

Illinois Higher Ed  
*The Friday Memo*

IBHE  
Chairwoman Carrie J. Hightman  
Interim Exec. Director Harry J. Berman, Ph.D.

ICCB  
Chairman Alexi Giannoulis  
President/CEO Geoff Obrzut

ISAC  
Chair Kym M. Hubbard  
Executive Director Eric Zamikow

February 1, 2013

**[Illinois Senate announces Committee assignments](#)**

The Illinois State Senate has identified the Senate members for the 98<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Committees. [Senate Higher Education Committee](#) will be chaired by [Sen. Michael W. Frerichs](#) (D-52). Frerichs has served on the Higher Education Committee but is taking over as the new chair, since former chair, Sen. Ed Maloney, has retired. The [Senate Appropriations II Committee](#), which oversees higher education appropriations, again will be headed up by [Sen. Dan Kotowski](#) (D-28), who also is a member of the Higher Education Committee. [Sen. Chapin Rose](#) (R-51) will serve as Minority Spokesperson on both the Higher Education and Appropriations II Committees. Newly elected to the Senate, Rose served as Minority Spokesperson on the House Higher Education Appropriations Committee during the 97<sup>th</sup> General Assembly.

**[House Democrats receive Committee assignments](#)**

[Rep. Naomi D. Jakobson](#) (D-103) returns as [House Higher Education Committee](#) Chairperson. She also serves on the [House Higher Education Appropriations Committee](#), which will be chaired by [Rep. Kenneth Dunkin](#) (D-5). Dunkin also returns having served as Chairperson during the 97<sup>th</sup> General Assembly. The House Republican members of the Committees have not yet been announced.

**[The General Assembly establishes a new Dashboard on website](#)**

The ["Dashboard"](#) program on the General Assembly's home webpage provides information about scheduled hearings and includes on-line registration (by completing an electronic witness slip) for recording individual opinions on legislation pending for a legislative committee hearing. Additional features for this web-based system are planned.

**[FY14 MAP start-up formula approved by ISAC commission](#)**

While it will be months before funding for the Monetary Award Program (MAP) is finalized for fiscal year 2014 (FY14), continuing state budget difficulties mean that funding levels may be lower than the \$371 million received in FY13 [although ISAC has requested an increase in MAP funding]. Based on that probable outcome, staff again recommended, and the Commission approved a 5 percent reduction factor for 2013-14 academic year awards at its January 24 meeting. The reduction factor is intended to reduce the likelihood that the suspense date will be even earlier than in FY13 (which was originally mid-March, and later extended to early April). The 5 percent reduction results in an effective maximum award of \$4,720.

**UPCOMING**

**FEBRUARY**

- 5 **[IBHE Board Meeting](#)**,  
Kendall College, Chicago
- 6 **State of the State**,  
Springfield
- 11 **[ICCTA Board of Representatives Meeting](#)**, at Association of  
Community College  
Trustees' National  
Legislative Summit,  
Washington, DC
- 15 **[IBHE-Faculty Advisory Council Meeting](#)**,  
Kaskaskia College,  
Centralia
- 22-23 **[IBHE Student Advisory Committee Meeting](#)**,  
Roosevelt University &  
UIC, Chicago

### [Projections for high school graduates reflect growing Hispanic population](#)

A new report projects that, by the 2019-20 school year, 45 percent of public high school graduates in the United States will be nonwhite, up by more than 7 percent over the class of 2009 and driven by a rapid increase in the number of Hispanics completing high school. White public high school graduates will drop by 228,000 and black non-Hispanics by 41,000, while Hispanic graduates will increase by 197,000 and the number of Asians/Pacific Islanders graduating will rise by 49,000, according to the 8th edition of "**Knocking at the College Door: Projections of High School Graduates**," recently released by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education.

Illinois' profile shows sweeping changes in the racial/ethnic composition of its public high school graduating classes.

- Projected rapid growth among Hispanics and Asians/Pacific Islanders will drive an overall increase in the non-White share of graduates to 42% by 2019-20.
- Hispanics will grow from 15% to 22% of the class between 2008-09 and 2019-20, while Asians/Pacific Islander graduates will rise 2 percentage points to 6%.
- Black non-Hispanics and White non-Hispanics are each projected to make up smaller shares of the class in 2019-20 than in 2008-09, down 3 and 6 percentage points, respectively.

Overall, Illinois' future number of high school graduates will be sharply reduced.

- Graduates are expected to initially increase to just over 151,000 by 2011-12, followed by a sharp decline of nearly 9,000 graduates in just two years, to 142,000.
- Between 2014-15 and 2024-25, the number of graduates will undergo a moderate and fitful decrease to about 138,000. Graduates are projected to decline sharply again beginning in 2025-26.

