

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

June 25, 2010

[Lumina exec paints daunting challenge of increasing college completion](#)

Four in 10 Americans between ages 55 and 64 have a college degree. That is tops in the world.

But 4 in 10 Americans between ages 25 and 64 have a college degree, which places America just 10th in the world. Therein, says Dewayne Matthews, lies the challenge facing Illinois and the U.S. – the need to raise educational attainment levels dramatically for Americans to compete successfully in a global economy where other nations are increasingly out-educating the United States.

Matthews, vice president for policy and strategy at the Lumina Foundation, spoke to the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) June 21 about how the U.S. can close the educational attainment gap – and Illinois' contribution to the task. Matthews discussed Lumina's Big Goal of reaching, by 2025, 60 percent of Americans having a meaningful postsecondary credential. That ambition will require 23 million more graduates over the next 15 years, or 150,000 new degrees or certificates each year, every year.

Summertime . . .



. . . and Friday Memo will go on its bimonthly schedule. Look for FM in your inbox in two weeks.

[ISBE adopts rigorous Common Core State Standards to better prepare students for college and the workforce](#)

The Illinois State Board of Education this week adopted a revised set of learning standards for K-12 education to better prepare Illinois students for success in college and careers. A state-led coalition committed to academic rigor and success in the global economy developed the new standards. The Common Core State Standards establish clear and consistent benchmarks for essential learning and skills, replacing the current Illinois standards that were developed in 1997.

"The goal is to have fewer, clearer and higher standards focused on college and career expectations," said ISBE Board Chair Jesse H. Ruiz. "Our Board supports these new standards because they are essential for our students, for their futures and for the future economy of Illinois. We look forward to working with all interested parties in implementing these standards in classrooms throughout the state."

[The 'College Economy' – Report says many workers will be left behind without some postsecondary credentials](#)

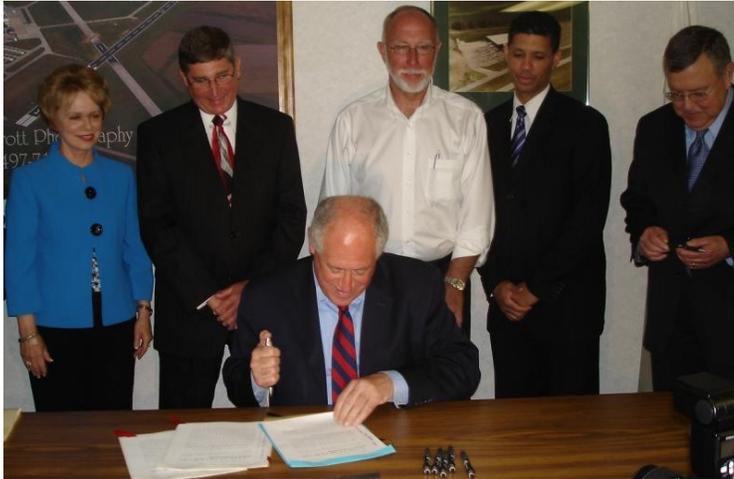
A new, highly detailed forecast shows that as the economy struggles to recover, and jobs slowly return, there will be a growing disconnect between the types of jobs employers need to fill and numbers of Americans who have the education and training to fill those jobs.

The [report](#), *Help Wanted: Projecting Jobs and Education Requirements Through 2018*, by the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, forecasts that by 2018, 63 percent of all jobs will require at least some postsecondary education. Employers will need 22 million new workers with postsecondary degrees – and the report shows that we will fall short by three million workers without a dramatic change in course. This translates into a deficit of 300,000 college graduates every year between now and 2018.

Research by Public Agenda found one reason for the nation's **dismal college completion rate** is the **difficult**

juggling act so many students have to perform between work, school and family responsibilities. In our survey of young adults, **With Their Whole Lives Ahead of Them**, we found more than half of those who left higher ed before completing a degree say that the "need to work and make money" while attending classes is the major reason they left.

Governor signs community college borrowing bill



Gov. Quinn is joined by Danville Area Community College President, Alice Jacobs; ICCB Chairman Guy Alongi; Sen. Gary Forby; Rep. David Miller, and Rep. Bill Black at the signing of SB 2615, legislation that doubles the amount community colleges can borrow to help with cash flow issues. Colleges also will be able to open lines of credit, a new authority contained in the law.

ICCB takes steps to curb travel expenses

Officials with the Illinois Community College Board say they're trimming back on travel expenses in an effort to save money for a state struggling to make ends meet.

Guy Alongi of Du Quoin, chairman of the board, says members will now have their bimonthly meetings only in Springfield, instead of visiting different community college campuses around Illinois. The meeting time and place is meant to cut down on reimbursements made to board members and staff on meals and hotel rooms, he said.

With 12 board members and up to six staff members traveling on the state dime, hotel rooms at an average of \$85 per night and daily meal expense hovering around \$30 can add up, Alongi said.

