

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

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Higher education related bills acted upon this week

[SJR 69](#) (Maloney) 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 resolution requests 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. SJR 69 was unanimously passed out of the Senate Higher Ed Committee, passed the Senate, and sent to the House on May 10. [HR 897](#) and [HJR 81](#) (Biss- Pritchard) are identical resolutions.

[SB 3244](#) Frerichs (Chapa LaVia) has passed both Houses and will be sent to the Governor. An initiative of Lt. Gov. Simon to improve math readiness of high school students for college, thereby reducing the need for remediation classes at community colleges, the bill requires the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to work with stakeholders, including higher ed faculty, to develop a model mathematics curriculum that must be available to school districts.

[SB 1313](#) Schoenberg (Madigan) passed both Houses, and the Governor has said he will sign the measure. The legislation changes the nearly \$800 million state funded program that currently provides retirees, including former state workers, lawmakers, judges, and university workers with free health insurance premiums, so that the decisions for how much retirees would pay towards their premiums would become an annual contractual negotiation. Reducing state contributions to retirees' health insurance benefits is one piece of an ongoing discussion concerning reforms for state workers' and retirees' pension benefits –including the State Universities Retirement System (SURS) pensions of community college and university employees-- now taking place in the General Assembly.

[Illinois' Public University Presidents and Chancellors offer pension stabilization objectives for review by Governor and Legislative leaders](#)

A letter from the public university leaders has been forwarded to Governor Quinn and leadership of the General Assembly outlining a "SURS Sector Pension Stabilization Package" for review and consideration in light of the current crisis surrounding funding for public employee pension programs, including SURS. The statement of objectives is predicated upon giving "...public universities and colleges with the ability to retain and recruit talented faculty and staff by providing a credible promise of retirement security to our employees."

[Illinois High School Class of 2003 data offers implications for higher education policy](#)

Illinois Education Research Council (IERC) and IBHE Academic Affairs staff presented research findings at the National Center for Education Statistics 2012 State Data Conference in Washington, DC April 30-May 2, 2012. The study entitled "Analyzing the High School Class of 2003 and Their Postsecondary Experience" was presented by Eric Lichtenberger from IERC, and Bob Blankenberger, Allison Witt, and Doug Franklin from IBHE. Several statistical analyses were run on a cohort data set of the graduating High School Class of 2003. The analyses were discussed in the Illinois higher education policy context and focused in particular on dual credit, college readiness, and reverse transfer. The chief findings of the analyses included the following:

- Dual credit via Illinois community colleges had a strong effect on the likelihood of postsecondary enrollment for all income groups; however, the effect for high income students was slightly larger.

UPCOMING

MAY

- 15** [House Higher Ed Appropriations Committee](#), D-1 Stratton Bldg., Springfield
- 16** [Senate Higher Ed Committee](#), Room 409, Capitol, Springfield

- Dual credit via four-year institutions had a strong effect on the likelihood of enrolling at four-year institutions for lower income students.
- Dual credit via Illinois community colleges had a strong effect on the likelihood of bachelor's degree completion for low income students only – about a 10% increase in probability of degree attainment.
- Meeting three or more of the ACT benchmarks of college readiness was related to an increased rate of bachelor's completion, particularly for higher income students and those enrolling at more selective institutions.
- Meeting the English and/or Math benchmarks appeared to have more of a positive impact on the postsecondary outcomes than meeting the Science or Reading benchmarks.
- Patterns regarding the ACT and reverse transferring were noteworthy and parallel recent research focusing on similar outcomes.
- Associate's degree completion was positively and significantly related to both a timely return and a timely completion of a bachelor's degree.

[Education Department announces \\$254 million for upward bound projects to help about 60,000 students access and succeed in higher education](#)

The U.S. Department of Education announced its first set of awards for 780 Upward Bound projects, which will help approximately 60,000 students acquire the knowledge and skills they need to access and succeed in college. Illinois institutions received a total of \$9,363,513. Additional information including individual recipients can be found [here](#).

[IERC 2012 Focus on Illinois Education Research Symposium Registration is available online](#)

The Illinois Education Research Council symposium is scheduled for June 11-12, at the Tinley Park Holiday Inn and Conference Center. Please register by **Monday, May 21**. After this date, registrations will be accepted subject to space availability.

[The National Conference of State Legislatures issues policy brief on Latino college and career success](#)

For state legislators, one significant way to revitalize state economies is to increase the number of residents attending and graduating from college. Investing in higher education achievement for Latinos, the fastest growing population is particularly important. In all states, however, the largest college completion gap is between Latino and white students. In this report issued in April, NCLS offers examples on how to improve the educational success of Latinos and strengthen the workforce.



[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 Continuance 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.](#)

[Ilesanmi “Ade” Adesida](#), the dean of the College of Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, has been named vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost of the Urbana campus. Pending approval of the board of trustees at its May 31 meeting, he will assume his new role on August 16.

[Derryl Block](#) is the new dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences at Northern Illinois University, approved by a vote of the university's Board of Trustees. Since 2009, Block has been chair of the Professional Program in Nursing and director of BSN-LINC, an online RN-to-BSN program at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. She joined UW-GB in 2001, as an associate professor and, from 2009 to 2011, served as interim dean of the College of Professional and Graduate Studies.

[Reinhard Andress](#), Ph.D, a German literature scholar, has been named the new dean of Loyola University, Chicago's largest college, the College of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Andress, who succeeds the current dean, Frank Fennell, Ph.D, will officially join the University on July 1.

University of St. Francis President [Michael J. Vinciguerra](#) has announced his plan to retire on May 31, 2013, the end of the next academic year. He announced his plan May 8, after a campus-wide strategic planning meeting.

Campus News



[SXU students meet with state legislators to fight for MAP grants at Private College Student Lobby Day](#)

Seven Saint Xavier University students recently discussed with state legislators in Springfield the crucial importance of Monetary Award Program (MAP) grants during a Private College Student Lobby Day. Students met with State Sen. Edward Maloney (D-18) and State Representatives Kelly Burke (D-36th), pictured here, Bill Cunningham (D-35th), and Renee Kosel (R-81st). The students were encouraged to share their personal stories on how MAP grants affect them and other students they know, and how MAP grants and institutional aid make

college possible. The event, held every year in the Capitol, was organized by the Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities.

[KnoxCorps furthers college's service efforts](#)

Knox College and the Galesburg Community Foundation are launching an innovative community engagement initiative that will connect Knox graduates and current students with Galesburg area non-profit agencies and entrepreneurial projects.



The following Illinois colleges and universities have announced their commencement speakers for spring 2012:

[Augustana College](#): Philip William McKinley, director of the Broadway show *SPIDER-MAN: Turn off the Dark*.

[Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science](#): Richard Trainor, principal and president of King's College London.

[Western Illinois University](#): Jack Thomas, president of the university.

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**.

News from Higher Education

[Connecticut legislature approves bill limiting remedial course work to 1 semester](#) (Chronicle of Higher Education)

A bill approved by Connecticut lawmakers would require public colleges to limit the remedial-education requirements they impose on students to one semester and to provide more help to students in entry-level, for-credit courses instead.

[Illinois universities get \\$2.8M for nuclear study](#) (Chicago Tribune)

Three Illinois universities are getting \$2.8 million in federal research grants, scholarships, and fellowships to train future leaders in the nuclear industry.

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