

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

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July 23, 2010

[College completion goal: A long way to go](#)

“55% by 2025” was the rallying cry of a 2008 report by the Commission on Access, Admissions, and Success in Higher Education – increasing U.S. college degree attainment levels to 55% of the adult population. A progress report released this week by the College Board notes the nation is 13.4 percentage points from the goal.

“When the view among states is examined, no state has a population of which 55 percent of its citizens have an associate degree or higher,” the report states. “If we are to achieve the goal of 55 percent by 2025, the level of growth in degree attainment must increase at a more significant rate during the next 15 years.”

The report also notes that “erasing disparities in educational attainment for low-income and underrepresented minority students” is key to achieving the goal – more than half of the degrees needed to reach the 55 percent level could come from eliminating that achievement gap.

Get the [full report](#)

[Duncan applauds joint convocation of K-12, higher ed leaders](#)

Secretary of Education Arne Duncan keynoted a historic first formal meeting of the Council of State Chief School Officers and the State Higher Education Executive Officers association, praising the gathering for its recognition of the “synergistic” relationship the two organizations have in fostering student success.

Duncan said: “In the past, the K-12 and postsecondary systems have frequently acted as though they occupied separate universes, except to the extent that the two systems competed for funding. The truth, which this conference attests to, is that K-12 and higher ed are inter-dependent. Rather than being engaged in a zero-sum game where you compete for resources, you are in fact synergistic—working together you can accomplish much more than working apart.

“The North Star guiding all the administration's efforts is President Obama's goal that America should once again have the highest college graduation rate in the world by the end of the decade. We are aligning all our work and resources to that ambitious, but widely-shared goal. To reach it, K-12 and higher education must continue to expand their collaboration,” Duncan said.

[Community colleges see big gains in virtual classes, ICCB Research Brief notes](#)

Online education is gaining ground throughout higher education, and the Illinois community college system is no exception. According to a Research Brief prepared by the Illinois Community College Board:

- Enrollments in online courses at Illinois community colleges have nearly **doubled** over the past 5 years while the number of courses offered increased more than 60 percent.

UPCOMING

July

27 Higher Education Finance Study Commission, UIC, Chicago

Summit on Aging and Education

What: A conference to bring individuals of all ages together to solve problems through intergenerational partnerships. The focus will be on health and school dropouts.

When: Monday, September 20, 2010

Where: Illinois State University, New Alumni Center

Registration: Anita Revelle
309.438.2818, arrevel@ilstu.edu

- Looking across all levels and sectors of Illinois higher education, community colleges offered nearly **half of all online courses** and accounted for over one-third of all online enrollments based on information from the Illinois Virtual Campus.
- Nearly **3 out of every 10 community college graduates** have taken at least one online course in the past five years.
- Overall adjusted **retention rates** for students in online courses are **higher** than for their non-online counterparts.

The Research Brief on online education is the first of what ICCB promises will be a periodic publication examining critical higher education issues. According to ICCB, Research Briefs will serve multiple functions: provide a quick overview of selected results from recent research conducted by Board staff in partnership with the colleges; succinctly furnish information about emerging issues; or briefly address frequently asked questions.

BUDGET 1 – [Off the MAP](#) – eligible students for need-based grants, FY 2011



BUDGET 2 - State Appropriations Owed Public Universities and Community Colleges as of June 30, 2010, the end of the fiscal year.