ISAC commends students for efforts to rescue MAP funding

At its June 18 commission meeting, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) unanimously approved a proclamation recognizing students' contributions to the restoration of funding for the Monetary Award Program (MAP) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010.

ISAC Chairman Donald McNeil said, "It's rather unusual these days to see students organize around one issue and let their voices be heard. Students from all sectors of higher education—MAP recipients and non-recipients alike—came together with a common interest to bring forth change. We are extremely grateful for the support that MAP has received from students across the state."



[Off the MAP – number of eligible students denied MAP grants exceeds 44,000, and counting](#)

[Obama administration proposes new rules on student aid](#)

Last week, the Obama Administration proposed a broad set of new rules and definitions to strengthen federal student aid programs by protecting students from aggressive or misleading recruiting practices, providing consumers with better information about the effectiveness of career college and training programs, and ensuring that only eligible students and programs receive aid.

To qualify for federal aid, most career colleges and training programs must demonstrate they are preparing students for gainful employment within recognized occupations. The Department is proposing to require proprietary and vocational institutions of higher education to present prospective students with their program's graduation and job placement rates, as well as supply such information to the Department to allow it to determine student debt levels and incomes after program completion. The agency is still developing metrics to hold programs accountable for preparing their students for gainful employment and intends to publish a separate NPRM later this summer.

The current NPRM is open to public comment through August 2.

Other U.S. Department of Education news:

- To highlight the key role that community colleges play in preparing adults for success in the workplace, the Department produced ["Path to Opportunity,"](#) a series of three videos profiling non-traditional students attending community colleges.
- A new [Pew Research Center analysis](#) of Department data finds the recent boom in the size of freshmen classes at four-year colleges, community colleges, and trade schools has been driven by a significant increase in minority student enrollment.

[Governor announces \\$10 million grant for Rush University emergency center](#)

Governor Pat Quinn announced this \$10 million capital grant to help construct a new, state-of-the-art emergency and disaster preparedness center at Rush University Medical Center. The McCormick Center for Advanced Emergency Response, the first of its kind in the United States, will more than double the size of the hospital's emergency department and is designed to better care for the victims of major catastrophes.

"It is the duty of state government to provide for the health and safety of our residents here in Illinois," said Governor Quinn. "The state-of-the-art emergency center at Rush University Medical Center is a great example of how investing capital dollars creates jobs and improves our local communities."



[Governor signs bill to spur job creation](#)

Governor Quinn has signed a bill into law that will encourage investment in Illinois' businesses and support Southern Illinois' economy. Senate Bill 2093 will create the Angel Investment Tax Credit to support direct investment by Illinois entrepreneurs and start-up companies and will double the state's existing New Markets Tax Credit for new investment into small businesses in underserved communities. In addition, it creates a pilot program – Sales Tax and Revenue (STAR) bonds – to help develop a major retail and entertainment complex near Marion in Southern Illinois.

"Illinois has created more jobs this year than any other state in the Midwest. We must continue to work day and night to ensure residents across the state have access to a good paying job and direct investment into Illinois' businesses and entrepreneurs is one of the best ways to do that," Quinn said. "This new law will bring investment, spur economic development and create jobs across Illinois."

[ECS challenges states to step up in remedial education](#)

Denver—The Education Commission of the States has released a policy framework on how states can develop comprehensive policies for increasing the college success of students who require remedial education.

"We can no longer rely on incremental, institutionally-based changes to remedial instruction, but instead must use policy to develop state and postsecondary system strategies that can be implemented, evaluated and continuously improved," said Bruce Vandal, director of Postsecondary Education and Workforce Development at ECS and director of *Getting Past Go*, a 50-state initiative to leverage policy to improve the success of remedial education students.

The framework, "Rebuilding the Remedial Education Bridge to College Success," was developed by ECS and its project partners, Knowledge in the Public Interest (KPI) and Policy Research in Preparation, Access and Remedial Education (PREPARE) at the University of Massachusetts Boston.

Nurse Educator Fellows honored



Eighteen nurse educators who have each received \$10,000 stipends under an IBHE program to keep exemplary nursing faculty in the classroom were recognized during the advisory board of the Illinois Center for Nursing's June meeting. The Nurse Educator Grant Program is administered by the IBHE and began in 2006 to provide modest one-time salary supplements to faculty who demonstrate extraordinary teaching ability. Because nurse educators can usually substantially increase compensation by working in the private sector, the fellowship program reinforces their choice to remain in higher education.

