

Illinois Higher Ed  
*The Friday Memo*

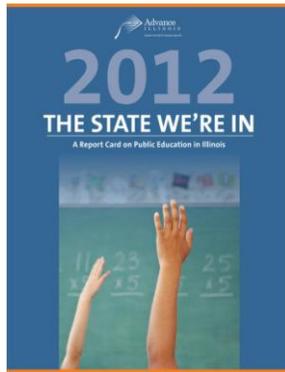
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November 16, 2012

[Advance Illinois releases report card on public education](#)



Advance Illinois released a report on Illinois public education that assesses how the state serves students as they progress from preschool through postsecondary. The report looks beyond test scores to examine academic performance, achievement gaps and learning conditions within Illinois public schools. ["The State We're In: 2012"](#)

looks at how Illinois compares with other states across 55 data measures traced for the current year, 2, 5, and 10 years prior.

At a time when eight of every 10 Illinois jobs require more than a high school diploma, fewer than three-fourths of Illinois students who begin high school will graduate and fewer than one-third will go on to earn a two- or four-year degree, according to the report, which details key initiatives that Advance Illinois sees as unfolding during the coming years as Illinois works to strengthen the public educational system.

[Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities announces new funding opportunity focusing on post-secondary education](#)

The Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities recently released a new Call for Investment (CFI) "**Post-Secondary Education**". The Council hopes to invest in initiatives to expand access and support services to students with intellectual and developmental disabilities at Illinois community colleges and four year colleges/universities. Both community colleges and four year colleges/universities are encouraged to apply.

**UPCOMING**

**NOVEMBER**

16 [ICCB Board Meeting](#), Crisp Community College Center. Springfield

[ISAC Commission Meeting](#), Harold Washington College, Chicago

[IBHE Faculty Advisory Council](#), Lewis University, Romeoville

16-17 [IBHE Student Advisory Committee](#), Eastern Illinois University, Charleston

**DECEMBER**

4 [IBHE Board Meeting](#), Adler School of Professional Psychology, Chicago

### [Financial Aid Shopping Sheet used by more colleges](#)

More than 500 colleges and universities, enrolling over 2.5 million undergraduate students (13% of all undergraduate students), have committed to adopting the [Financial Aid Shopping Sheet](#) during the 2013-14 academic year.

### [New applicants for the 2013-2014 DFI Fellowship Program](#)

The Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois (DFI) Program Board and the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) have released the 2013-2014 academic year application for the DFI Fellowship Program. For more than 21 years, the DFI program and its predecessor programs have provided competitive need-based financial awards to underrepresented students who have earned graduate degrees (master's or doctoral) from a participating Illinois higher education institution.

The 2013-2014 academic year application materials for the DFI Program must be submitted to the DFI Institutional Representative at the participating institution on or before **February 18, 2013**. A complete list of the DFI Institutional Representatives can be found on the DFI website at: <http://www.ibhe.org/DFI/instRep.asp>. It is important that applicants contact the DFI Institutional Representative at their institution to determine if other internal submission deadlines have been established.

### [People in the News](#)



#### [SPOTLIGHT: 2012 - 13 DFI Fellows](#)

Thirty-nine new Diversifying Higher Education Faculty (DFI) in Illinois Program Fellows were recently awarded a Fellowship for the 2012-2013 academic year. The purpose of the DFI program is to increase the number of underrepresented faculty and staff in Illinois institutions of higher education. The complete list of new and renewal Fellows by institution and program major can be viewed on the IBHE website at <http://www.ibhe.org/DFI/fellows.asp>. *The Friday Memo* will feature DFI Fellows throughout the year.



**Royel Johnson** is a second year doctoral student within the Department of Education Policy, Organization & Leadership at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is a two-time graduate from the University of Illinois, receiving his Bachelor's degree in Political Science in 2010, and his Master's degree in Education Policy in 2011. Currently he serves as a Graduate Advisor for the Office of Fraternity Sorority Affairs.

At Illinois, he serves in various professional and leadership capacities. He was recently elected as the Vice-President for Administration for the National Black Graduate Student Association, the largest interdisciplinary graduate student organization in the nation. In this position, he is responsible for facilitating the development, maintenance and monitoring of organizational plans; and also directs all aspects of effective administrative and financial management.

After receiving his Ph.D., Royel plans to work in higher education as a professor and administrator. His research interests center on two major streams of scholarly inquiry: (a) student access and achievement, and (b) the study of inequality and diversity in education. Much of his research attention is devoted to the experiences of historically underrepresented groups in education, with a particular emphasis on the experiences of Black males in college.

