

Illinois Higher Ed  
*The Friday Memo*

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

ISAC  
Chair Kym M. Hubbard  
Executive Director Eric Zamikow

UPCOMING

JANUARY

- 17 [IBHE Faculty Advisory Council](#), John A. Logan College, Carterville
- 21 [Illinois P-20 Council](#)  
University of Illinois at Springfield and Chicago
- 25 [IBHE-Student Advisory Committee](#), NIU, DeKalb
- 29 [State of the State Address](#), State Capitol, Springfield

January 10, 2014

[2014-15 FAFSA available, along with other ISAC resources for college-bound Illinoisans](#)

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) has announced for college-bound students and their families that the 2014-15, Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) cycle, including FAFSA on the Web, opened on January 1. Details regarding the [2014-15 application cycle](#) may be accessed via [Applying for Financial Aid](#). College-bound seniors are encouraged to check out the [College Awareness & Preparation \(CAP\)](#) page for information regarding resources that are available to help students complete the financial aid process. Several [events](#), including FAFSA completion seminars, will take place across the State of Illinois from now through March. Families may attend the event that best fits their schedule. ISAC also has the "[B4College Alerts](#)" Smartphone app available for Android-powered phones. This ISAC-developed app provides timely and personalized alerts to college-bound students. Two types of alerts are offered: FAFSA Completion and ISACorps Events. Students can learn more about the app, view an informational video, and/or download the app (via either Google Play™ or QR code) at the [B4College Alerts](#) page.

**Illinois budget projections from GOMB**

As required by law, [three-year budget projections](#) were released by the Governor's Office of Management and Budget (GOMB) on January 6. The projections, which are for fiscal years 2015 through 2017, estimate a \$1.9 billion deficit by the end of next fiscal year and annual deficits of over \$4 billion in each of the following two years. Additionally, the projections predict a \$16 billion bill backlog by fiscal year 2017, which would result from the cumulative effect of those deficits. The projected budget deficits are driven in large part by the expiration of the temporary income tax increase on January 1, 2015, midway through fiscal year 2014. The GOMB does not provide insight into possible budget reductions or revenue enhancements the General Assembly might enact to address the deficit in this projection document. [The Economic and Fiscal Policy Report](#) was also issued.

[Education Longitudinal Study of 2002 \(ELS:2002\): A First Look at 2002 High School Sophomores 10 Years Later](#)

This First Look presents findings from the third and final, follow-up survey of the Education Longitudinal Study of 2002 (ELS: 2002). ELS: 2002 provides a wealth of information from multiple sources (tested achievement, questionnaire, and administrative records) about the factors and circumstances related to the performance and social development of the American high school student over time. This report draws on ELS: 2002 data collected in 2012, to describe the outcomes of the cohort at about age 26, approximately 10 years after they were high school sophomores. These outcomes reflect several key life course markers of the transition into early adulthood, including high school and postsecondary educational attainment, entering the labor market and starting a career, marriage and family formation, student debt and aid, and the

perceived impact of the college experience. The First Look tables provide national estimates for these phenomena, explored in terms of differences by sophomores' demographic, social, and academic characteristics. Selected findings include (see pgs.3-4): 33 percent of the students had attained a bachelor's degree or higher, nine percent had an associate's degree, 10 percent had an undergraduate certificate, 32 percent attended college but had no credential, 13 percent have a high school diploma or equivalent, and three percent did not complete high school. Nearly a quarter are currently going to college.

### [Dream Fund application for 2014-15 scholarships available](#)

In the Illinois Dream Fund's first year over 1,000 applications were received and a total of \$100,000 was awarded to 35 undocumented immigrants to attend two and four year institutions. [The online application](#) for prospective recipients of the second year for the Illinois Dream Fund is now available.

This opportunity is open to undocumented/DACAmented high school seniors and current undergraduates attending, or planning to attend, an accredited non-profit public or private institution in Illinois or outside of Illinois. Students must possess a 2.5GPA and meet the requirements of the Illinois Dream Act. **Deadline is March 1.**

### [Serve Illinois Commission and Gov. Quinn seeking nomination for annual awards](#)

Gov. Pat Quinn and the Serve Illinois Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service are accepting nominations for the fifth annual Governor's Volunteer Service Awards. These awards recognize individual volunteers through a statewide award program to highlight the importance of volunteerism and community service in the State of Illinois. For profit businesses that support service will also be recognized.

Individual awards will be presented to one youth (18 years and under), one adult (19-54 years old), and one retiree/senior (55 years and older) in each of the commission's five service regions across the State (Northeast, Northwest, East Central, West Central and Southern). National Service Awards will be presented to one AmeriCorps and one Senior Corps member in each of the five regions. One award will be provided to a for profit business in each of the five service regions. Within each category, applications will be given special priority based on the areas: economic opportunity, education, environmental conservation, disaster preparedness/response, health, and veterans affairs.

Nominations are due to Serve Illinois by January 31. Recipients will be selected and notified by April 1. The Serve Illinois Commission will host a ceremony to honor recipients on April 28, at the Executive Mansion in Springfield. Visit [www.Serve.Illinois.gov](http://www.Serve.Illinois.gov) to nominate your volunteers!