### [CEDS Version 3 is live on federal website](#)

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) has announced the release of Version 3 of the Common Education Data Standards (CEDS). CEDS is a national collaborative effort to develop voluntary, common data standards for a key set of education data elements to streamline the exchange, comparison, and understanding of data within and across P-20W institutions and sectors. CEDS Version 3 includes a broad scope of elements spanning much of the P-20W spectrum and provides greater context for understanding the standards' interrelationships and practical utility. Specifically, Version 3 of CEDS focuses on elements and modeling in the Early Learning, K12, and Postsecondary sectors and also expands into career and technical education, adult education, workforce, and support for the Race to the Top Assessments.

### **Colleges can raise awareness of earthquake hazard with the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut**

The Illinois Emergency Management Agency is encouraging all Illinoisans, including Illinois colleges and universities, to participate in the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut at 10:15 a.m. on Feb. 7. This "Drop, Cover and Hold On" drill will be conducted simultaneously with other states in the Central U.S. to draw attention to the earthquake hazard that exists in Illinois and other states in the region.

To participate in the 2013 ShakeOut log on to the ShakeOut website ([www.shakeout.org/centralus/](http://www.shakeout.org/centralus/)) to register for the drill and obtain details and reference materials. If a college selects another day to conduct a "Drop, Cover and Hold On" drill. Registration is still encouraged on the ShakeOut website. For more information, contact Kate Mackz at IEMA at (217) 785-9925 or [kate.mackz@illinois.gov](mailto:kate.mackz@illinois.gov).

## [IERC request for research presentations and fellowship](#)

The 11th IERC Focus on Illinois Education Research Symposium will be held June 13-14, 2013, at the Hotel and Conference Center in Champaign, IL. A call for proposal submissions for a presentation or poster session has been issued by the Illinois Education Research Council (IERC). This unique forum provides education practitioners, policy makers and researchers with the opportunity to learn from one another about research that is being done on Illinois education from pre-kindergarten through higher education (P-20).

The Illinois Education Research Council has also announced its faculty research fellowship application for the 2013-14 academic year.

## [Illinois Dream Fund Scholarships](#)

The Illinois Dream Fund, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation, will be awarding scholarships for college tuition to children of immigrants who possess at least a 2.5 GPA on a 4 point scale (GPA must be from high school, if an incoming freshman, or from college, if a current undergraduate), and who resided in Illinois while attending high school for at least three years. Undocumented students are encouraged to apply. Scholarship applications may be obtained at the Illinois Dream Fund website: [illinoisdreamfund.org](http://illinoisdreamfund.org). Applications are due by March 1, 2013.

## [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.



**Samuel Byndom** is a native Illinoisan. He received his high school diploma from Southwestern High School. Subsequently, Byndom enrolled at Millikin University earning a B.A. in History. He joined the Illinois National Guard in 2001 and served in Operation Iraqi Freedom. After separating from the military, he pursued a master's degree from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville in Teaching and another in History from the University of Missouri St. Louis. He worked in the Illinois public schools for several years, as a high school teacher and outreach advisor. Currently, as a fourth year Ph.D. student in Education Policy Organization and Leadership at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Byndom's area of research is the history of higher education, particularly examining the roles of public colleges and universities. He endeavors to explain the ways in which the university can be a transformative and emancipatory mechanism within American society.

While attending UIUC, Byndom has presented at national conferences and served as a reviewer for American Education Research Association (AERA), American Association for Colleges of Teacher Education (AACTE), and the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE). Additionally, he has published reviews in several journals, and has been recognized for his leadership and service to the community. He is currently co-coordinator and instructor for the Odyssey Project, a program that provides college-level courses for economically and educationally disadvantaged adults in the Urbana-Champaign community through Bard College. "The Diversifying Faculty in Illinois Fellowship (DFI) has allowed me to engage in scholarship and continue pursuing initiatives I'm passionate about," stated Byndom.

[Michael Carr](#), Ph.D., has been named as assistant dean for Academic Affairs at Oakton Community College. Carr previously chaired the College's Biological Sciences Department and served as a professor of biology. In his new post, Carr will oversee Oakton's adjunct faculty. Carr's duties will include coordinating evaluations of part-time and adjunct faculty, managing Oakton's dual credit initiatives, and administering the College's program through which students receive academic credit for prior learning.

