

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

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May 31, 2013

(General Assembly news as of Press Time, 2:00 pm)

**General Assembly sends budget bills to the Governor;
Higher Education funded at same levels as last year**

The Spring Session of the 98th General Assembly is racing to the final hours to expected adjournment before midnight today, May 31. On Tuesday, May 28, the House Appropriations Committee for Higher Education unveiled the package of budget bills for higher education, agreed to by the House and Senate Democratic leaders. Assisted by increased revenue estimates based upon additional tax receipts received by the State in April, funding for the fiscal year 2014 higher education budget lines were largely left level with fiscal year 2013's budget levels. Additionally, approximately \$35 million that could have been allocated for higher education programs was shifted to the preschool-12 budget, resulting in holding state funding for all education to fiscal year 2013 levels.

The higher education appropriations bills, [HB 208](#), Madigan (Cullerton), and [SB 2556](#), Cullerton (Madigan), passed both houses, without a single Republican vote. During floor debates on both bills, Republicans expressed anger at being excluded from the final deliberations, as well as concern over several programs either because they appeared to be new initiatives, or receiving larger increases from last year.

HB 208 includes the operating funds for the administration of the State higher education agencies, as well as spending authorities for grants, special initiatives, and federal programs. The Monetary Award Program (MAP) received approximately a \$1.9 million increase from last year. SB 2556 includes the operating funds for the public universities, and base operating and equalization grants for community colleges. Allocations for the universities included amounts for performance from a .5% set-aside. The total fiscal year 2014 higher education operations and grant budget is \$1,991,309,800, a \$12 million (.58%) increase from fiscal year 2013 budget. Both bills, as well as [HB 206](#), Madigan (Cullerton), containing the State contribution to SURS, the State Universities Retirement System, will be sent to Governor Quinn for his review and expected signature. A **Summary of the General Assembly Higher Education Budget Actions** is available [here](#).

UPCOMING

JUNE

- 4 [IBHE Board Meeting](#), DePaul University, Chicago
- 6 **Illinois Council of Community College Presidents Meeting**, Hotel Sofitel Chicago Water Tower, Chicago
- 7 **Illinois Community College Board Meeting**, Hotel Sofitel Chicago Water Tower, Chicago
- 7-8 [ICCTA Annual Convention](#), Hotel Sofitel Chicago Water Tower, Chicago
- 15 **IBHE-Student Advisory Committee Meeting**, Roosevelt University, Schaumburg campus
- 21 **Illinois Student Assistance Commission Meeting**, Michael A. Bilandic Building, Chicago

House agrees to cost-shift of pension for community colleges and universities

On Thursday evening, May 30, the House passed [SB 1687](#), Biss (Madigan), shifting the payment of state contributions to the State Universities Retirement System, to employers, community colleges and universities, beginning July 1, 2014. The amount contributed by the employers will begin at .5% of payroll towards the normal cost of benefits, and will increase an additional .5% per year until the full employer normal cost has been shifted. In addition to other details relating to establishing this cost shift, the bill also includes several provisions recommended by the public presidents and chancellors that will alleviate regulatory and purchasing financial and administrative burdens. The cost shift bill is now awaiting a floor vote on the concurrence calendar in the Senate today.

For a list of final actions on pending legislation related to higher education issues, go to IBHE website: [Special Bills of Interest to IBHE](#).

Time to register for 3rd annual statewide College Changes Everything Conference: Filling up fast!



Registration Now Open!

College Changes Everything Conference

**Tinley Park Convention Center, Tinley Park, Illinois
July 11, 2013 · 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

Registration is now open at the conference website <http://www.collegechangeseverything.org/events/cce-conference-2013.html>. Please join us at the third statewide 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.

Come ready to spend the day with Illinois colleagues to share and learn from each other as we work together to help the State reach its 60% x 2025 Goal. There is no registration fee.

In case you missed this week's Tweets*...

COLLEGE
CHANGES
EVERYTHING
EST. 2011

CCE_Illinois
@CCE_Illinois

CCE_Illinois @CCE_Illinois
21h
Space is filling up fast for
#CCE2013! Reserve your spot
today <http://bit.ly/14ULlLv>
Registration is free!