[Veronica D. Williams](#) has been named director of Exploratory Student Advisement at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Williams currently serves as director of the Twenty-first Century Scholars Program at Indiana State University's Wabash Valley Regional Support Site in Terre Haute. "Veronica will bring strong leadership skills and proven success in student mentoring and retention to our University," Chancellor Rita Cheng said. "We have created the Exploratory Student program as part of our ongoing emphasis on strengthening the support we provide to first-year students through the University College. We know the transition to university life can be challenging for some students, and we are helping them establish the foundation for academic and career success."

## Campus News

### [Governor Quinn announces winners of the 2012 Illinois Governor's Sustainability Awards](#)

Governor Pat Quinn announced the winners of the 2012 Illinois Governor's Sustainability Awards, which recognize college campuses and businesses throughout Illinois that demonstrate a strong commitment to improving the environment through sustainable practices. Since 1987, the awards have been administered on behalf of the Governor by the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center (ISTC) at the University of Illinois, a leader in environmental and energy research. This is the first year campuses have been considered for an award. "Investing in sustainability creates jobs, boosts our economy and is an investment in our future," Governor Quinn said. "These awards foster innovation and encourage our universities and businesses to help us build a stronger, greener Illinois."

#### **Governor's 26th Annual College Campus Sustainability Awards Winners:**

Danville Area Community College  
DePaul University  
Elmhurst College  
Illinois Institute of Technology  
Joliet Junior College  
Heartland Community College  
Kankakee Community College  
Lewis & Clark Community College  
Lewis University  
Lincoln Land Community College  
Moraine Valley Community College  
Northwestern University  
Northwestern College  
Roosevelt University  
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville  
Southwestern Illinois College  
Triton College  
University of Illinois at Chicago  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Waubonsee Community College  
Wilbur Wright College

### [ECC recognized as an Achieving the Dream Leader College](#)

Elgin Community College was recognized as a leader in the national student completion movement by Achieving the Dream, a national nonprofit leading the nation's most comprehensive non-governmental reform network for community college student success and completion. The college, which is the only one in Illinois and one of 14 institutions nationwide designated as a 2012 Leader College, was recognized for demonstrating sustained improvement and accomplishments on key student achievement indicators, including student persistence and completion.

"Elgin Community College is honored to be recognized as an Achieving the Dream Leader College," says ECC President David Sam, PhD, JD. "Our faculty and staff have been working diligently to make data-informed decisions to help close achievement gaps and remove barriers for our students. This distinction affirms the outstanding leadership of our faculty members, administrators, staff, and Board of Trustees as they support our students in their daily efforts to achieve their dreams."

### [Chicago State University hosts and sponsors The Steve Harvey Mentoring Weekend](#)

Chicago State University (CSU) joins forces with celebrity motivator and comedian Steve Harvey, for an inspirational weekend to set a new standard for African American young men throughout the city of Chicago. Steve Harvey, who is best known for being an international comedic sensation, the host of the Steve Harvey Show and Family Feud, and his community service efforts will launch the Steve Harvey Mentoring Campaign.

### [Waubonsee partners with local high schools to tackle college readiness](#)

Waubonsee Community College hosted its third College and Career Readiness Summit at the Sugar Grove Campus on November 13. The event brought together faculty and staff from Waubonsee and 16 area high schools to discuss ways to better prepare students for college and the work world. A panel of high school and college students also shared their insights about the transition to college at the event.

### [News from Higher Education](#)

[New national tally of college completion tries to count all students](#) (Chronicle of Higher Education)

For years, higher-education leaders have argued that dismal college-completion rates fail to capture the single mother who could squeeze in only a few classes per semester or the serviceman who started at one college and finished years later at another. The National Student Clearinghouse Research Center released a report that takes account of the circuitous but ultimately successful routes that students often take toward a college degree.

[College credit eyed for online courses](#) (The New York Times)

While massive open online courses, or MOOCs, are still in their early days, the race has begun to integrate them into traditional colleges — by making them eligible for transfer credits, and by putting them to use in introductory and remedial courses.

[US colleges, especially in Midwest, see record number of foreign students](#) (Christian Science Monitor)

Foreign students contribute nearly \$23 billion annually to the US economy, according to the annual Open Doors Report on trends in international college education.

[Four more years](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

President Obama, who won re-election, has already hinted how he might deal with higher education in a second term. The question now is how much of that agenda he will be able to accomplish in the next four years, given the budget crises he will face and the expectation that Republicans in Congress will continue to oppose his priorities.



Happy Thanksgiving!

*The Friday Memo* staff will be enjoying leftovers the day-after-Thanksgiving.

*The Friday Memo* will return on Nov. 30.

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