

Illinois Higher Ed  
*The Friday Memo*

IBHE  
Chairwoman Carrie J. Hightman  
Executive Director Harry J. Berman

ICCB  
Chairman Alexi Giannoulis  
President/CEO Geoff Obrzut

ISAC  
Chair Kym M. Hubbard  
Executive Director Eric Zamikow

April 5, 2013

**Berman named IBHE Executive Director**

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) announces that the formal search process to recruit a new executive director will be delayed until July. Dr. Harry Berman, who has been acting as Interim Executive Director since November 2012, will serve as Executive Director until the search process is complete and a new executive director is appointed. "I am pleased that Dr. Berman is willing to continue serving in this role longer than originally anticipated. The Board looks forward to the conclusion of a successful search in 2014," said Carrie Hightman, Chair, Illinois Board of Higher Education.

Dr. Berman said, "It's a great privilege to work with both the Board and staff of the Illinois Board of Higher Education, as well as with leaders in all sectors of higher education in Illinois. My aim in the months to come is to build on past accomplishments and to continue to make progress toward the goals of the *Illinois Public Agenda*."

[Conference held to offer support for veterans' success at Illinois colleges and universities](#)

The IBHE, in partnership with the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs, the Illinois Community College Board, and Parkland College, hosted a one-day event for veteran students, faculty, and staff members from all institutions of higher education on April 3, at Parkland College's Tony Noel Agriculture and Technology Center. The intent of the conference was to provide examples of strategies necessary to build a stronger foundation in student success programs for veterans, and develop a state network of informed professionals in higher education that will create a cohesive association to assist veteran students.

Sessions were conducted by Amy Sherman, Associate Vice President for Policy and Strategic Alliances at the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL); Brian Clauss, Executive Director of The John Marshall Law School's Veterans Legal Support Center and Clinic; Rodrigo Garcia, Assistant Director, and Joan L. Ryan, Administrator of the Illinois State Approving Agency for Veteran's Education and Training, at the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs; and Dr. John Harris, a clinical psychologist specializing in military-related traumas.

A five-member panel of students from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Parkland College, and Eastern Illinois University shared personal testimony about their experiences coming from military service into a higher education situation and served to provide insight into the common adjustments for many veteran students.

As a result of the event, planning is already underway for a forum for veteran students in the Fall of 2013, to continue to discuss strategies for addressing the military-civilian gaps on Illinois college campuses.

**UPCOMING**

**APRIL**

- 8** [House Higher Ed Committee](#), Room 115, Capitol, Springfield
- 11** [House Appropriations-Higher Ed Committee](#), Room 114, Capitol, Springfield
- 12** [Senate Appropriations II Committee](#), Room 212, Capitol, Springfield
- 30** **ICCTA Board Meeting**, President Abraham Lincoln Hotel, Springfield

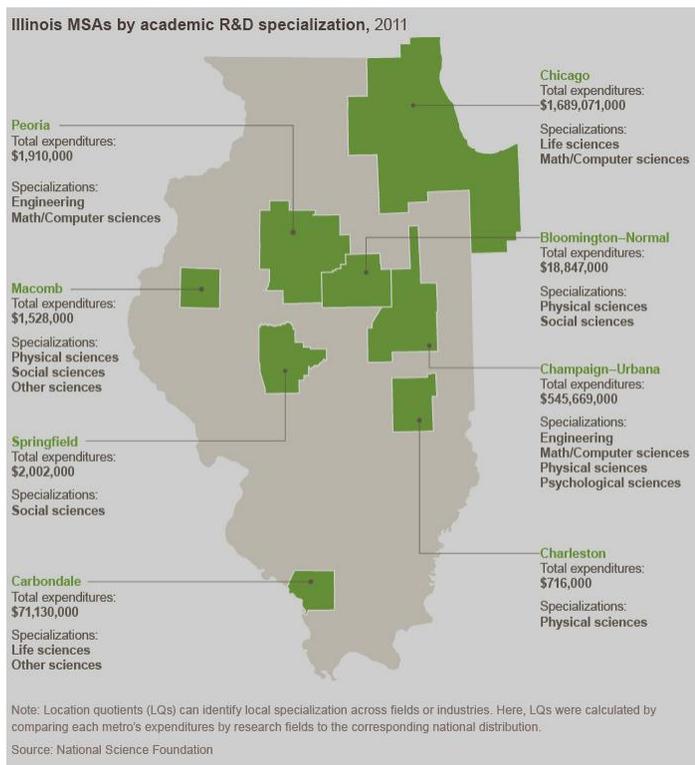
## Search for ICCB executive director underway, deadline for applications is April 8

The Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) has established a special committee to conduct a search for its Executive Director. President Geoffrey Obrzut announced his plans to retire at the end of June, 2013. The search is underway: applications will be accepted until **April 8**. The Board expects to have a new executive director in place on July 1, 2013. Information about position and application procedures can be found at <http://www.iccb.org/executive.search.html>.

