

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

IBHE
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Executive Director G. W. Reid

ICCB
Chairman Alexi Giannoulis
President/CEO Geoff Obrzut

ISAC
Chair Kym M. Hubbard
Interim Executive Director John Sinsheimer

January 13, 2012



[Performance Funding Steering Committee sends recommendations forward](#)

Meeting for the sixth time in as many months at Chicago State University on January 6, members of the Performance Funding Steering Committee reached consensus on the [proposed metrics and formula](#) that will be used in developing budget recommendations for community colleges and public universities for Fiscal Year 2013. The recommendations will be presented next to the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) for their approval at the February 7 meeting at Kendall College.

Sen. Ed Maloney, chair of the Senate Higher Education Committee and sponsor of the legislation implementing performance funding, thanked the Committee members and staff from Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) and IBHE for putting the performance funding “philosophy in motion.”

[Hearing held on disparities facing Illinois’ African American community](#)

Public Act 97-360, a law sponsored by Rep. Monique Davis and Sen. Mattie Hunter creates the Commission to End the Disparities Facing the African-American Community Act. The two legislators serve as co-chairs of the Commission. The Act provides that the disparities facing African-Americans in the areas of healthcare, healthcare services, employment, education, criminal justice, housing, and other social and economic issues will be researched.

On January 10 in Chicago, IBHE Chairwoman Carrie Hightman testified at the Commission’s public hearing on findings from the ***Illinois Public Agenda*** that document an achievement gap between African Americans and other Illinoisans on many educational fronts.

She shared [data](#) , including statistics that show:

- The overall college enrollment increased 22%, but enrollment rose 39% for African-Americans, between 2000 and 2010.
- While the total number of postsecondary certificates and degrees conferred increased 49%, the number increased 67% for African-Americans during that same ten year period.
- Illinois has one of the worst achievement gaps in the nation – only 6 states have greater disparity between whites and minority adults with an associate’s degree or higher.
- While 87 of every 100 white students graduate from high school, just 6 in 10 African-American students leave high school with a diploma. An astonishing 6 out of 10 black males are high school dropouts.

John Sinsheimer, Illinois Student Assistance Commission’s interim executive director, also presented information concerning financial aid:

- While African-American high school seniors represent about the same proportion of Illinois financial aid applicants as they do of the Illinois high school graduating class, these students are less likely to actually

UPCOMING

January

20 IBHE Faculty Advisory Council meeting, Columbia College, Chicago

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

ISAC Commission Meeting, Loyola University, Water Tower Campus, Chicago

February

4 IBHE Student Advisory Committee, Joliet Junior College

7 IBHE Board Meeting, Kendall College, Chicago

enroll in a MAP-approved college and claim their financial aid awards than students of other races and ethnicities.

- Improvements in FAFSA-filing rates over the last several years have coincided with an ISAC FAFSA Completion Initiative now in use in high schools around the state. Within the Chicago Public Schools, the first partner in the initiative, the percentage of students filing FAFSAs rose from 57% in 2006 to more than 82% last year.

The law directs the Commission to report its findings and specific recommendations to the General Assembly on or before December 31, 2013.

[Civic learning and engagement](#)

On January 10, at an event at the White House, US Department of Education Secretary Duncan and several Administration and education officials launched a national conversation on the importance of educating students for informed, engaged citizenship. This special event focused on the release of two papers: a Department report, "Civic Learning and Engagement in Democracy: A Road Map and Call to Action," and the final report by the National Task Force on Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement, "[A Crucible Moment: College Learning and Democracy's Future](#)," which was commissioned by the Department. As part of the event, over 75 organizations, institutions of higher education, and scholars and philanthropists announced statements of commitment.

[Top 5 Issues in 2012: Education](#)



The Council of State Governments has outlined five transformational strategies in education state government leaders will likely address during 2012 in order to ensure high-quality education to prepare students for college and careers. One strategy describes "Overhauling Higher Education to Ensure a Competitive Edge."

