

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

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President/CEO Geoff Obrzut

ISAC
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May 4, 2012

Higher education bills pass through committees to House and Senate floor consideration

The General Assembly adjourned mid-day on Thursday having completed at least one intended goal for this week in Session: passing substantive House and Senate bills out of their respective committees in the opposite chambers. The list of higher education bills positively reported out of the House and Senate Higher Ed committees and waiting floor action includes:

[HB 5248](#) Cunningham (Lightford – Maloney) Senate Amendment # 2 requires the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB), the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE), an organization representing the public policy interests of this State's private, non-profit colleges and universities, and the Illinois Higher Education Consortium to form a committee to develop the Illinois College Choice Reports. The reports will provide information about Illinois colleges and universities, including costs, student demographics, student progress and attainment, application and admission data, areas of study, and certificate or degree completion. The reporting mechanisms must be completed on or before January 1, 2014. IBHE and ICCB will collect data and make it publicly available annually by January 1, 2015.

Lt. Governor Sheila Simon filed [written testimony](#) with the Senate Higher Ed committee in support of the measure. "Future undergraduates will be able to access College Choice Reports online to comparison-shop among institutions," said Simon, who helped draft the legislation following her Complete College Tour of the state's 48 community colleges. "Think of this new tool as a consumer report, guiding parents and students toward high-quality, affordable higher education investments." The bill is now ready for full Senate consideration.

[HJR 81](#) and [HR 897](#) (Biss - Pritchard) and [SJR 69](#) (Maloney) are identical resolutions that would establish an Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC)-led task force to evaluate different criteria for student and institutional eligibility for the Monetary Award Program (MAP). In particular, the resolutions request that the task force examine the worth of more stringent academic progress requirements for students, some measure of schools' ability to improve students' progress, and schools' own contributions to financial aid for students. Eligibility changes would not take effect before FY2015. Both House Resolutions now await adoption on the House Calendar of Order of Resolutions, and SJR 69 will be considered in the Senate Higher Ed Committee on May 8.

[SB 3800](#) Maloney (Durkin) would allow ISAC to use wage garnishment to recover amounts owed to the state. The process would guarantee protections for the borrower, including the right to contest the debt and/or set up payment arrangements in lieu of garnishment, along with a limit on the percentage of disposable income that could be garnished. The provisions mirror authority that ISAC already exercises with respect to federal loans, and they will allow ISAC to meet its obligations to lenders who provided the funding for student loans. It has passed the Senate and House committee, and now awaits House floor action.

[SB 1967](#), Maloney (Dunkin), House Amendment # 6, would require that, in awarding MAP grants, ISAC assume funding no greater than the program received during the previous fiscal year. If the final MAP appropriations were insufficient to cover all awards, the bill would also require that the proration be applied equally across semesters.

[HB 3923](#) Durkin (Murphy) would require that investment decisions for the College Illinois! Prepaid Tuition Program Trust Fund be made in open meetings, and [HB 4116](#) Durkin (Dillard) would mandate that members of the program's Investment Advisory Panel file annual Statements of Economic Interest with the Secretary of State's office. Both bills have cleared the

UPCOMING

MAY

8 [Senate Higher Ed Committee](#), Room 409, Capitol, Springfield

[House Higher Ed Appropriations Committee](#), D-1 Stratton Building, Springfield

House and are poised for a vote by the full Senate. ISAC is supporting both bills to improve transparency in the administration of the College Illinois! Prepaid Tuition Program.

[HB 1864](#) Lilly (Maloney) provides that as of July 1, 2013, a community college district eligible to receive an equalization grant must maintain a minimum required combined in-district tuition and universal fee rate per semester credit hour equal to 70% (instead of 85%) of the State-average combined rate, as determined by ICCB. The full Senate will next consider this proposal.

[HB 3810](#) Crespo (Cullerton) Senate Amendments # 1 and 2 eliminate the General Assembly Scholarship program as of September 1, 2012, and creates the Tuition and Fee Waiver Task Force to conduct a review and evaluation of the tuition and fee waiver programs offered by public universities, as well as the findings and recommendations made by IBHE in its tuition and fee waiver report. IBHE is to provide administrative support to the Task Force of eight legislators. A Task Force report is required to be submitted by April 15, 2013, to the Governor, the General Assembly, and IBHE, at which time the task force is dissolved. After passing the Senate on May 3, the bill has been placed on the House concurrence calendar.

[President issues a Veterans Higher Education Executive Order](#)

President Barack Obama signed an [Executive Order](#) on April 27, to help ensure all of America's service members, veterans, spouses, and other family members have the information they need to make informed educational decisions and are protected from deceptive targeting by higher education institutions.

[Sen. Durbin responds to Obama's Executive Order](#)

Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) commended President Obama's decision to sign an Executive Order that will help ensure that veterans and service members have the information they need to make informed decisions about their postsecondary education. Durbin also called on the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) to issue a warning to students about the bad actors in the for-profit college industry.

[College Changes Everything effort issues 'Context'-- a quarterly digital magazine](#)

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission is giving new perspective to Illinois' College Changes Everything movement by discussing stories and innovations surrounding higher education in a new quarterly publication, **'Context.'** Interested in contributing to **'Context'** or learning more about it? Email Erik Rancatore at Erik.Rancatore@isac.illinois.gov.



[Survey to gather views of those 50+ about aging, community involvement, and the economy](#)

"Older generations have enormous social capital," suggests the World Economic Forum in a new report, *World Population Ageing: Peril or Promise*. In response to the report, a statewide survey in Illinois will prepare baseline information on the involvement of older adults. Those aged 50 and older are being asked to share their views and opinions about community involvement as a way of staying active, remaining independent, and playing a larger role in addressing education and health goals for all generations. If you are 50 or over, please complete [the survey](#) and then share the link throughout your organization and with friends, neighbors, and relatives in Illinois and ask them to complete the survey, also.

