor's note: For publication of Commencement Speakers and excerpts from speeches given, please send information to: [FridayMemo@ibhe.org](mailto:FridayMemo@ibhe.org)*

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

---

### **[Ad campaign hopes to inspire college ambitions among U.S. Latinos](#)**

(Diverse Issues In Higher Education)

WASHINGTON – Latino parents are the target of a new public service advertising campaign by the Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF) in concert with the Ad Council to help instill a college-going culture within the nation's largest minority group.

### **[Black graduates owe more debt than white, Asian, or Hispanic graduates](#)**

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

Many students graduate with manageable debt or no education loans, but almost 17 percent of graduates in 2008 borrowed \$30,500 or more to get their bachelor's degrees, according to a new analysis.

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](mailto:FridayMemo@ibhe.org)

[Sign up](#) to Friday Memo mailing list