| Public Universities | General Funds Appropriation* | Vouchered To-Date | GRF Received | ARRA Received | Total Received | Vouchered Not Received |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Chicago State University | \$ 42,112.0 | \$ 42,101.0 | \$ 31,310.0 | \$ 3,452.0 | \$34,762.0 | \$ 7,339.0 |
| Eastern Illinois University | 50,566.5 | 50,566.5 | 34,343.0 | 2,957.0 | 37,300.0 | 13,266.5 |
| Governors State University | 28,324.4 | 28,289.8 | 19,511.5 | 2,338.3 | 21,849.8 | 6,440.0 |
| Illinois State University | 85,096.4 | 84,700.8 | 60,086.7 | 4,644.4 | 64,731.1 | 19,969.7 |
| Northeastern Illinois University | 43,401.9 | 43,397.5 | 29,067.7 | 4,154.2 | 33,221.9 | 10,175.6 |
| Northern Illinois University | 107,421.1 | 107,421.1 | 76,526.7 | 4,456.0 | 80,982.7 | 26,438.4 |
| Western Illinois University | 59,919.6 | 59,919.6 | 38,833.2 | 3,528.5 | 42,361.7 | 17,557.9 |
| Southern Illinois University | 233,567.0 | 233,517.5 | 133,169.8 | 15,913.30 | 149,083.1 | 84,434.4 |
| University of Illinois | 743,419.7 | 742,195.3 | 418,162.5 | 45,518.6 | 463,681.1 | 278,514.2 |
| Public University, Subtotal | \$ 1,393,828.6 | \$1,392,109.1 | \$ 841,011.1 | \$86,962.3 | \$927,973.4 | \$464,135.7 |
| Community Colleges | \$ 354,120.0 | \$ 353,655.5 | \$ 292,433.4 | \$6,973.9 | \$299,407.3 | \$54,248.2 |
| TOTAL | \$ 1,747,948.6 | \$ 1,745,764.6 | \$1,133,444.5 | \$ 93,936.2 | \$1,227,380.7 | \$518,383.9 |

[Changing landscape makes some higher ed institutions rethink the unthinkable: outsourcing instruction](#)

A new Policy Brief from the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) examines a potentially explosive trend: hiring outside organizations to offer instruction.

The Policy Brief, written by Alene Russell, notes: "In the face of rising budgetary pressures, mounting calls to increase the number of adults with postsecondary credentials, critical enrollment capacity issues, and escalating competition from the for-profit sector, public college and university officials are increasingly exploring a new and controversial frontier in higher education—outsourcing instruction. Though virtually unheard of a decade ago, such outsourcing is beginning to gain traction in select locations around the nation."

[Back to school shopping? College Illinois! prices increase Aug. 1](#)

Back-to-school shopping season is the best time to lock in college tuition prices, according to the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC). That's because Saturday, July 31, is the last day to take advantage of the College Illinois!@ 529 Prepaid Tuition Program's July pricing discounts.

[U of I expert says high school prep is key to reducing remedial coursework in college](#)

High schools need to work with community colleges to align their curricula better and to reduce the number of students who need to enroll in remedial courses, according to a University of Illinois expert who studies community college education policy.

Debra Bragg, a professor of educational organization and leadership and the director of the Forum on the Future of Public Education at Illinois, says a major reason why college completion is not keeping pace with enrollment is that many students graduate from high school inadequately prepared for college-level work.

"It's a system-wide problem, as well as a fundamental lack of alignment between high schools and colleges, and the system's lack of expectations and support for students who aren't seen as high achievers as they progress through K-12," Bragg said.



Debra Bragg

[NCES report puts an ethnic face on educational achievement](#)

The National Center for Education Statistics, (NCES) has released a report "Status and Trends in the Education of Racial and Ethnic Groups" that profiles current conditions and recent trends in the education of students by racial and ethnic group. It presents a selection of indicators that illustrate the educational achievement and attainment by race and ethnicity. This report presents 29 indicators that provide information and examine (1) demographics; (2) patterns of preprimary, elementary, and secondary school enrollment; (3) student achievement; (4) persistence; (5) student behaviors that can affect their education; (6) participation in postsecondary education; and (7) outcomes of education.

One finding of the report concerned the connection between educational attainment and unemployment. In 2008, the unemployment rate was higher for Hispanics (8 percent), Blacks (9 percent), American Indians/Alaska Natives (10 percent), and persons of two or more races (10 percent), than it was for Whites and Asians (4 percent each). In general, lower unemployment rates were associated with higher levels of education for each racial/ethnic group. The unemployment rate for Blacks without a high school diploma or equivalent was 22 percent, compared with 11 percent for those with a high school credential and 4 percent for those with at least a bachelor's degree.

People in the News



Danville Area Community College Board of Trustees Vice Chairperson, [David W. Harby](#), has been elected to the office of Chair of the Illinois Community College Trustees' Association. As Chair, Mr. Harby also will serve as a member of the ICCTA's Executive Committee.