### [Lincoln Academy of Illinois' Student Laureates honored](#)



**Columbia College Chicago: Jessica Lee Egan, is from Nashotah, WI, majoring in Fine Arts with a concentration in Environmental Studies.**



**Concordia University Chicago: Katrina Elyse Brundage, is from Red Bud, majoring in Political Science and Mathematics.**



**DePaul University: Kaitlin Conway, is from Chicago, majoring in Psychology and Sociology.**

***Editor's note: In the upcoming issues of [The Friday Memo](#), the Illinois Student Laureates from Illinois' colleges and universities will be featured in "People in the News." The award recognizes outstanding academic achievement, campus leadership and extracurricular activities among Illinois college and university seniors.***

## Campus News

### [New Western Commitment Transfer Scholarships](#)

Western Illinois University's Board of Trustees and President Jack Thomas recently approved a new program to provide scholarships to qualified students who transfer to Western beginning this fall. The new Western Commitment Transfer Scholarships will provide new transfer students who have earned an associate's degree and minimum 3.5 grade point average (GPA) with one-time \$1,000 scholarships. Students not meeting the GPA requirement will receive \$400 awards to buy their books from the University Bookstore.

"We want to reflect our core values in everything we do," Thomas said. "The new \$1,000 scholarship for transfer students, such as students who qualify for the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, reflects our commitment to academic excellence. The new \$400 book award reflects our commitment to educational opportunity. We want to continue to make working with our community college partners throughout the region a priority in order for students to successfully complete their four-year degrees."

### [ECC is a Bellwether Award winner](#)

Elgin Community College (ECC) has won the Bellwether Award in recognition of its Alliance for College Readiness initiative. The college received the award on January 29, at the 2013 Community College Futures Assembly in Lake Buena Vista, FL. Established in 1995, The Bellwether Award focuses on cutting-edge, trendsetting programs that other colleges might find worthy of replicating. ECC won the award over nine other finalists in Instructional Programs and Services category.

"It is an honor to have the ECC Alliance for College Readiness recognized with the Bellwether Award," says ECC President David Sam, PhD, JD. "The alliance and its partners in school districts 300, 301, 303, and U-46 have been doing excellent work for the students in our community for many years, and they deserve this recognition."

### [\\$100 million donation received by University of Illinois College of Engineering](#)

The University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign has announced the largest gift ever to the U. of I. College of Engineering, a \$100 million donation that will fund student scholarships and allow the school to hire dozens of faculty members. The gift from the Grainger Foundation is being made in memory of William W. Grainger, a 1919 graduate of U. of I.'s program in electrical engineering who went on to found W.W. Grainger Inc., a major distributor of tools and other electrical equipment.

### [RVC's Jacobs Center for Science and Math awarded LEED Gold Certification](#)

Rock Valley College (RVC) has been awarded LEED Gold Certification for the Karl J. Jacobs Center for Science and Math (JCSM). The LEED rating system, developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) is the foremost program for buildings, homes, and communities that are designed, constructed, maintained, and operated for improved environmental and human health performance. The Karl J. Jacobs Center for Science and Math opened on the Rock Valley College main campus in August 2011. The 106,000 square foot building allows Rock Valley College to increase course offerings in science and math for transfer and career programs while providing a state of the art learning environment that demonstrates the College's commitment to sustainable and energy conserving design.

## [Governor Quinn announces Gigabit Internet Partnership with City of Evanston and Northwestern University](#)

Governor Pat Quinn, joined by leaders from the city of Evanston and Northwestern University, announced a \$1 million state investment to help the city become an [Illinois Gigabit Community](#), bringing ultra-high speed Internet to one of the nation's top universities and the surrounding area, home to more than 160 start-ups. This gigabit service will be crucial to developing an economic innovation corridor that will attract entrepreneurs who create jobs as they grow the next generation of world-changing companies.

### News from Higher Education

#### [Colleges' aid eligibility should be tied to students' backgrounds, report says](#) (Chronicle of Higher Education)

The latest in a series of proposals for restructuring the federal financial-aid system recommends evaluating institutional performance based on the backgrounds of students enrolled and redefining institutional eligibility for some federal aid programs.

#### [Bill Gates says there is something perverse in college ratings](#) (Forbes)

There is a perverse metric rating system for U.S. colleges, says Bill Gates, the world's most generous and influential philanthropist. The problem is that it gives credit to schools that attract the best students rather than schools that take poorly prepared students and help them get ready for the next stage.

#### [A financial aid overhaul](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

The latest white paper from a Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation-funded effort to rethink the nation's financial aid system argues for a near-total overhaul -- shoring up the Pell Grant, reducing the amount many students and parents can borrow, and using federal aid to encourage colleges to better serve students from low-income backgrounds.

#### [College chiefs contemplate completion](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

College leaders should embrace the goal of getting college degrees into the hands of more Americans, which may require changes in campus culture and more aggressive steps to improve graduation rates, a group of college presidents from across all sectors wrote in an open letter to their peers.

#### [To Raise graduation rate, colleges are urged to help a changing student body](#) (The New York Times)

In an effort to improve the college completion rate and fend off new regulations, a commission of the nation's six leading higher-education associations is calling for extensive reforms to serve a changing college population — one increasingly composed of older and part-time students.

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](mailto:FridayMemo@ibhe.org)

[Sign up](#) to Friday Memo mailing list