[Financial assistance for nurses](#)

The 2012 application cycle for the [Nursing Education Loan Repayment Program \(NELRP\)](#) is currently open. NELRP offers Registered Nurses (RNs), advanced practice registered nurses, such as Nurse Practitioners (NPs), and nurse faculty an opportunity to repay 60 percent of their outstanding qualifying educational loans in exchange for a two-year service commitment at a Critical Shortage Facility (CSF) or an accredited school of nursing. For 2012, the program is reserving up to half of the award funding for NPs; the remaining funding will continue to support RNs and nurse faculty. The deadline to apply to NELRP is February 15, 2012 at 5:00 pm EST.

[People in the News.](#)

[Sen. Ed Maloney](#) has been selected as treasurer of the [Midwest Higher Education Compact](#). The group works to improve college education through cooperation and sharing resources among a dozen Midwestern states. Maloney was previously state commissioner with the compact. He says it provided information for Illinois' state law establishing performance-based funding for higher education.

[Mitra Dutta](#), distinguished professor and head of electrical and computer engineering at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) and a former senior executive with the U.S. Army Research Office, has been named interim vice chancellor for research at UIC.

John Wood Community College Trustees has appointed [Dr. John Letts](#) as the fifth president of the College. Letts served as interim president in addition to his duties as vice president for student services at JWCC since the departure of Dr. Thomas Klinicar in October 2011. He began his tenure at JWCC in 1988 as dean of student services and served

as interim president in 1996.

Lincoln Academy of Illinois' Student Laureates honored



Blair A. Mishleau, *Columbia College*, is from Janesville, Wisconsin and a senior Interdisciplinary major studying Journalism and Interactive Arts and Media with a minor in American Sign Language.



Adam E. Carnehl, *Concordia University*, is a senior from Palatine, Illinois, majoring in Philosophy with a minor in Theology.



Jonae Kates, *DePaul University*, is a senior from Chicago, Illinois, majoring in Animation.

*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

Saint Xavier University and Moraine Valley sign degree agreement and establish Vernon O. Crawley Scholarship for Moraine Valley students



Moraine Valley Community College president, Vernon Crawley and Saint Xavier University (SXU) president Christine Wiseman recently signed a 2 + 2 articulation agreement that allows Moraine Valley students a seamless path to earn their four-year degree at SXU upon completing their associate degree at Moraine Valley. Additionally, SXU established the Vernon O. Crawley Scholarship for Moraine Valley students. This scholarship will provide \$12,000 annual awards to eight Moraine Valley students who have earned their associate degree.

[Illinois State a Science Without Borders-Brazil Partner Institution](#)

Illinois State University has been chosen as one of 18 U.S. colleges and universities for the 2012 Brazil initiative of the Institute of International Education's (IIE) International Academic Partnership Program.

[College partnerships focus of Rockford Schools](#)

The Education Committee will consider the Rockford School District's participation in an engineering and science-focused accelerated learning partnership with Rock Valley College, Northern Illinois University and Rockford College. The program is touted as an extension of the community college's Running Start program, which allows high school juniors to take RVC courses so they can simultaneously earn their high school diploma and a two-year associate degree.

[News from Higher Education](#)

[Minority-serving institutions are key to achieving college-completion goals, report says](#) (Chronicle of Higher Education)

Minority-serving institutions, which enroll 2.3 million students, almost 14 percent of the college-going population, must play a key role if the country is to achieve President Obama's goal that by 2020, the United States will have the highest proportion of college graduates in the world, says a report by the Institute for Higher Education Policy.

[Purdue to announce details of trimester calendar for quicker degrees, more opportunities](#) (Chicago Tribune)

Purdue University is planning to announce what it calls a "balanced trimester plan" that it says will bring a "significant change in how higher education is delivered in Indiana."

[For-profit college students face higher debt, more unemployment, report finds](#) (The Huffington Post)

Students attending for-profit colleges wind up with much higher student-loan debts, are less likely to be employed after graduation, and generally earn less than similar students at public or private nonprofit schools, according to a recent paper from the National Bureau of Economic Research.

[Happy Martin Luther King, Jr. Day](#)

The Corporation for National and Community Service is asking Americans to appropriately honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy on January 16 by making the holiday a day ON -- versus a day off. King Day became a national day of service in 1994, when Congress passed legislation to give the holiday even greater significance. A dedicated web site enables organizers to register projects nationwide.

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