

Illinois Higher Ed  
*The Friday Memo*

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President/CEO Geoff Obrzut

ISAC  
Chairman Don McNeil  
Executive Director Andy Davis

October 1, 2010

[Higher Ed Finance Study Commission discusses financial aid as lever for student access and success](#)

The third meeting of the Higher Education Finance Study Commission was held on September 23<sup>rd</sup> at Robert Morris University, where the discussion focused on ways to use student financial aid to leverage state goals for degree completion. Commissioners also discussed the strengths and weaknesses of the state's major need-based Monetary Award Program (MAP). Andy Davis, executive director of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, described agency activities to strengthen MAP, including a human capital investment bonding program to increase the number of MAP grants available to community college students. David Longenecker, president of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, compared Illinois' financial aid programs and policies with other states and discussed ways to incentivize student success and completion through changes in financial aid policy.

The Commission next meets on Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at Oakton Community College to discuss its recommendations on possible changes to financing policies to accomplish the goals of the *Illinois Public Agenda* through the state's higher education budgeting process.

[ISACorps featured on Education Nation segment on Chicago NBC 5](#)

View the video clip for an informative description of how the near-peer mentoring on preparing and paying for college offered by ISACorps members to high school students and their families is paying positive rewards to students who want to attend college.

[Advance Illinois issues report card on education](#)

Co-chairs of Advance Illinois, former Governor Jim Edgar and former U.S. Secretary of Commerce Bill Daley, presented the organization's report card on education in Illinois on September 24. The report looks beyond test scores to examine achievement gaps, early childhood and postsecondary enrollment and completion, trends over time, and how the state compares to other states. The report also identifies leading indicators that help signal where growth might be expected going forward.

[Joyce Foundation unveils how-to guide for improving teacher quality](#)

*Teacher Quality: What You Need to Know*, a unique narrative, guidebook, and website for improving the performance of our nation's school teachers, has been released by the Chicago-based Joyce Foundation. Aimed at parents, community leaders, school administrators, and policy makers, the materials detail two stories of the same teacher: one who receives the right support to help her students succeed and one who does not. Also included is a helpful, 'how-to' guidebook – *Improving Teacher Quality: Here's How* – which outlines steps advocates can take to improve the way teachers are recruited, supported, evaluated, and rewarded.

**UPCOMING**

**October**

**2-3** IBHE Student Advisory Committee, Roosevelt University, Chicago

**4** DFI Program Board, DePaul University, Chicago

**5** Higher Education Finance Study Commission, Oakton Community College, Des Plaines

IBHE Board meeting, Oakton Community College, Des Plaines

IBHE Disabilities Advisory Committee, Oakton Community College, Des Plaines

## [Leading Illinois Back to Work--Sustaining Our Future: ICCA Fall Conference](#)

The Fall Illinois Council of Community College Administrators' Conference and Leadership and Core Values Institute will be held November 17-19, 2010, at Tinley Park Convention Center. This year's conference will focus on topics relevant to all community college administrators. Keynote speakers include Frank Chong, the USDOE Deputy Secretary for Community Colleges, an inspirational speaker named John Foppe, and Dr. Kent Keith, the CEO of the Greenleaf Center for Servant Leadership. In addition, there are 28 breakout sessions at this year's conference.



[Off the MAP](#) – eligible students missing out on need-based MAP grants

## **ICBCHE + ILACHE = IALHEA**

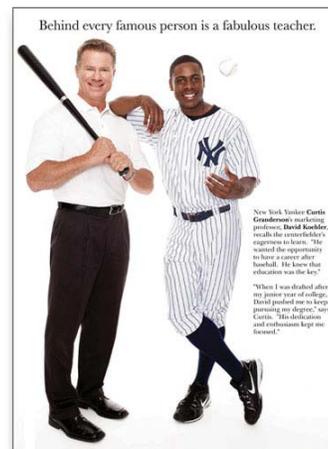
In 2007, the Illinois Committee on Black Concerns in Higher Education (ICBCHE) and the Illinois Latino Committee on Higher Education (ILACHE) were jointly awarded an Illinois Board of Higher Education HECA grant to work together on a shared mission of documenting and enhancing the participation of Blacks and Latinos on college and university campuses across the state of Illinois. The IALHEA Listserv is one of the outcomes of that collaboration. Job openings in higher education institutions in Illinois and beyond are posted on a regular basis. Position announcements are welcomed and can be sent to [iperales@depaul.edu](mailto:iperales@depaul.edu) or [ialhea@yahoo.com](mailto:ialhea@yahoo.com).

## **People in the News**



On Monday, September 27, the University of Illinois Board of Trustees and President Michael J. Hogan honored [Dr. Richard D. Ringeisen](#), Chancellor of the University of Illinois Springfield, for his leadership in guiding the Springfield campus over the past decade. A [video retrospective](#) was viewed at the event.