## Competency-based learning

The U.S. Department of Education has issued guidance for postsecondary institutions that offer competency-based programs in which students learn at their own pace -- but that currently do not offer federal student aid. The Agency is reminding schools that they may be eligible to offer Title IV funds under the direct assessment provision of the *Higher Education Act*, and it has supplied step-by-step instructions on how to apply. Moreover, for the many institutions that have expressed interest, the guidance addresses developing competency-based programs that are likely to be Title IV eligible.

## Illinois educational institutions increase R&D funding



Investments in R&D drive innovation in Illinois by providing the resources to sustain research projects and attract top talent. Educational and federal research institutions are two primary recipients of research dollars. The strength of Illinois educational institutions has helped solidify the state's position as an academic research leader. In addition, Argonne National Laboratory and Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory are consistently ranked among the top federally funded research and development centers in the nation for R&D expenditures. Funding for these labs increased every year from 2008 to 2011. Recent data from the National Science Foundation indicate that R&D spending at educational institutions in both metropolitan Chicago and Illinois rose in 2011 (the latest year for which data are available).



The Illinois Latino Council on Higher Education (ILACHE) will award a one-time **\$1000 scholarship** to two eligible Latino/a students from Illinois. High school seniors and undergraduate students are eligible to apply. Selection will be based on careful review of the following areas: 1) campus involvement, 2) community involvement, 3) academic achievements and goals, and 4) career aspirations.

To be considered, an applicant must be an Illinois Latino/a graduating high school senior or a continuing undergraduate level college student and enrolled full-time during the fall term of the upcoming academic year at a four or two-year regionally accredited college or university in Illinois. Past awardees are not eligible.

Complete applications with all the required supporting materials must be submitted (postmarked) by **May 1, 2013**. Incomplete and late applications will not be considered. Awardees will be notified by September 2013. If awarded the ILACHE Scholarship, the recipient must send proof of full-time registration for the Fall 2013 term.

### **Illinois School and Campus Security Training being offered**

The Illinois School and Campus Security Training Program has established a partnership with Texas A&M University System's TEEK Public Safety and Security-Homeland Security Division. All DHS training provided by TEEK to local and state jurisdictions are Department of Homeland Security Certified and offered free of charge. On April 17-18, Heartland Community College, located in Normal, IL, is hosting the two-day Threat and Risk Assessment MGT 310 training. As schools and higher education campuses continue to face threat, vulnerability and security challenges, this informational course will greatly assist to enhance the participant's ability to recognize factors needing to be addressed in emergency operations plans, emergency response plans, and crisis response protocols. A pdf brochure has been attached for your reference to provide more detailed information on the MGT 310 class and for ease in sharing among your professional network. Contact Dr. Sandra Ellis at: Sandra.Ellis@teex.tamu.edu / (217) 871-0023 for additional information.

### **People in the News**

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**Douglas D. Baker** – an award-winning professor of business, proven high-level administrator and scholar of management and leadership in higher education – has been named the 12th president of Northern Illinois University. NIU's Board of Trustees voted on April 2 to hire the 57 year-old Baker, whose appointment will be effective July 1. He currently serves as provost and executive vice president at the University of Idaho. An expert in organizational strategy, structure and motivation, Baker said he hopes to bring NIU to the fore as a national model for a 21st century public university. "NIU is clearly a university with strong students, an excellent staff, and outstanding faculty, who are not only exceptional teachers but also top researchers," he said. "The university's focus on student engagement is right on target, because 'job one' for any university must be student success in the rapidly changing social and economic environment. I believe I can help the University build upon its vision."

The University of St. Francis Board of Trustees has appointed **Arvid C. Johnson, Ph.D.**, as the institution's ninth president. Johnson's tenure will begin June 1. Johnson, of Frankfort, Ill., is presently the Dean of the Brennan School of Business at Dominican University, where he also is a tenured professor of management and has taught undergraduate and graduate business courses.

