

Illinois Higher Ed  
*The Friday Memo*

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December 2, 2011

**MAP funding is restored for spring semester**

*General Assembly returns for a day and finalizes FY 12 budget*

On November 29, the House and Senate held a special session day and passed a supplemental bill for Fiscal Year 2012 ([SB 2412](#)), and a budget implementation bill ([SB 1311](#)).

The FY12 supplemental includes \$33.5 million appropriated to the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) from the Student Loan Operating Fund that will be used to help pay this school year's Monetary Award Program (MAP) financial aid to low income college students. This means that MAP awards for the spring semester will not be reduced.

Spending authority was established from the Private Business and Vocational Quality Assurance Fund in order for the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) to begin collection of fees for schools' applications for operating approval. These fees will cover costs associated with the administration of the Private Business and Vocational Schools Act of 2012 ([SB 1795](#)). Upon the Governor's signature, the IBHE program will be effective February 1, 2012.

\$3.0 million in increased federal spending authority is directed to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to support Longitudinal Data Systems (LDS) activities, from \$4.5 million to \$7.5 million.

The budget implementation bill included the transfer of funds necessary to support the University of Illinois' Prairie Research Institute Surveys.

Efforts to enact a tax incentives bill during the special session were thwarted by a negative House vote. No action was taken on pension reform or additional gaming programs.

**[Performance Funding Steering Committee discusses proposed formulas](#)**

Meeting for the fifth time at Richland Community College on November 30, the Performance Funding Steering Committee received a briefing on the *proposed* [Higher Education Funding Model](#) that would be utilized for community colleges and public universities in determining how to connect state funds to positive performance measures for degree and credentials completion and student success towards completions. Illinois Community College Board staff, Ellen Andres and Karen Hunter Anderson, and Al Phillips and Bob Blankenberger from IBHE staff made a shared presentation. A final report on unresolved issues was presented by committee member Rita Cheng, chancellor at SIU Carbondale. The committee's progress report will be presented to the IBHE Board at its meeting next week on December 6.

**[State Scholar announcements](#)**

ISAC has announced the 2012-13 Illinois State Scholars Students from nearly every high school in Illinois. State Scholars can be found on the campuses of nearly 200 public and private institutions of higher education in Illinois. The combination of exemplary college entrance examination scores and record high school achievement indicate an especially high potential for success in college. Announcement is through an [online listing](#) that displays each State Scholar alphabetically by high school, within the school's Illinois county.

**UPCOMING**

**December**

- 3** IBHE Student Advisory Committee meeting, Harper College, Palatine
- 6** [IBHE Board Meeting](#), Moraine Valley Community College, Palos Hills

## [IERC At SIUE Releases Study On Reverse Transfer Students](#)

The Illinois Education Research Council (IERC) at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville released a report highlighting the reverse transfer trends of the Illinois High School Class of 2003. Reverse transferring is when students move from four-year institutions to community colleges. The practice has been depicted in recent research as one of the major forms of student mobility, according to the IERC. Since it is associated with extremely low rates of degree completion, it is critical to better understand the predictors of reverse transferring and what happens to reverse transfer students once they move to a community college, said Eric Lichtenberger, associate director of research for the IERC and an assistant research professor at SIUE.

## People in the News.

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Eastern Illinois University's [David Raybin](#) has been named the 2011 Illinois Professor of the Year by The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. The U.S. Professors of the Year program is the only national program to recognize excellence in undergraduate teaching and mentoring. This year, 27 state winners were selected from nearly 300 top professors in the United States.

[Jillian Rigert](#), a student at the Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine, won this year's prestigious National Students Research Group (NSRG) Award for her research project related to pain management in dentistry and medicine.

## [Lincoln Academy of Illinois' Student Laureates honored](#)

The Lincoln Academy of Illinois honored outstanding senior college students and one student from among all of the community college students in Illinois during the annual Student Laureate Convocation on November 5 the Old State Capitol State Historic Site 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. This event marked the 37<sup>th</sup> year that students have been honored by the Academy.



**Rebecca Ann Kamp, *Augustana College***, is a senior from Rock Island, Illinois. Rebecca is majoring in elementary education and Spanish.



**Emma Jean Hill, *Aurora University***, is a senior from Alpine, California. Emma is majoring in Health Science.



**Lemuel "James" Dahan, *Benedictine University***, is a senior from Lisle, Illinois. James is majoring in Marketing.

**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

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### [D.C. visit for NIU research efforts](#)

Northern Illinois University (NIU) representatives traveled to Washington, D.C., where they made a strong case for the importance of federal funding for research universities and national laboratories. Illinois Research, Development and Innovation Day was sponsored by the [Illinois Science and Technology Coalition](#) (ISTC), representing the full range of science and technology activity in Illinois.

### [Miller Trust donates \\$1 million to IVCC Tech Center](#)

The Illinois Valley Community College Foundation announced the Miller Group Charitable Trust of La Salle has pledged \$1 million to help fund enhancements within the soon-to-be-constructed Community Technology Center. Following the announcement of what was called "the largest gift in IVCC's 87-year history," college trustees voted to name the nearly 80,000-square-foot facility the "Peter Miller Community Technology Center."

## News from Higher Education

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### [Tracking quality at 2-year colleges](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

Community colleges have long argued they are fundamentally different from four-year institutions and should be judged by different yardsticks. Now the sector has created what it says are fair measures of its members' performance, with the release of the Voluntary Framework of Accountability from the American Association of Community Colleges.

### [Official calls for urgency on college costs](#) (The New York Times)

As Occupy movement protests helped push spiraling college costs into the national spotlight, Education Secretary Arne Duncan urged higher-education officials to "think more creatively — and with much greater urgency" about ways to contain costs and reduce student debt.

### [Measuring completion](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

WASHINGTON -- After more than a year of study, a federal committee is urging the Education Department to change how it tracks and evaluates graduation rates and other measures of success for students at community colleges.

### [Higher education leaders urged to improve data collection for college completion efforts](#) (Diverse Issues in Higher Education)

Higher education leaders should use historical data to gauge graduation rates among diverse student groups for whom graduation is less likely so they can make institutional improvements that help those students defy the odds.

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