

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

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June 1, 2012

**General Assembly adjourns: Passes FY 13 budget, delays pension reform
Speaker Madigan describes it as "epic" session**

On May 31st, the last day of the Spring 2012 legislative session, the General Assembly approved an FY2013 spending plan that incorporates performance funding into the higher education budget. [Senate Bill 2443](#) provides \$1.2 billion to public universities, which is a cut of \$79 million (-6.08%) from FY2012. Of this total, \$6.15 million was reallocated to universities based on performance using the IBHE performance funding allocation model. The FY2013 budget includes \$287.4 million for community colleges, a cut of \$20.7 million (-6.74%). An amount of \$360,000 is dedicated to performance funding.

The Monetary Award Program (MAP) received a cut of \$15.4 million (-3.98%) from FY2012, for a total of \$371.3 million. The Senate also passed [SB 2365](#), providing supplemental funding for early childhood and K-12 funding, as well as returning MAP funding to its FY 2012 level. This bill has arrived in the House, but no action was taken prior to adjournment.

[A summary of the FY 2013 Higher Education Appropriations](#) can be found here.

With the issue of shifting the pension costs to school districts, community colleges, and universities as the key sticking point, the House and Senate leaders and Governor Quinn agreed to hold off on final action on pension reform until further talks take place this Summer. Veto session is scheduled to begin on November 27.

In announcing the adjournment of the House, Speaker Mike Madigan described the "epic action" of the General Assembly session by listing decisions made, including: the balanced budget agreement for the second year in a row, Medicaid reform, elimination of free retiree health care ([SB 1313](#)), appointment of Auditor General to a third term, enterprise zones, elimination of the General Assembly scholarships ([HB 3810](#)), and the fourth year in a row that the General Assembly has taken a pay cut. At the conclusion of the Senate session, Senate President John Cullerton repeated this list of accomplishments as well, adding the Capital bill and Senate passage of pension reforms for legislators and state agency employees.

MAP Task Force resolution

[SJR 69](#), sponsored by Sen. Ed Maloney and Rep. Dan Biss, was adopted by both the Senate and the House, making way for the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) to lead a task force to evaluate different criteria for student and institutional eligibility for MAP. Any recommended eligibility changes would not take place before FY2015.

[Condition of education 2012](#)

On May 24, the Department's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), released "The Condition of Education 2012," a Congressionally mandated report to the Country on education in America today. The report presents 49 indicators grouped under three areas: participation in education, elementary and secondary education, and postsecondary education. The report also contains a closer look at high school students in the U.S. over the last 20 years. Among the

UPCOMING

JUNE

**SESSION
SCHEDULE**

SENATE
Not In Today

HOUSE
Not In Today

5 IBHE Board Meeting, Illinois
Math and Science
Academy, Aurora

findings: from 1999-2000 to 2009-10, undergraduate enrollment in private, for-profit institutions quadrupled from 0.4 million to 1.7 million students; and, in 2010, roughly 82% of high school completers from high-income families (the top 20% of all incomes) enrolled in a two- or four-year college immediately after high school, compared to 67% of students from middle-income families, and 52% of students from low-income families.

Commission on Regulation of Postsecondary Distance Education

The Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU) and the State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO) have announced the creation of a commission to examine the quality and regulation of distance education. The Commission on Regulation of Postsecondary Distance Education is tasked with making recommendations on appropriate government oversight and consumer protection. Its primary aim is to focus on cost and inefficiencies that institutions face when complying with various state laws and regulations. The Commission will be chaired by The Honorable Richard Riley, former U.S. Secretary of Education and Governor of South Carolina. The list of the Commission members, its mission and scope of work, and the press release announcing its creation can be found [here](#). In addition, SHEEO has done research on distance education and developed a comprehensive resource page at this [website](#).



Registration Now Open!

Jamie Merisotis, Lumina President, confirmed Keynoter!

This is THE Illinois Professional Development Opportunity for Educators Committed to Illinois' 60% x 2025 Goal.

**College Changes Everything Conference
Tinley Park Convention Center, Tinley Park, IL
July 12, 2012 • 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

Registration is now open at the conference website <http://www.collegechangeseverything.org/events/2012-college-changes-everything-conference.html>. Please join us at the second College Changes Everything conference to support Illinois as it works to reach its goal to increase the proportion of adults in Illinois with high-quality degrees and credentials to 60% by the year 2025.

Attend this one day conference that focuses on effective practices and showcases resources available to help with college access and increasing college completion. The conference brings together a diverse audience from across the state: college access practitioners; high school leaders, counselors and case managers; college and university leaders and administrators; and policymakers interested in higher education.

Sessions presented by state and national leaders will provide purposeful information and engage the audience in thoughtful discussions on the serious issues we face, such as:

- College and Career Readiness
- Retention Success
- Skill Sets for 21st Century Jobs
- Expanding Students Pursuit of STEM Fields

- Dual Credit and Dual Degree Programs
- Remediation Success
- Common Core Standards and College Access
- And more

The forum will include time for sharing best practices with peers to help participants walk away with plans for moving their access and completion efforts forward. Come ready to share and learn.

Conference organized by:

Lt. Governor's Office
Illinois Student Assistance Commission
Illinois Board of Higher Education
Illinois Community College Board
Illinois State Board of Education
Women Employed
Illinois College Access Network
Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities

Conference sponsored by:

KnowHow2Gollinois



Campus News

[Partnership will benefit student veterans, families](#)

Southern Illinois University Carbondale has partnered with the Marion VA Medical Center to become one of a select few universities in the Country participating in a national pilot program created to help veterans successfully transition to college and beyond. The Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership (VITAL) is an initiative of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The goal is to assure veterans get adequate support and tools to help them succeed in college careers and provide them with information about, and access to, the numerous programs and resources available through the VA, according to Thomas J. Kadela, section chief for the Marion VA Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Specialty Clinic Programs.

WIU Corpse Flower set to bloom again

A camera streaming live video pointed at Western Illinois University's Titan Arum — a plant with the nickname of "Corpse Flower" — #3 can show viewers the large plant's blooming phenomenon. (The streaming video is available at <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/wiu-corpse-flower>.) But the only way to experience the "funky" uniqueness of the event is by coming to smell Titan #3 in Western's Botany Greenhouse when it is blooming. According to WIU Greenhouse Manager/Gardner II Jeff Hillyer, that should occur any day now.

News from Higher Education

[Illinois legislators approve limits on use of search firms in public universities' hiring](#) (Chronicle of Higher Education)

Illinois legislators have approved a bill that would restrict the use of search firms to fill vacancies at public universities, but the measure backs away from earlier proposals that would have banned the increasingly popular practice entirely.

[Illinois takes on for-profit colleges targeting veterans](#) (Chicago Tribune)

Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan has joined counterparts from 20 other states in pressing Congress to stop what they say is the exploitation of military veterans by for-profit colleges.

[Universities prep for fundraising test](#) (Crain's Chicago Business)

Chicago's higher-ed heavyweights, Northwestern University and the University of Chicago, are gearing up for multibillion-dollar fundraising campaigns to extend their global reach while trying to stay affordable with increased financial aid.

[U of I fundraising campaign brings in nearly \\$2.5 billion](#) (Daily Herald)

The University of Illinois Foundation says it's Brilliant Futures fundraising campaign ended with nearly \$2.5 billion in pledges.

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