The online survey is sponsored by [Generations Serving Generations](#), a project developed by the Illinois Department on Aging and the National Governors Association to promote the civic engagement of older generations in service, learning, and work. The online survey is being conducted by the Serve Illinois Commission and Continuation magazine, SIU School of Law. For additional information, contact intnews@siu.edu.



[Registration Now Open for *Tomorrow's Teachers, Today's Standards: Summit on Integrating Common Core into Educator Prep Programs*](#), on Wednesday, June 6, at Parke Hotel, Bloomington, 10:00 am-4:00 p.m. Free of charge to participants, there will be presentations and discussions led by Dr. Rick Melmer (University of South Dakota), Dr. Tim Shanahan (UIC), and Dr. Mary Jo Tavormina (UIC). Deans of Colleges of Education, Deans of Colleges of Arts and Science, Education Department

Chairs, Program Coordinators, and Lead Faculty should plan to attend. Hosted by: Illinois Board of Higher Education, Illinois State Board of Education, and Illinois Community College Board. **Who should attend?** Four-year institutions—an institutional team of **four** members which may include dependent upon organizational structure: Education dean, Arts and Sciences dean, Education department chair/head, program coordinator(s), and/or a lead faculty member. Community colleges—an institutional team of **two** members which may include dependent upon organizational structure: Education chair, Arts and Sciences dean, program coordinator, and/or lead faculty member.

[FEMA is offering two free courses on “Multi-Hazard Emergency Planning for Higher Education”](#)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is conducting FREE emergency planning and preparedness training courses for higher education institutions. The courses are scheduled at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb on May 22-24, and at National Louis University in Lisle on Aug 7-9.



College Changes Everything Conference SAVE THE DATE – July 12, 2012

Tinley Park Convention Center, Tinley Park, IL

Conference registration will be available soon. Watch for the announcement.

[People in the News.](#)

[Dr. Sylvia Jenkins](#), current vice president of Academic Affairs at Moraine Valley, will become the fifth president of Moraine Valley Community College, the Board of Trustees announced to college staff on April 30. The Board will formally approve the appointment at its meeting on May 9. She will succeed Dr. Vernon O. Crawley, who retires June 30, after 21 years as college president.

The John A. Logan College Board of Trustees voted on April 30 to hire [Dr. Michael Dreith](#) as the College's seventh president following a nationwide search conducted by the Board of Trustees and a search committee comprised of campus and community representatives. Dreith, 55, will replace Dr. Robert Mees, who will retire from Logan at the end of June, having served the College as president since 2000.



Knox College will celebrate the installation of [Teresa Amott](#) as 19th president with a formal ceremony on the Knox campus on May 5. The installation of Amott, the first woman to lead the 175-year-old institution, will bring delegates to Knox from more than 50 colleges and universities throughout the United States.

Marcia Luptak, an adjunct Elgin Community College instructor, received the distinguished Arthur J. Stejskal Teacher of the Year Award at the Illinois Adult and Continuing Educators Association (IACEA) conference. Luptak teaches English as a second language, reading, and integrated welding support at the college.

Campus News

[Chicago's Kennedy-King College among winners of federal grant money](#)

The U.S. Department of Education's Minority Science and Engineering Improvement Program announced that Kennedy-King College will receive \$250,000 to increase participation of underrepresented ethnic minorities and women students in engineering and technology related careers.

[President and CEO of AACC to speak at Waubensee Graduation](#)

President and CEO of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) Dr. Walter Bumphus will speak at Waubensee Community College's graduation ceremony on May 17. Prior to leading the AACC, Dr. Bumphus served as a professor in the Community College Leadership Program, and as chair of the Department of Educational Administration at the University of Texas at Austin for four years.



Wanted: Announcements of Graduation Speakers and Commencement Address Highlights

The Friday Memo would like to feature invited speakers and their 'words of wisdom' shared with Illinois college graduates this Spring. Please send your campus news to: Mueller@ibhe.org, **Subject: Graduation 2012.**

QUOTE TO NOTE

"In 2020, today's eighth-graders will be finishing college. At that point, we must again be first in the world in graduation rates, not 16th. And, with the foundation that President Obama has laid, I can imagine all of us at their graduation ceremony, like a proud family. We'll be there as parent advocates, secretaries of education, state governors and legislators. We'll be there as mayors, school board members, college presidents and professors. We'll be there as superintendents, principals, teachers, and union leaders. Democrats, Republicans, independents -- it doesn't matter. We'll all cheer for our students and ourselves as America's graduates are declared the world's valedictorians.... At graduation, no one cheers louder than mom."

-- Secretary of Education Arne Duncan (4/30/12), addressing the third Mom Congress --

News from Higher Education

[Business leaders must advocate for 'broad access' colleges, report urges](#) (Chronicle of Higher Education)

As educators and policy makers strive to keep the United States competitive in the global tally of adults with postsecondary degrees, the Committee for Economic Development, a think tank, is urging business leaders to join them. In a report issued, the group calls on business leaders to become "active advocates at the state level for the broad-access institutions that are so vital to the nation's economic future."

[States' measure of community colleges varies](#) (Stateline.org)

While state leaders generally agree it's important to increase the number of students who graduate from community colleges, a new tool released April 30, by the College Board shows that states differ widely in how they track community college completion.

[House passes student loan bill despite veto threat](#) (The New York Times)

Moments after an unusual fiery appeal from Speaker John A. Boehner, the House ignored a veto threat from President Obama and voted 215 to 195 on April 27, to prevent a doubling of student loan rates.

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

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