A well-respected, former top higher education leader in Kentucky, Mississippi, and Illinois has been approved by the Louisiana Board of Regents as Louisiana's Interim Commissioner of Higher Education. [Tom Layzell](#), the retired President of the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education, says he's excited about coming to Louisiana to serve in an interim capacity and looks forward to working with the board and the systems to help move Louisiana's educational agenda forward. Layzell formerly headed the Board of Governors and Universities in Illinois.

[Nicole Mitchell](#), a musician at the University of Illinois at Chicago has been named flutist of the year by both Downbeat magazine and the New York-based Jazz Journalists Association. She has taught jazz flute, jazz history, and jazz ensemble at UIC since 2006.

[Sohair Wastawy](#), dean of libraries at Illinois State University, has been honored with an Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) International Relations Committee Special Recognition Award for leadership.

Campus News

[Lewis University Family Nurse Practitioner program broadens options for nurses](#)

Applications are being accepted for the new Family Nurse Practitioner program at Lewis University. The new graduate program for those with a bachelor's degree in nursing begins its first classes in August. "The College of Nursing and Health Professions developed this program with the recognition that the healthcare reform underway is moving nurse practitioners more and more into primary care," commented Lauren Diegel-Vacek MS FNP-C DNP(c), who coordinates the Lewis Nurse Practitioner program and serves as an assistant professor.

[Presidents of Chicago Southland College Association sign mutual aid agreement](#)

For college administrators, preparing for a tragedy like the Northern Illinois University shootings is an unfortunate reality. That's why the presidents of the 12 institutions in the South Metropolitan Higher Education Consortium, a partnership of colleges and universities in the Chicago southland, have agreed to provide assistance to one another during a campus crisis. The South Metropolitan Higher Education Consortium members are: DeVry University, Governors State University, Illinois Institute of Technology, Joliet Junior College, Kankakee Community College, Lewis University, Moraine Valley Community College, Northwestern College, Prairie State College, Saint Xavier University, South Suburban College, and University of St. Francis. The consortium was formed in 1992.



Present in the above picture are—Seated from left: Dr. John Avendano, President, Kankakee Community College; Dr. Gena Proulx, President, Joliet Junior College; Dr. Michael Vinciguerra, President, University of St. Francis; Dr. Eric Radtke, President, Prairie State College; Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President, Lewis University. Standing from Left: Dr. Jamal Scott, President, DeVry University-Tinley Park campus and centers; Ms. Christine Wiseman, J.D. President, Saint Xavier University; Mr. Larry Schumacher, President, Northwestern College; Dr. Sylvia Jenkins, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Moraine Valley Community College; Mr. David Baker, Vice President of External Affairs, Illinois Institute of Technology; Mr. George Dammer, President, South Suburban College; Dr. Terry Allison, Provost, Governors State University.

[Federal grant funds Hull-House urban farm, soup kitchen](#)

A modern soup kitchen and urban heirloom vegetable farm at the University of Illinois at Chicago will continue operating with help from a \$149,000 grant from the Washington-based Institute of Museum and Library Services.

[UIS named full-fledged NCAA Division II member](#)

The University of Illinois Springfield is now eligible to compete in 2010-11 as a full member of the NCAA, the Great Lakes Valley Conference and is eligible for post-season competition.

News from Higher Education

[Administration proposal aims to tighten oversight of for-profit colleges](#)

(The Washington Post)

Education Secretary Arne Duncan proposed Thursday that for-profit colleges be required to show through certain new measures that their graduates are not saddled with too much debt, an initiative he said was meant to protect students from "a few bad actors" in the industry.

[Lawmakers in New York and Illinois leave higher education in limbo](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

Fiscal conditions are bad for public colleges nearly everywhere, but lawmakers in Illinois and New York have put state universities in particularly difficult spots in recent weeks.

[Lumina Foundation suffers 'initiative fatigue,' state leaders are told](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

The Lumina Foundation for Education has become one of the best-known higher-education philanthropies in the country, spending nearly \$50-million annually on projects to improve college completion, but now the foundation is worried about "initiative fatigue," said Jamie P. Merisotis, the group's president.

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