Back Row (left to right) 1) Donald W. Seasock, Acting Director IDFPR; 2) Kelly Jo Cone, PhD, RN, CNE; 3) Jennie Van Schyndel, MSN, RN; 4) Anne Morgan, MSN, RN; 5) Teresa J. Krassa, PhD, RN, CNE; 6) Pamela Bradley, MSN, RN, OCN, CNE; 7) Rebecca Ann Luebbert, MSN, RN, PMHCNS-BC; 8) Jennifer Burton Rousseau, MSN, RN/APN; 9) Nancy L. Novotny, PhD, RN;

Front Row (left to right) 1) Zepure Samawi, PhD, RN; 2) Darla Kim DeWolff, MSN, RN, CPNP; 3) Susan L. Baylor,

MSN, RN, NCSN, CNE; 4) Pamela Lynn Lindsey, DNS, RN; 5) Cheryl A. Luster-Klemp, MSN, RN; 6) Christine R. Durbin, PhD, JD, RN; 7) Michele Bromberg, MSN, APN, BC, Advisory Board Chair; 8) Penny J. Reiss, PhD, RN; 9) Rich Jachino, IBHE; 10) Catherine Folker-Maglaya, MSN, RN; 11) Bonnie J. Beardsley, PhD, RN; Unable to attend, Heather L. Duncan, MSN, RN.

[Fast forward – CUNY students celebrate record success in graduation](#)

New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and Matthew Goldstein, chancellor of City University of New York, presided at a graduation recognition ceremony this week for students who completed the City's Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP). The program provides extensive support to help students and working adults complete associate degrees. When the program was launched in 2007, the Mayor and Chancellor set the ambitious goal of graduating at least 50 percent of students within three years – a rate that is more than three times the national average for urban community colleges. The City has already reached that goal, with 53 percent of students completing their coursework, and is on track to reach 56 percent in September.

People in the News

[William Obuchowski](#), student member of the IBHE Board, and **[Dimitri Kametas](#)**, nontraditional student member of the IBHE Board, were recognized for their service and contributions to the Board at the June 21 Board meeting. Obuchowski began his participation in student government at Moraine Valley Community College, before transferring to Judson University to complete his baccalaureate studies. Kametas, a student at Loyola University Chicago, majored in finance. Replacing them on the Board for the upcoming year are **[Dimitra Georgouses](#)**, student member from Roosevelt University, and **[David Benjaih](#)**, nontraditional student member from Northeastern Illinois University.

[Cary Nelson](#), a professor emeritus of English at the University of Illinois and president of the American Association of University Professors, has written a new book, "No University is an Island: Saving Academic Freedom" (New York University Press, 2010). Nelson examines a lengthy list of trends and forces – such as corporatization, globalization, and intrusive research oversight – that he says are eroding the three foundational principles of higher education: academic freedom, shared governance and tenure.

[The Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M.](#), president of DePaul University, was among campus leaders from across the country invited to partner with the Obama administration in the coming year to further advance interfaith and community cooperation on campuses and connect campus-based initiatives to the administration's broader service priorities. Holtschneider was one of five panelists who spoke at the event's panel presentation on "Successful Models of Interfaith and Community Collaborations on Campuses and Seminaries."

Cary McMillan, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC), announced new leadership at SAIC. **[Walter E. Massey, Ph.D.](#)** will serve as SAIC's President, effective September 13, 2010 and **[Elissa Tenny, Ed.D.](#)** has been appointed to the newly created position of SAIC Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs, effective August 16, 2010. Massey is President Emeritus of Morehouse College (Atlanta, GA), having served as President from 1995 to 2007. Tenny comes to SAIC from Bennington College in Vermont, where she has served as Provost and Dean since 2002.

Campus News

[NIU joins partners in two states in federal project to advance Rock River Valley automotive industry](#)

Northern Illinois University's Center for Governmental Studies will partner with five other colleges and universities, key economic development agencies and officials from local and state governments in a \$5.9 million federal grant to promote innovation and entrepreneurship in the Rock River Valley.

[Federal grant helping UIS make more textbooks available online](#)

The University of Illinois Springfield will benefit from a recently awarded federal grant that will provide online textbook access to students at all three U of I campuses. U.S. Senator Dick Durbin helped secure the funding from the Department of Education for the open-source project. Durbin has been a major supporter of lowering textbook costs on college campuses.

[2009 Practical Nursing Graduates celebrate 100 percent pass rate on national licensing exam](#)

College of DuPage Practical Nursing graduates from December 2009 experienced a 100 percent pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination-Practical Nurses. Thirty-five students tested for the NCLEX-PN, and all 35 passed. While College of DuPage PN graduates always have a high pass rate percentage, this is the first time the school achieved perfection.

News from Higher Education

[Demand for educated workers may outstrip supply by 2018](#)

(The Wall Street Journal)

Workers with college experience have held up better during the current downturn, and new research suggests that demand for more educated employees may outstrip supply over the next decade.

[Veterans use new GI Bill largely at for-profit and 2-year colleges](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

For-profit colleges and community colleges were the most popular choices of students who used benefits from the Post-9/11 GI Bill this past academic year, the first in which the aid was available. The attendance patterns were largely similar to those of students who recently used aid under the previous version of the GI Bill.

[Get them in, get them out](#)

(Inside Higher Ed)

WASHINGTON – A pair of education advocates urged President Obama to prioritize the distribution of funds from the recently created Community College and Career Training Grant program to those institutions that radically remodel their certificate and degree programs to emphasize speedy graduation and job placement.

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