

Illinois Higher Ed  
*The Friday Memo*

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ISAC  
Chairman Don McNeil  
Executive Director Andy Davis

October 29, 2010

**UPCOMING**

**November**

**2** Election Day

**10** Higher Education Finance Study Commission, Columbia College, Chicago

**12** ICCB Board Meeting, Harry L. Crisp II Community College Center, Springfield

**19** ISAC Commission Meeting, Prairie State College, Chicago Heights



**News from the Federal Government**

**[Student aid rules become final; “gainful employment” rule to follow](#)**

The U. S. Department of Education has released the long awaited revised rules for higher education institutions participating in federal financial aid programs. The “gainful employment” rule is not included at this time as it has been postponed until early 2011. The final rules are effective July 1, 2011. The rules address 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 or programs receive aid. The rapid growth of enrollment, debt load, and default rates at for-profit institutions prompted the Department to embark on an 18-month negotiation with the higher education community over new regulations, which was required by Congress.

**[Report to the Congress on college credit card agreements](#)**

The Federal Reserve Board has issued an annual report in accordance with the federal law, the Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009, which lists certain information submitted to the Board by credit card issuers concerning agreements between issuers and institutions of higher education or certain affiliated organizations that provide for the issuance of credit cards to college students.

Illinois has a similar law, [The Credit Card Marketing Act of 2009 \(P.A. 96-0261\)](#), which regulates credit card marketing to students pursuing an undergraduate education at an institution of higher education. Included among the law’s requirements, any institution of higher education, including its affiliated entities such as alumni associations, that receives any funds or items of value from the distribution of applications for credit cards to undergraduate students must disclose agreements with credit card issuers. The disclosure applies only to agreements entered into after the January 1, 2010, effective date of the Act. The disclosure must appear in the following locations:

- On the webpage of the institution of higher education;
- [An annual report to the Illinois Board of Higher Education](#) ; and
- In any notices mailed to students marketing or promoting the credit card.

**[USDOE guidance targeting bullying](#)**

The U. S. Department of Education issued guidance to support educators in combating bullying in schools by clarifying when student bullying may violate federal education anti-discrimination laws. The guidance also makes clear that while current laws enforced by the agency do not protect against harassment based on religion or sexual orientation, they do protect against harassment of members of religious groups based on shared ethnic characteristics and both gender and sexual harassment of gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and transgender individuals. The guidance is in the form of a “Dear Colleague” letter sent to schools, colleges, and universities nationwide.

### [While demand for expanding community colleges grow, state funds don't](#)

The Education Policy Center at the University of Alabama has issued the results of a survey with the 51 state community college directors and finds that even with projected enrollment increases, state support is not expected to increase. By more than a 5 to 1 margin, most state directors believe that to achieve President Obama's goal of dramatically expanding numbers of adult Americans with college degrees community colleges must expand capacity. However, tuition increases are planned, while budget cuts and reductions in programs and classes to students are anticipated.

### [2010 reports on college costs and student aid](#)

The College Board's *Trends in Student Aid, 2010* provides detailed data on student aid of all types (grants, loans, work-study and tax benefits) from all sources (federal and state governments, colleges and universities, employers and other private entities). This report documents the large increases in federal grant aid in 2009-10, differences in student debt across sectors and family incomes, and other trends in the funds available to help students pay for postsecondary education. The Board's *Trends in College Pricing, 2010* shows that the public colleges and universities, where the vast majority of students enroll, posted large increases in their published tuition and fee levels in both 2009-10 and 2010-11. The unprecedented 2009-10 increase in federal grant aid prevented the rising prices from being reflected in the net prices facing low- and moderate-income students. *The Chronicle of Higher Education* has implemented an [interactive tool](#) based on College Board tuition and fee data that allows the public to compare tuition and fees at individual public and private institutions over time from 1999 to the present.

### [Grant funds support STEM learning experiences for high school students](#)

The Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy's (IMSA) Problem-Based Learning (PBL) Network has received a \$260,000 grant from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to develop and facilitate the *Illinois Innovation Talent Program*, a unique partnership between industry and education to provide students authentic experiences in STEM fields.

IMSA PBL facilitators worked with researchers, scientists, and professionals from 11 business, government and community agencies to create STEM problem challenges. IMSA then hosted a workshop during which each of these professional groups worked with teachers from two to five high schools to refine the topic into a PBL unit for their students. Thirty teams of teachers from 27 high schools across Illinois will receive mentoring and support from IMSA's PBL facilitators as they implement their units.

Industry partners include Abbott Labs, Allstate, Ameren, Astellas Pharma, Baxter International, Chicago Botanic Garden, ComEd, Illinois Department of Transportation, Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Council, and energy centers at Illinois State University and Western Illinois University. Teachers, students and industry partners within each topic will collaborate and manage their projects through CoolHub.IMSA ([coolhub.imsa.edu](http://coolhub.imsa.edu)), an online collaborative platform that includes video conferencing, online forums, wikis, blogs and more.

