

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

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September 28, 2012

[WIU Approves New Operating and Capital Budget](#)

The Western Illinois University Board of Trustees approved the fiscal year operating and capital budget Friday. The board approved an operating budget increase of \$15.5 million. The proposed budget, which will be forwarded to the Illinois Board of Higher Education for consideration, includes an additional \$6 million to support salary and cost increases; \$2 million for deferred maintenance; \$4.5 million for the operation of the Quad Cities Riverfront campus; \$1.5 million for student financial aid; \$750,000 for both the healthcare professional education program and the Bachelor of Science in Engineering program.

[Elgin and Roosevelt create 'Dual Degree' program](#)

Elgin Community College and Roosevelt University recently announced a partnership in a "dual degree" program. Officials said ECC students who enroll in the program will be guaranteed acceptance to Roosevelt – which has Chicago and Schaumburg campuses – once they complete their associate's degree. Also as a part of the program, their major's requirements will be locked in for three years while still completing their associate's degree at ECC.

[Oakton Community College Part of \\$12.9 Million Grant to Enhance Manufacturing Education Programs in Illinois](#)

Des Plaines, IL (September 24, 2012) – Oakton Community College will receive more than \$500,000 as part of a \$12,939,459 three-year federal grant awarded to the Illinois Network for Advanced Manufacturing (INAM). A consortium of 21 Illinois community colleges, INAM will use the funds to launch an Earn and Learn Advanced Manufacturing Career Lattice Program that trains workers for high-paying jobs in the manufacturing field.

[UIC Undergraduate Business Program Ranks No. 1 in Chicago](#)

The University of Illinois at Chicago College of Business Administration was recently ranked No.1 among Chicago-area schools and tied for 56 overall among accredited undergraduate business programs by U.S. News & World Report.

UPCOMING

OCTOBER

- 2** [Illinois Community College Latino Advisory Committee Meeting, College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn](#)
- 19** [IBHE Faculty Advisory Council Meeting, Danville Area Community College, Danville](#)

The ranking places UIC among the top 15 percent of the 467 programs accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business or AACSB, the primary accreditation organization for business schools.

"This increase in ranking reflects our efforts to refresh our curriculum to meet the changing dynamics of the evolving international business world," said Michael Mikhail, dean of the UIC College of Business Administration. "As a strong public university, we are proud to offer a research-based curriculum that gives our students a solid business education. We are glad to be recognized for these achievements in the rankings, but our greatest measure of achievement is the 30,000 successful alumni who can be found at top businesses across the globe."

[SXU to host Harvest Literacy Conference on Oct. 10](#)

Saint Xavier University's School of Education will host the 2012 Harvest Literacy Conference, a daylong event for educators, administrators, and parents who play an important role in promoting literacy from grades K through eight, on **October 10**.

The conference, titled "Gathering and Sharing Innovative Strategies in Reading and Writing Instruction," is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at SXU's Orland Park Campus, 18230 Orland Parkway. Registration is due by **October 5**.

[School of Nursing Faculty Partners with World Pediatric Project](#)

Ozzie Hunter, an instructor with the [SIUE School of Nursing](#), took part in an inspirational experience in the Dominican Republic. During the month of July, Ozzie partnered with the World Pediatric Project (WPP) and 24 other nurses to enhance nursing education in Latin America, with the ultimate goal to provide better care to kids being served in children's hospitals.

The World Pediatric Project, whose headquarters are split between Philadelphia and St. Louis, offered employees of Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital in St. Louis the opportunity to apply for this international project. Ozzie, a part-time flight nurse for Cardinal Glennon and a 23-year veteran of pediatric work, applied for the project and was selected out of more than 100 nurses to participate.

[Campus News](#)

[Waubonsee Receives \\$2.8 Million Grant to Serve Displaced Workers](#)

Sugar Grove — U.S. Senator Dick Durbin visited Waubonsee Community College's downtown Aurora Campus Tuesday to announce a \$2.8 million grant that allows the college to serve displaced community residents through new programs for adult education transitions and laboratory technician training.

The grant is part of the U.S. Department of Labor's Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) initiative, which promotes skills development and employment opportunities in fields such as advanced manufacturing, transportation and health care, as well as science, technology, engineering and math careers through partnerships between training providers and local employers.

“Too often I hear from unemployed workers struggling to make ends meet, yet at the same time I hear from employers who can’t find workers with the right training to fill vacant high-skill jobs,” Sen. Durbin said. “This grant will help workers who have seen their manufacturing or industrial jobs outsourced or off-shored get back on track by teaching them skills that will help them compete for high-wage, high-demand jobs in the 21st century workforce. The end result will be a stronger local economy thanks to the local workers paired with jobs that can’t be shipped overseas. Waubonsee Community College has built a solid reputation over many years of offering job training programs to the Aurora community. This grant gives the college the resources to build on that success.”

[SIU nursing school awarded grant](#)

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville has been awarded a \$349,920 Department of Health and Human Services grant for its nurse training program, U.S. Rep. John Shimkus (R-Collinsville) has announced. The grant is part of the Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship program. The program is designed to increase the number of advanced education nurses trained to practice as primary care providers or nursing faculty to address the national nursing shortage.

[People in the News](#)

[UIC Business Professor Earns Global Honor](#)

James Ho, professor of information and decision sciences at the University of Illinois at Chicago, has been named Best Professor in Information Systems at the 2012 World Education Congress Global Awards.

The award recognizes excellence in education, leadership and teaching.

Ho has extensive experience working with international organizations, major corporations and small businesses in the application of information technology in the workplace.

Ho studies information and operations management and teaches in the UIC College of Business Administration. His research focuses on multilingual online communications, topological analysis of online auction markets, maximum resolution dichotomy for data mining, and supply-chain management and governance.

[News from Higher Education](#)

[States' support for research universities dropping](#)

Illinois has made another dubious top 10 list, ranking fourth nationally in a study that examined the steep decline in state support for America's top public research universities.

A 20 percent drop in state funding for the nation's 101 major public research universities over the last decade threatens their ability to educate the next generation of scientists and engineers and attract the best students and faculty, Tuesday's report by the National Science Board said. The study also questioned the long-term financial health of the institutions and the affordability of American public higher education.

The organization provides independent advice to the federal government and oversees the National Science Foundation. Here's a link to the National Science Board report: <http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/sei/companion2/>.

[State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board](#)

The State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board met on Friday, Sept. 7, voting to approve New Principal Preparation Program proposals at seven schools. They included Northeastern Illinois University, DePaul University, Lewis University, Loyola University Chicago, Illinois State University, Western Illinois University and University of Illinois Springfield. In addition, the Early Childhood Education Master of Arts in Teaching New Program Proposal from Northeastern Illinois University was approved

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