University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana adjunct journalism professor **Roger Ebert**, who won a Pulitzer Prize for movie criticism, died April 4.

### **SPOTLIGHT: 2012 - 13 DFI Fellows**

Thirty-nine new Diversifying Higher Education Faculty (DFI) in Illinois Program Fellows were 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.





**Rose Hores** is a PhD candidate in biological anthropology at Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC). She obtained both BA and MA degrees in Anthropology from Florida Atlantic University (FAU). Hores has 14 years of research experience, both in the U.S. and Internationally. She has conducted archaeological excavations, worked in museums, and studied nonhuman primates, both in the wild and in captivity. Author of four abstract publications in national journals and contributor to the publication of SIUC's *Introduction to Biological Anthropology* course lab manual, Hores also has given five presentations at national conferences. She is a co-contributor for the DFI Newsletter (2012-2013).

Hores began the doctoral program at SIUC in 2007, and is currently conducting her dissertation research on mosaic landscape use of an endangered species of monkey, the red uakari, from the Peruvian Amazon. She was inducted into Lambda Alpha, the national Anthropology honors society in 2012. Her goals are to secure a job as a tenure-track faculty member at a university with a focus on primatology and conservation and to serve as both a role model and mentor to other underrepresented individuals in the academic community.

**Mary Ellis**, a junior biology major at North Park University, was named the top undergraduate student presenter on March 24, at the 2013 Midwestern Section annual meeting of the American Society of Plant Biologists. Ellis's presentation, given at Chicago State University, was based on her research project involving plant species that attract destructive Japanese beetles.

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



**Loyola University: Alexandra Vecchio, is from Belleville, majoring in Environmental Studies and Sociology.**



**MacMurray College: Derek Alan Crouch, is from Chatham, majoring in Biology.**



**McKendree University: Matthew B. Ernst, is from Peoria, majoring in Computer Science with minors in Mathematics and History.**

***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

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### [CSU announces partnership with University of Chicago to create cancer research initiative](#)

Continuing its efforts to train the next generation of health care leaders who will continue the fight against cancer, Chicago State University (CSU) has announced that the school will partner with the University of Chicago's Comprehensive Cancer Center on a project entitled "The Southside Cancer Disparities Initiative." "This partnership provides a unique opportunity for Chicago State's Master of Public Health graduate students to get an elevated level of hands on experience," said Dr. Wayne D. Watson, President of Chicago State University. "This new initiative is another example of how Chicago State is meeting the challenge to offer students cutting-edge, innovative education that prepares them to make a difference in the world."

The partnership will create and explore opportunities for graduate students interested in biomedical and cancer research. Students involved in this program will be able to focus on cancer education, training, and community engagement. The new venture will work with community-based health organizations to prepare and train the staff in understanding cancer disparity issues. Health organizations will also work on collaborative projects with students who will receive mini-grants, which will go to conduct community-based participation research. The research will focus on work with community members to translate knowledge into action. The project is supported by a grant from the National Cancer Institute of the National Institute of Health.

## News from Higher Education

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### [Sequester will force universities to scale back scientific research](#) (Stateline.org)

Marian Alicea, an engineering student who is slated to graduate from college this spring, needs a doctorate degree to achieve her lofty career goal of becoming a White House environmental adviser with scientific expertise. But the budget battle in Washington is complicating her plans for getting there.

### [Course Load: The growing burden of college fees](#) (Stateline.org)

At the University of California Santa Cruz, where tuition runs to nearly \$35,000 for non-residents, students every year pay more than 30 additional fees — including a small charge for what's billed as "free" HIV testing.

### [State budgeters' view of higher ed](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

A report seeks to sort out the realities and misconceptions about state funding of higher education from a perspective rarely heard: that of the state budget officers themselves.

['Yes We Must' Coalition steps up to advocate for needy students—and their colleges](#) (Chronicle of Higher Education)

Alarmed that the college-completion agenda and other national policy and financing debates overlook the special challenges of needy students and the institutions they attend, a coalition of colleges called Yes We Must is revving up to ensure that its concerns are not ignored.

[Want to change college athletics? Financially punish coaches](#) (USA Today)

March Madness is underway, but the 2011 champion, the University of Connecticut, is conspicuously absent. The Huskies men's team isn't competing this year because it failed to meet the minimal academic requirements set by the NCAA for postseason play.

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