

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

IBHE
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ICCB
Chairman Alexi Giannoulis
President/CEO Geoff Obrzut

ISAC
Chair Kym M. Hubbard
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September 23, 2011

[MAP grant cuts could be mitigated](#)

Due to funding shortfalls, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission is issuing a message to recipients of Monetary Award Program (MAP) grants that reductions to second- and third-term grants are likely. The size of the cut will depend on a number of factors, including whether additional spending authority is approved this fiscal year.

“Students who received MAP grants last year may recall that limited funding and high application volume made it necessary for second- and third-term awards to be reduced for the 2010-11 academic year,” states a message posted on the ISAC website. “Again this year, a shortfall exists that may mean reductions in later term award amounts.” To address this shortfall, ISAC plans to seek additional authority to spend non-General Revenue Fund dollars but states that “because MAP will be just one of a variety of important issues that legislators may consider during the fall veto session, ISAC cannot guarantee that it will be successful in securing this additional spending authority.” The message also includes a link to additional resources that may be available to students affected by the cuts.

[Losing ground on affordability](#)

A study by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission has found the ability of families and students to pay for a college education in Illinois suffered between FY2002 and FY2011. After adjusting for inflation, community college costs increased 21 percent and public university costs increased 57 percent. To make matters worse, family income actually *decreased* 15 percent and household income *decreased* between 4 and 10 percent depending on the quintile. A 19 percent increase in the maximum Pell award increased the total aid package for many students but overall, need-based grant aid failed to keep pace with costs. The maximum Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant amount shrank about 21 percent in inflation-adjusted dollars. From FY2002 to FY2011 college became less affordable for every group of students in this study.

[The Midwest challenge: matching jobs with education in the post-recession economy](#)

No one has had it worse than the Midwest. Job losses in the “great recession” of 2007 spared no region, but the bulk of industries hardest hit were in the Midwestern states.

A new report from the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, examines the economies of Midwest and Plains states and the challenges of connecting education and workforce development to the changing parameters of the contemporary workplace.

UPCOMING

September

26 [Illinois Summit on Aging, Education and Service](#),
Illinois State University,
Normal

IBHE Proprietary Advisory
Committee, Woodridge

28 Performance Funding
Steering Committee,
Governors State
University, University Park

October

1 IBHE Student Advisory
Committee, Prairie State
College, Chicago Heights

4 IBHE Board Meeting, Harper
College, Palatine

IBHE Disabilities Advisory
Committee meeting,
Harper College, Palatine

6 & 7 Illinois Committee on Black
Concerns in Higher
Education Conference,
Chicago

[Renowned expert to launch diversity lecture series at UIC](#)

Dr. Richard A. Tapia, mathematician and university professor at Rice University, will present the inaugural Presidential Lecture on Diversity, initiated by University of Illinois President Michael Hogan, on October 10 at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Tapia, who is director of the Center for Excellence and Equity in Education and the Empowering Leadership Alliance at Rice will discuss “Crisis in Higher Education: The Need for New Leadership.”

Due to Tapia’s efforts, Rice has received national recognition for its educational outreach programs and the Rice Computational and Applied Mathematics Department has become a national leader in producing women and underrepresented minority Ph.D. recipients in the mathematical sciences.

[Study finds divergent views on accountability](#)

At a time when citizens can hardly read a newspaper article about government, education, philanthropy, business or healthcare that doesn’t talk about accountability and the imperative of institutions to provide more information to citizens, new research from Public Agenda and the Kettering Foundation presents startling evidence that the public and leaders hold vastly different ideas about what it even means to be accountable.

The report, “Don’t Count Us Out: How an Overreliance on Accountability Could Undermine the Public’s Confidence in Schools, Business, Government and More,” is based on new public opinion research. It outlines the five key dimensions of accountability as the public defines it and contrasts the public’s perspective with prevailing leadership views. The study also highlights three recent controversies—the mortgage crisis, school closings, and government recommendations on mammograms—to demonstrate how differing ideas about accountability propel miscommunication and misunderstanding.



[WEBINAR: HIGH SCHOOL-TO-COLLEGE SUCCESS REPORT](#)

On October 11, from 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m., a webinar will be conducted to provide an overview of The *High School to College Success Report*, a tool that can help facilitate conversations and partnerships between secondary and postsecondary institutions. The report provides a snapshot of data and information about first-time, full-time freshmen students attending Illinois public universities and colleges. April Hansen and George Schlott from ACT, Inc. will present the report as well as ways to interpret and utilize the data. Reserve your Webinar seat at:

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/913636961>

[Reaching the Goal: Developing secondary and postsecondary alignment](#)

IBHE, ICCB, and ISBE are hosting four workshops throughout the state this November. These workshops will focus on Common Core College Readiness Standards and the *High School to College Success Report*, and will facilitate collaboration, as well as, further examine and identify collaborative opportunities between secondary and postsecondary institutions. Teams consisting of secondary and postsecondary individuals are encouraged to attend.