### **Student Laureates to be honored by Lincoln Academy November 6**

The Lincoln Academy of Illinois will honor outstanding senior college students and one student from among all of the community college students in Illinois during the annual Student Laureate Convocation 11 a.m. Saturday, November 6 at the Old State Capitol in Springfield. The Lincoln Academy's Student Laureate Awards are presented for excellence in curricular and extracurricular activities to seniors from each of the four-year, degree-granting colleges and universities in Illinois. At the Student Laureate Convocation, each will receive a Student Laureate Medallion, along with an honorarium check and certificate of achievement. This event will mark the 36<sup>th</sup> year that students have been honored by the Academy.

"These students have exhibited a personal commitment to excel as seen by their remarkable academic accomplishments," said Thomas S. Johnson, Chancellor of the Lincoln Academy, who added, "They serve as role models to other Illinois students. With hard-working and dedicated young leaders such as these, Illinois and the rest of the nation can look forward to a bright future." Student Laureate M. Elizabeth Judson of Eureka College will speak on

behalf of all the Laureates.

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



## People in the News

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### [ISAC issues statement regarding passing of former executive director](#)

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) issued a statement about the passing of former executive director, **Joseph D. Boyd**, 84, of Deerfield. Dr. Boyd, who served the Illinois State Scholarship Commission (ISSC) from 1961-1980, passed away Monday, October 25, 2010. Dr. Boyd was the Commission's third executive director.

"Today we celebrate the life of Dr. Joseph Boyd. We are thankful to him for his many contributions to the higher education community with a focus on students," said ISAC Executive Director Andrew Davis. "Dr. Boyd was a stable guiding force for the Commission during his 20-year tenure during the formative years of this agency, and we are indebted to him for laying a strong foundation for ISAC's current role as the state agency with the mission of making college accessible and affordable for all Illinois students."

During his tenure, Boyd oversaw the expansion of the Commission's presence statewide, opening offices in Chicago (1971) and Springfield (1975). He was a 40-year member of Deerfield Rotary, active in his church, Delta Tau Delta and Phi Delta Kappa fraternities, and was past president of Northwestern School of Education Alumni Association in addition to his service at the ISSC. The Boyd family requests donations may be made to The Rotary Foundation, One Rotary Center, 1560 Sherman Ave., Evanston, Ill. 60201.

## Campus News

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### [EIU announces beginning of "EI&U," A \\$50 Million Capital Campaign](#)

Eastern Illinois University's (EIU) first university-wide capital campaign designed to raise \$50 million for student, faculty, facility and program support was announced during Homecoming weekend. "We will expect greatness of ourselves and our university," President Bill Perry said. "This campaign lays a foundation for much more than the financial future of EIU. That is why we have three goals in this campaign: Develop more of the enduring relationships that are an EIU tradition, but must grow; develop more volunteers in support of EIU's programs; and, yes, achieve a significant monetary goal in support of students, faculty, programs, and facilities."

### [ISU Business Building to be named the State Farm Hall of Business](#)

The Illinois State University (ISU) Board of Trustees has approved naming the University's College of Business Building the State Farm Hall of Business. A formal naming ceremony for the building will take place on March 31, 2011. State Farm Companies Foundation has been supportive of Illinois State over the years, with more than half of its funding going to programs within the College of Business. In 1999, a grant of \$9 million provided seed money that helped leverage additional funds for construction of the College of Business Building, which opened in 2005. In addition to financial support, State Farm is also an active partner with many academic, research, and service initiatives

within the College of Business. More than 4,000 Illinois State alumni work for State Farm, many in leadership roles within the corporation.

### [Eureka College to build \\$6 million residence hall, update existing halls](#)

Eureka College will build a new residence hall and renovate several existing residence halls in what college officials are calling the most comprehensive and costly facilities project in college history. The Eureka College Board of Trustees voted Oct. 8 to construct a \$6 million residence hall on Reagan Drive and make \$5 million in updates to existing living quarters.

## [News from Higher Education](#)

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### [Trustees are not prepared for presidential retirements, study finds](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

More than half of college presidents plan to retire in the next six years, according to a recent study, and many leaders have yet to sort out the financial details of their retirement packages.

### [High stakes in Ohio](#)

(Inside Higher Ed)

As many states face billion-dollar deficits and struggle to maintain their quality of education with increasingly stingy budgets, few have remade their higher education systems as aggressively as Ohio has.

### [To pump up degree counts, colleges invite dropouts back](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

One idea for improving the nation's college-completion rate sounds simple enough: Find former students who have already earned enough credits to receive a degree, or need just a few more classes to do so, and encourage them to graduate.

### [Record surge at local and national graduate schools](#)

(Chicago Sun-Times)

Pat Burks last sat in a college classroom in 1976, the year she graduated from DePaul University. The 57-year-old nurse from Joliet found herself back on a different campus Wednesday, one of more than 60 men and women listening to a pitch for advanced nursing education from deans at Loyola University Chicago's Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing.

### [Program cuts loom at 4 public universities](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education)

Financially strapped public colleges and universities are living in the shadow of the ax this semester, enduring a renewed stream of announcements of potential or actual faculty layoffs and program closures.

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)

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