

Illinois Higher Ed  
*The Friday Memo*

IBHE  
Chair Lindsay Anderson  
Executive Director Harry J. Berman

ICCB  
Chairman Alexi Giannoulis  
Executive Director Karen Hunter Anderson, Ph.D.

ISAC  
Chair Kym M. Hubbard  
Executive Director Eric Zamikow

September 27, 2013

### USDOE launches discussion on college rating system

In August, President Obama put forward a plan including [three steps](#): paying for performance, promoting innovation and competition, and ensuring that student debt remains affordable. As part of this proposal, the President directed the Department to develop a rating system to better inform students and encourage colleges to improve. The ratings will compare colleges with similar missions and identify those that do the most to help students from disadvantaged backgrounds, as well as those that are improving their performance. In the future, the rating system could steer taxpayer dollars toward high-performing institutions.

To develop the college rating system, the Agency is seeking the best ideas and most creative thinking on some key themes:

- college access, such as the percentage of students receiving Pell Grants;
- college affordability, such as average tuition, scholarships, and loan debt; and
- outcomes, such as students' graduation and transfer rates, graduate earnings, and advanced degrees of college graduates.

On September 19, the Department launched a nationwide series of public discussions by convening student advocates and leaders -- since students will benefit the most from these efforts -- at the Agency's headquarters in Washington, D.C. Over the coming months, department leaders will be traveling across the Country to host open forums, roundtable discussions, and town halls to gather suggestions. And, members of the general public are invited to send their suggestions to [collegefeedback@ed.gov](mailto:collegefeedback@ed.gov). (Note: Additional information about the college affordability and value outreach initiative is posted [here](#).)

### Tuition reduction program available to Illinois students

The **Midwest Student Exchange Program (MSEP)** is a tuition reduction program that helps students attend participating out-of-state colleges and universities. Nearly 100 colleges and universities in Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Wisconsin offer the MSEP reduced tuition rate. Visit <http://msep.mhec.org> for more information.

### Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month

September 15 through October 15, marks the 48<sup>th</sup> annual national celebration of Hispanic heritage in the United States. Illinois Governor Pat Quinn announced [a website](#) to appreciate the history and importance of Illinois Latinos. And, an exhibit in the James R. Thompson Center in Chicago, October 7-11, will salute "[Latino Inventors, Scientists, and Innovators](#)," while displaying the flags of Latin American nations.

### UPCOMING

#### OCTOBER

- 1 [IBHE Board Meeting](#), UIC, Chicago
- 10-11 [Illinois Community College Faculty Association Teaching and Learning Excellence Conference](#), Crowne Plaza Hotel, Springfield
- 16-17 [Illinois Community College Chief Financial Officers Conference](#), Rend Lake
- 17 [P-20 Council Meeting](#), Bloomington/Normal
- 22 [Performance Funding Refinement Committee](#), IBHE, Springfield
- 24-25 [Illinois Association for Institutional Research 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Forum](#), Peoria
- 30-31 **SCALING UP** Invitational Conference, ISU, Bloomington/Normal

## 2013 Illinois Legislative Latino Caucus Foundation Scholarships

The Illinois Legislative Latino Caucus Foundation (ILLCF) will be awarding approximately twenty \$2,000 scholarships in 2013, to Latino undergraduate students enrolled in Illinois colleges and universities. Complete instructions and application forms may be found at [www.illcf.org](http://www.illcf.org). The scholarship application deadline is October 18. Scholarship winners will be recognized at the ILLCF Annual Conference on November 22.

## [Second Annual Scholarship for community college administrators announced](#)



The Illinois Council of Community College Administrators (ICCCA), the Illinois Community College Presidents Council, the Illinois Community College Trustees Association (ICCTA) and the Illinois Community College System Foundation (ICCSF) are pleased to announce the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Scholarship for Illinois Community College Administrators who are interested in doing studies related to the Illinois Community College System. Administrators who are working toward advanced degrees are encouraged to apply for this scholarship worth up to \$2000.



## Creating the Future for Early Childhood Education Teacher Preparation

### Save the Dates

### Higher Education Regional Faculty Meetings

Chicago Region: Nov. 14-15 Oak Lawn Hilton  
Northern Region: Nov. 14-15 Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel  
Central Region: Nov. 21-22 Chateau Hotel, Bloomington  
Southern Region: Dec. 5-6 Country Inn & Suites by Carlson, Marion

#### Learn what's happening in Early Childhood Education:

- Impact of Council on Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) on ECE Educator Preparation
- Redesigning ECE Programs to Meet New ISBE Requirements
- Creating Regional Partnerships to Enhance Coordination and Articulation
- Planning for Teacher Performance Assessment (TPA)
- Opportunity to apply for an Innovation Grant

Funded by the Heartland Equity and Inclusion Project and the McCormick Foundation.