People in the News

Northeastern Illinois University [President Sharon Hahs](#) was a guest speaker at a Congressional staff briefing held in Washington, D.C. on Sept. 20. The event, sponsored by the Alliance for Equity in Higher Education, highlighted the importance of preserving funds for federal programs for Minority-Serving Institutions.

[Harold G. "Hal" Jeffcoat](#), who was inaugurated as Millikin University's 14th president on Sept. 16. Jeffcoat retired in June 2010 as president of Texas Wesleyan. Millikin's board of trustees selected him to be president in November, and he took office in April.

[Matthew Helm](#) has been appointed to Illinois Governor Pat Quinn's Internet Privacy Task Force, the first of its kind in the nation. Helm is director of Business Intelligence and Technology Solutions at Illinois State University. The 12-member task force will look at what the state can do to prepare and protect Illinois' industry and infrastructure from cyber attacks.

Campus News



[Loyola University encourages students who receive MAP and Pell grants to share their video story](#)

Loyola University Chicago hosted a MAP and Pell grassroots seminar on Sept. 15, in order to inform students about the current status of the Monetary Award Program (MAP) and Pell financial assistance and to discuss the potential impact on students if funding cuts occur. From this event, students have begun a MAP/Pell awareness video campaign by recording their individual videos to express why they are in need of MAP or Pell funding, and then posting these videos on YouTube.

*Loyola student, Maggie Meza, is pictured here being videotaped for the 'Pell Yes' YouTube channel.
(photo by Mark Beane, University Photographer)*

All students who are affected by MAP and Pell funding are welcomed to post their individual videos on this channel. This link provides instructions for how to upload video: LUC.edu/eblast/umc/pellyes.pdf. In addition, students are encouraged to 'friend' the **Pell Yes Facebook** page to learn more. This campaign, titled **Pell Yes** campaign, was collaborated by Loyola University Chicago and Roosevelt University.

[Illinois State University opens \\$2.7 million nursing lab](#)

Illinois State University has opened a new \$2.7 million nursing lab on its campus in Normal. The Mennonite College of Nursing lab is a 10,000 square-foot simulation of a hospital unit. It includes four patient rooms where nursing students will be able to experience simulated patient care before they do their required clinical practice in real hospitals.

[Waubonsee embraces college completion challenge](#)

At its Sept. 21 meeting, the Waubonsee Community College Board of Trustees approved "Accepting the College Completion Challenge: A Call to Action." Drafted by the American Association of Community Colleges and the Association of Community College Trustees, this commitment to helping more students complete degree and certificate programs has been adopted by 65 institutions. This action also supports Illinois' own graduation goal: increase the state's population of working-age adults with college credentials from 41 percent to 60 percent by 2025.

"Helping more students earn college degrees and certificates has been a longtime priority at Waubonsee," said Dr. Deborah Lovingood, Waubonsee's executive vice president of Educational Affairs/chief learning officer. "We have always tried to highlight how college credentials improve the quality of life for both individuals and the community, so

we're pleased to see that message being echoed and amplified at both the state and national levels.”

[UIS Downstate Innocence Project awarded Department of Justice grant](#)

The University of Illinois Springfield's Downstate Innocence Project with the support of the UIS Center for State Policy and Leadership has been awarded a \$249,319 grant to clear downstate Illinois innocence cases, which cannot be resolved through DNA testing.

[Eureka College to Dedicate Mark R. Shenkman Reagan Research Center](#)

Eureka College will dedicate its Mark R. Shenkman Reagan Research Center in a public ivy-cutting ceremony Sept. 24 at the entrance of Melick Library, where the center is housed. Former Illinois Gov. Jim Edgar, who is the honorary chairman of the Eureka College Ronald Reagan Centennial Celebration, will speak.

[News from Higher Education](#)

[Gazing Into higher ed's future](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

WASHINGTON -- College enrollments and degree completion will continue to boom for the rest of this decade, but who enrolls (and finishes) will vary widely and, without a major change, far too few Americans will complete college to achieve the ambitious goals that President Obama and others have set for the country.

[For-profit colleges getting more GI Bill dollars](#) (The Huffington Post)

A growing proportion of military veterans tapping into benefits from the new GI Bill are using them at for-profit colleges, according to a report from Senate critics of the industry.

[Enrollment down at a few area colleges](#) (News-Gazette)

Parkland College, Danville Area Community College and Eastern Illinois University all have fewer students than the year before, possibly reflecting hard economic times.

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