New York Yankees centerfielder Curtis Granderson is honoring his former professor [David Koehler](#), clinical assistant professor of managerial studies at University of Illinois Chicago, in a national marketing campaign, "Behind Every Famous Person is a Fabulous Teacher." After Granderson was drafted by the Detroit Tigers in June 2002, Koehler pushed him to complete his degree. Despite the demands of professional baseball, he graduated from the College of Business Administration in 2003. The campaign, by the nonprofit group TeachersCount, pairs celebrities with teachers who had a positive influence on their lives.



## Campus News

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### **Eastern hosts first Regional Energy Symposium**

The Renewable Energy Symposium, to be held October 13 at the Martin Luther King University Union, from 1 p.m.-5 p.m. will provide leaders from the public and private sectors an opportunity to learn more about the role of renewable energy in the future of Central Illinois. Speakers at this inaugural event include Senator Dale Righter, Representative Chapin Rose, and Wabash Valley Power Association vice president, Greg Wagoner. EIU staff, Gary Reed and Paul McCann will discuss the university's Renewable Energy Center, and Professor Chris Laingen will explore the potential for a regional biomass market. Contact Kelli Davis at 217-581-2011 or by email at [kddavis4@eiu.edu](mailto:kddavis4@eiu.edu) for more information or to register to attend.

### **[NEIU celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month 2010](#)**

As a nationally recognized Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI), Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) is celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month with a series of events that recognize the contributions of Hispanic Americans and celebrate Hispanic heritage and culture. Among the events planned is the **Latino Student Leadership Conference being held on Saturday, October 2 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** The mission of the Latino Student Leadership Conference is to promote leadership among current and future Northeastern Illinois University Latino students by celebrating the contributions of Latino educational leaders, providing a forum for social networking and the exchange of ideas, and to increase social awareness and empowerment around academic issues.

### **[Illinois Sustainability Compact signed by 11 colleges and universities](#)**

In another step to show the college commitment to sustainability, representatives from 11 Illinois colleges and universities signed the renewed Illinois Campus Sustainability Compact during a Sustainability Workshop hosted at Moraine Valley Community College on Sept. 14. The schools are part of the South Metropolitan Higher Education Consortium (SMHEC), a 19-year-old partnership among 12 colleges and universities in the Chicago Southland. By signing this compact, the institutions made themselves accountable to completing certain tasks that will work toward measured improvements and integrate sustainability in campus operations, academic and research programs, student activities, and community outreach. Every institution signed to one of three levels—gold, silver or bronze—each with a different number of tasks to complete.

### **[UIS honored with two national awards for excellence and leadership in online learning](#)**



The University of Illinois Springfield is being recognized with two awards from the Sloan Consortium, a national group of online educators, for excellence and leadership in online learning. The online Master of Arts in Teacher Leadership (MTL) program is the recipient of the 2010 Outstanding Online Program Award. Ray Schroeder, director of the Center for Online Learning, Research, and Service (COLRS) at UIS is the recipient of the inaugural A. Frank Mayadas Leadership Award. The award is the highest individual recognition offered by the Sloan Consortium and was voted on by a committee of leaders in higher education.

### **[ISU Center produces a new electronic newsletter on education policy](#)**

The Center for the Study of Education Policy at Illinois State University is providing information through an electronic newsletter about research projects, reports and presentations being conducted by the Center. Making this information available through the newsletter serves the Center's mission to bring the results of research into the everyday world of school administrators, governmental leaders, and higher education policymakers in Illinois and across the country.



**Military Times EDGE** invited more than 4,000 colleges and universities to describe their programs, policies and resources for veterans. Responses were evaluated in four criteria: financial assistance, academic flexibility, campus culture, and support services. Illinois public universities, Southern Illinois University Carbondale (#2), Western Illinois University (#25), and Northern Illinois University (#49) made the top 100 list.

## News from Higher Education

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### [Board suggests ways for southern states to lower college costs and increase degree production](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

The Southern United States includes some of most economically challenged areas in the nation, with large numbers of low-income families and fast-growing populations of minority students whose parents are not college-educated.

### [Latino college completion campaign moves forward with collaboration strategy](#)

(Diverse Issues in Higher Education)

Dozens of organizations around the country share the goal of improving Latino college student success, but there's been little progress in closing the educational-attainment gap.

### [Independent colleges launch 2020 graduation push](#)

(The Washington Post)

Two organizations of independent colleges unveiled a new website that brings together hundreds of existing or proposed initiatives at member colleges toward meeting President Obama's goal of regaining the lead in college completion by 2020.

### [The scrutiny spreads](#)

(Inside Higher Ed)

WASHINGTON – As the U.S. Department of Education and a Senate committee push ahead with their scrutiny of for-profit higher education, the sector may also face greater oversight from the Pentagon in the months and years ahead, if an examination by a House of Representatives panel is any evidence.

### [Value of college degree is growing, study says](#)

(The New York Times)

Despite rising tuition and student-loan debt levels, the long-term payoff from earning a college degree is growing, according to a report to be issued Tuesday by the College Board.

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