Follow us on
Twitter

CCE_Illinois @CCE_Illinois 22h
In June we'll start the 5th year of the
#ISACorps - Flashback Thursday
with us to the start of the initiative in
'09 <http://bit.ly/Zvvrk1I>

CCE_Illinois @CCE_Illinois 28 May
Early awareness program from
#ISACorps Members in Galesburg
area <http://bit.ly/10EARsQ>
#collegechangeseverything

*College Changes Everything is a College Access Movement of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, a state agency of Illinois - Follow us on Twitter @CCE_Illinois.

People in the News

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** features DFI Fellows throughout the year.



Jason Coupet is a Ph.D candidate in Strategic Management at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He received his BA in Economics from the University of Michigan in 2005. His research interests are Efficiency, Quasi-markets, Higher Education Strategy, and Organizational Political Action. So far, his published manuscripts have concerned efficiency and management of Historically Black Colleges and Universities. He also has presented at several national conferences. While he is committed to research, during his doctoral studies, he has remained very active with students, teaching a critical course in African-American Studies and serving as a Research Team Leader with UIC's Summer Research Opportunity Program. Before

beginning his doctoral studies, Coupet worked as an elementary teacher with Chicago Public Schools, an analyst in financial operations at a major telecommunications company, and as an owner of a painting business. He hails from south suburban Chicago, and hopes to help his state build an honest, critical dialogue about the roles organizations play as conduits of access, or conduits of oppression.

North Park University announced the appointment of [Dr. Jodi Koslow Martin](#) to the senior-level role of vice president for student engagement. Koslow Martin has served 14 years at Aurora University, Aurora, IL, in several roles including dean of first-year students, assistant provost and director of the Crouse Center for Student Success, and interim dean of the College of Professional Studies. Koslow Martin will begin her role at North Park on July 1. The University also announced the appointment of **Elizabeth Snezek** as dean of students, a role she assumed earlier this year in an interim capacity.

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



University of Illinois Urbana/Champaign: Benjamin Martin Miller is from Boody, majoring in Business Administration.



University of St. Francis: Jessica Lynn Nayder is from Mokena, majoring in Elementary Education.



Western Illinois University: Lauren N. Armstead is from Auburn, majoring in Education.



Wheaton College: Hilary Elizabeth Dirks is from Bloomington, majoring in Biology and a minor in Biblical and Theological Studies.

Editor's note: This concludes the special feature recognizing the 2012-13 Illinois Student Laureates. The award recognizes outstanding academic achievement, campus leadership and extracurricular activities among Illinois college and university seniors. Next year's 2013-14 awards will be presented in November, at which time the students will again be featured in The Friday Memo.

Campus News

[SIU develops high-yield, disease-resistant soybean](#)

Midwestern soybean farmers looking for a high-yield variety with built-in disease resistance will soon have a new option: Saluki 4313, developed at Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIU). Stella K. Kantartzi, associate professor in the Department of Plant, Soil, and Agricultural Systems and principal investigator in the Plant Breeding and Genetics Lab, said the SIU Soybean Germplasm and Variety Committee recently approved the variety's release. SIU Carbondale will develop foundation seed over the next two years. The University will maintain the foundation seed at the Agronomy Research Center. Kantartzi currently has available small quantities of the variety for research purposes, or for use as a parental line for development.

News from Higher Education

[Recent college graduates' employment outcomes vary by major, study finds](#) (Chronicle of Higher Education)

For all the concern these days about whether a college degree is still a good investment, bachelor's-degree recipients fare much better in the job market than do their less-educated peers.

[States raise college budgets after years of deep cuts](#) (The Wall Street Journal)

After cutting spending on public colleges and universities during the economic crisis, many state governments have begun to boost higher-education budgets once again.

[More young adults hold degrees, a boost in the job market, U.S. says](#) (Chronicle of Higher Education)

The educational attainment of young Americans has increased over the past two decades, and those who have completed more education earn more money, on average, and are more likely to be employed.

[Former ISU president honored in House](#) (Quad-City Times)

SPRINGFIELD — Lawmakers applauded Al Bowman during his visit to the Capitol, where he was honored for his service as Illinois State University president.

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

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