

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

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January 7, 2011

IBHE names Executive Director

Dr. George W. Reid, former assistant secretary for planning and academic affairs at the Maryland Commission for Higher Education, has been appointed Executive Director of the Illinois Board of Higher Education. Reid began his new duties December 27, 2010.



In Maryland, Reid's role included various responsibilities that directly relate to initiatives underway at the IBHE, including serving as the state liaison to Complete College America, a member of the Maryland P-20 Council, and the architect of the master plan for Maryland higher education.

His career has encompassed a broad array of teaching, administrative, and executive positions, including as president of Kentucky State University.

Board names task force to study map bonding proposal

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) announced on December 23, the creation of a task force that features broad-based expertise in finance, business, and education to review a proposal of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) to provide supplemental funding for the Monetary Award Program (MAP) through college opportunity investment notes (COINS). The Task Force will hold its first meeting on Tuesday, January 11 at 10:00 a.m. in Room N-502, Michael A. Bilandic Building in Chicago.

The nine-member blue ribbon task force includes a financier, business executive, state education leaders, and a student. The panel is chaired by Tom Schmidt, the former president of Carl Sandburg College in Galesburg.

A new website has been created for public input and to share task force announcements and related information. Visit www.maptaskforce.org for more information, or e-mail comments and/or proposals in PDF format to submissions@maptaskforce.org.

UPCOMING

January

- 9-12** 96th General Assembly Session Days
- 10** Inauguration Day State's Constitutional Officers
- 11** MAP Task Force meeting, Bilandic Building, Chicago
- 12** Inauguration Day 97th General Assembly begins
- 21** IBHE Faculty Advisory Council, UIC, Chicago
- 28** ICCB Board meeting, Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield
- 31** ISAC Commission meeting, Videoconference at Thompson Center, Chicago, and CMS Capital City Center, Springfield

February

- 12** IBHE Student Advisory Committee, SIU-Edwardsville
- 15** IBHE Board meeting, National Louis University, Chicago

[Top 10 higher education state policy issues for 2011](#)

The state policy staff at the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) have identified the top 10 issues most likely to affect public higher education across the 50 states in 2011. This listing is informed by an environmental scan of the economic, political and policy landscape surrounding public higher education, as well as a review of recent state policy activities and trends.

[New application for Diversifying Faculty in Illinois program is online](#)

The Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois (DFI) Program Board and the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) have announced the release of the 2011-2012 academic year application for the DFI Fellowship Program. For more than 20 years, DFI and its predecessor programs have provided competitive need-based financial awards to underrepresented students pursuing graduate degrees from Illinois higher education institutions.

Completed application materials must be submitted to the DFI Institutional Representative at the participating institution on or before **February 18, 2011**.

[The new 2011-2012 FAFSA is on the web](#)

The U.S. Department of Education's Federal Student Aid unit has announced that the 2011-2012 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on the Web Worksheet is now available in English and Spanish. The FAFSA on the Web Worksheet is the most effective tool applicants can use to facilitate completion of the online application process. Applicants can complete the worksheet in preparation for their electronic application submission.

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



People in the News

Waubonsee Community College Professor of Biology [Dan Ward](#), of Newark, has been elected president of the National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT) and began his term on Jan. 1.

Illinois' Student Laureates



[Trisha Faulkner](#), **Northwestern University**, is from Springfield, Illinois, and is double majoring in Asian and Middle East studies and history in the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences. She is focusing her research on Middle Eastern conflict and policy. Her senior thesis is on the policies of Hezbollah in Lebanon -- a country she visited while studying abroad in Amman, Jordan.



[Steven Oliveri](#), **North Central College**, is from Crystal Lake Illinois, majoring in convergent interactive media with a minor in broadcast communication, Oliveri has a near perfect grade-point average and is involved in many areas of campus life.



[Emma Carroll](#), **Roosevelt University**, a biology major and resident of Evanston, Illinois., who has paid her way through school on her beautician's salary, was chosen for the student laureate honor, based on her academic achievement and community service.

Editor's note: In the upcoming issues of The Friday Memo, the Illinois Student Laureates from Illinois' colleges and universities will be featured in "People in the News." The award recognizes outstanding academic achievement, campus leadership and extracurricular activities among Illinois college and university seniors.

Campus News

[WIU, IECC forge partnership](#)

Illinois Eastern Community Colleges (IECC) students now have the opportunity to complete Western Illinois University's bachelor of arts in general studies degree via distance learning options. IECC is comprised of Frontier Community College (Fairfield), Lincoln Trail College (Robinson), Olney Central College and Wabash Valley College (Mt. Carmel).

[Lincoln College and MacMurray College announce articulation agreement](#)

A new agreement allows Lincoln College (LC) students, who have successfully completed an associate's degree and who are admitted to MacMurray College, be awarded 60 credits or junior status upon transfer. In addition, LC students may qualify for several scholarships and awards including up to \$5,500 annually if they graduated with a GPA of 3.0 or higher and are enrolling on a full-time basis through the Lincoln College – MacMurray College Partnership Scholarship award.

[GSU backs national community college agenda](#)

Governors State University (GSU) is Illinois' first public university to sign a national call for action pledging increased commitment to increasing the number of community college graduates in the United States. As part of its call to action, the American Association of Community Colleges is asking member institutions to promote the development and implementation of policies, practices, and institutional cultures that will produce 50 percent more students with high quality degrees and certifications by 2020. "For students who begin higher education at a community college, the completion of both an associate and baccalaureate degree is integral to their success," said Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, GSU president. "By developing targeted strategies with our community college partners, we can help ensure that the goals of the completion agenda are met."

[Dorm for students with disabilities at UIUC](#)

This fall, 150 students moved into Timothy J. Nugent Hall, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign's first new residence hall in 44 years. On the first floor, 17 students have severe physical disabilities but their new home is the most accessible residence hall in the nation. Named for the pioneering founder of Disability Resources and Educational Services at UIUC, Nugent Hall has first-floor rooms designed for students with severe physical disabilities who require assistance with the activities of daily living. Supports such as wireless pagers that will connect students to an around-the-clock help contact, a remote-controlled lift system to get from the bathroom to the bed, sensor-controlled switches throughout the room; and access to doors with the scan of an i-card, combined with accessible elevators, and lower dining hall counter heights create an inviting, friendly environment. [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#) recently featured the positives experiences of several of the dorm's residents, as well as those students serving as personal aides, in their first semester in the new dorm.

[News from Higher Education](#)

[Cities take up challenge of helping increase college completion rates](#) (Diverse Issues in Higher Education)

When Simon Boehme landed President Barack Obama as commencement speaker for his high school graduation last spring, he knew exactly what the president would highlight—the city's unique college scholarship program, now being emulated in cities across the U.S.

[Critic of Obama policies will lead higher-education panel in U.S. House](#) (Chronicle of Higher Education)

U.S. Rep. Virginia Foxx, a conservative Republican from North Carolina who has questioned some of President Obama's education priorities, will lead the higher-education subcommittee in the U.S. House of Representatives during the 112th Congress.

[Universities are challenged as demographics shift](#) (The New York Times)

In August, 60 years after the University of Texas admitted its first black student, the school welcomed the first freshman class in which white students were in the minority.

[State schools rethink fees](#) (The Wall Street Journal)

Public universities across the U.S. are arguing for freedom to reap more revenue and create more efficiencies to offset dwindling state dollars.

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