Sponsored by ICCB, ISBE, IBHE, Heartland Equity and Inclusion Project, and INCCRRA's Gateways to Opportunity

# Get Ready to ShakeOut.

October 17, 2013 Register Now at [shakeout.org/centralus](http://shakeout.org/centralus)



The [Great Central U.S. ShakeOut](http://www.ShakeOut.org/centralus) earthquake drill is a great opportunity for campus communities to learn, get prepared, and practice what to do during earthquakes ("Drop, Cover, and Hold On!"). More than 2.9 million people participated in February. All colleges and universities are encouraged to participate in ShakeOut on Thursday, October 17, at 10:17 a.m. For the first time, this Shakeout will be part of a large-scale ShakeOut involving millions of participants from more than 40 states and territories and several other countries. Currently, there are only three colleges in Illinois registered to participate in the ShakeOut. Colleges can register at: at [www.ShakeOut.org/centralus/register](http://www.ShakeOut.org/centralus/register).

## Search for IBHE executive director underway

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) is conducting a search for its next Executive Director due to the planned retirement of current Executive Director Dr. Harry J. Berman. The Search is being assisted by AGB Search and the Board expects to have a new Executive Director in place by January, 2014. Position and application procedures can be found at <http://www.ibhe.org/ibheexecdirsearch/>.

## People in the News

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The [inauguration of Douglas D. Baker](#) as the 12th president of Northern Illinois University is scheduled for the afternoon of November 13.

October 4, traditionally marks the feast of the University of St. Francis's founder, St. Francis of Assisi, and will also serve as the backdrop for the [inauguration of the university's ninth president, Dr. Arvid C. Johnson](#).

USDOE Under Secretary Martha Kanter announced the appointment of [Jamiene S. Studley](#) as Deputy Under Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education. She will join Deputy Under Secretary Jeff Appel and, together, they will provide coordination and oversight of the Department's postsecondary policy initiatives to increase access, affordability, quality, and completion. Their responsibilities will include a strong focus on higher education policy development and outreach. They will also support research to deepen the evidence-base to strengthen the Nation's postsecondary system, student experiences, and outcomes.

## Campus News

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### [Bringing remedial math courses to high schools](#)

A new pilot program in Illinois is providing remedial math courses to high school students so they won't have to take developmental education in college. The goal is to help students be more successful in college and more likely to complete.

"Currently, about half of the community college students in Illinois need to take at least one developmental course," said Jason Taylor, a research associate at the Office of Community College Research and Leadership at the University of Illinois at Urbana. The idea behind the Illinois [STEM College and Career Readiness program](#) (STEM CCR) is to identify high school students who might be placed in development education and provide remedial instruction and support services to them.

The [Illinois Community College Board](#) (ICCB) teamed with the Illinois State Board of Education to tap a three-year, \$986,000 federal [Race to the Top](#) grant to fund the initiative, said Brian Durham, senior director for academic affairs and career and technical education.

### [UIC new home for national Latino research consortium](#)

A national consortium of 25 university-based Latino research centers will make its new headquarters at the University of Illinois at Chicago. The Inter-University Program for Latino Research, previously based at the University of Notre Dame for 14 years, aims to promote policy-focused research and advance the Latino intellectual presence in the U.S.

### [U of I, community college open food pantries](#)

The University of Illinois and Parkland Community College in Champaign are opening food pantries to meet what they believe is a need among college students. “The Newman Shares Food Pantry at the university’s St. John’s Catholic Newman Center isn’t sure how many students need more food than they can buy,” the center’s Sister Maryann Schaefer said. But the school administration believes there is a need, particularly among graduate students and upperclassmen – students who have moved out of dorms and in many cases no longer have parental financial support. “Parkland College, which is across Champaign from the University of Illinois, draws many poorer international students taking less-expensive classes they hope will help get them into the university,” Schaefer said. “Many lack the money to take care of all their expenses.”

## [News from Higher Education](#)

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### [Study: more minority students taking SAT, still unprepared for college](#) (Diverse Issues in Higher Education)

The Class of 2013, had the largest percentage of minority students ever to take the SAT, but well over half of all students who took the college entrance exam failed to meet its “college and career readiness benchmark,” reveals a new report released by the College Board.

### [U.S. to contact borrowers with new options for repaying student loans](#) (The New York Times)

Starting next month, the Education Department will send e-mails explaining relief plans to borrowers who seem most vulnerable.

### [Better teacher training is urged as focus of new Higher Education Act](#) (Chronicle of Higher Education)

Lawmakers should push to improve deficient teacher training as part of the coming reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, concludes a report released by the Education Trust, an education advocacy group.

### [Universities look for new ways to rank themselves](#) (The Hechinger Report)

He may be the leader of the free world, but when President Barack Obama proposed that the Government grade universities based on their cost and success rates, a lot of other people were ahead of him.

**Credit for service** (Inside Higher Ed)

Statewide higher education offices in seven Midwestern states have banded together to help student veterans earn college credit for the training and experience they receive in the U.S. military.

**Ill. colleges get \$8.5 million to train workers** (The Southern Illinoisan)

Four Illinois colleges and universities have been awarded about \$8.5 million to help businesses educate and train workers.

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)

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