### [Illinois Council of Convention and Visitor Bureaus invite Illinois colleges to have a booth at Governor's Conference](#)



The 2014 Governor's Conference on Travel & Tourism is scheduled for February 3-5, at the Palmer House in Chicago. Illinois' colleges and universities have been extended the opportunity to set up a complimentary booth in the Marketplace Trade Show scheduled February 4. Email [jancostello@iccvb.org](mailto:jancostello@iccvb.org) **as soon as possible**, if your campus would like to take advantage of the Trade Show opportunity.

Registration to attend the full conference is available at: <http://www.ilgovconference.com/ilgovsite/>.

## Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs Director reaches out to college student veterans to complete survey

Below is a letter from Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs Director Erica Borggren, requesting the support of veterans, community partners, and employers from across the State of Illinois to partake in a groundbreaking survey that will enable state government, businesses, and non-profit organizations to develop a more detailed understanding of veterans' employment in Illinois.

The link to the [Veterans' Survey](http://www.masurveys.com/eb_veterans_vet): [http://www.masurveys.com/eb\\_veterans\\_vet](http://www.masurveys.com/eb_veterans_vet)

Greetings,

As we embark on a New Year, Illinois Joining Forces (IJF) in collaboration with Student Veterans of America (SVA) is striving to create a functional, sustainable pathway for student veterans—current, graduating, and alumni—that leads to meaningful employment. To enable this effort, we have developed a comprehensive cross-sectional survey that will help us build a better understanding of veteran employment in the State of Illinois. We have selected you to participate in this research study – which is being conducted among veterans, employers, and community partners – so that we can benefit from your experiences and perceptions related to veteran employment.

The national narrative surrounding Veterans returning home from war is one filled with myths and misperceptions. We understand, however, that we cannot improve what we do not understand and measure. Therefore, we have partnered with the research team at Edelman Berland to get below the surface in Illinois, aggressively assessing and analyzing this issue.

We are grateful for the dedication of Mark Rogers, a Vice President at Edelman Berland, who is leading this survey process. The questions posed will be used to measure perceptions and attitudes and to create a more detailed understanding of how these impact you and ultimately veterans. All responses will be kept confidential, meaning that your responses will only be shared in aggregate form with our internal team members and that any information included in our report will not identify you as the respondent.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Mark Rogers via email: [Mark.Rogers@edelmanberland.com](mailto:Mark.Rogers@edelmanberland.com) or phone: (312) 240-3104.

I thank you in advance for your participation and support, as we continue to make Illinois a national leader in veteran support.

Regards,

Erica Borggren  
Director, Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs  
Chair, Illinois Joining Forces



**Lt. Governor Sheila Simon** is featured as one of the first three completion “champions” of education by the Lumina Foundation, on a new Strategy Lab website, promoting state policy to increase higher education attainment..

**Rich Wilson** of Springfield recently was elected Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Community College System Foundation (ICCSF). Wilson has served on the Board of Directors of ICCSF as treasurer since 2003, the longest-serving member of the current Board. He has been active throughout the State of Illinois for over 40 years in a number of professional and civic positions and activities, and is currently a vice-president and portfolio manager at Deschaine & Company. Wilson served as Regional Vice President for AT&T for over 14 years and retired in that position after 25 years of service (SBC/Ameritech/Illinois Bell).

**Lulu Blacksmith**, Director of Governmental and Multicultural Affairs at Waubensee Community College, has been recognized for her work by the Illinois Legislative Latino Caucus Foundation (ILLCF) to improve the lives of Latinos and other minorities at the college and in local communities. She received the ILLCF Latino Leadership Award.

### *Lincoln Academy of Illinois' Student Laureates honored*



**Augustana College: Jenna N. Orabutt is from Hawthorn Woods, majoring in Business Administration.**



**Aurora University: Andrew J. Patton is from Oswego, majoring in History.**



**Benedictine University: Eman Sahloul is a pre-medical student from Orland Park, majoring in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.**

*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. Photographs by Studio 131, courtesy of The Lincoln Academy of Illinois.*

### [Governor Quinn Announces \\$7 Million Investment in Godfrey and Quincy Community Colleges](#)

Governor Pat Quinn has announced that Lewis and Clark Community College in Godfrey is leading a consortium of nine community colleges in eight states that have been awarded \$23.8 million in federal funds to train and place workers in high-skill transportation, distribution, and logistics jobs. Lewis and Clark will receive \$4.9 million and John Wood Comm. College (JWCC) in Quincy will receive \$2.1 million for their parts in the effort.

### [National Endowment for the Humanities awards Illinois College a challenge grant for archives](#)

The National Endowment for the Humanities has awarded Illinois College a \$200,000 challenge grant to renovate and expand the Illinois College Archives. The college will use this federal grant to leverage \$600,000 in nonfederal donations to launch the Preserve+Share+Produce Humanities Initiative. The plans for this initiative include hiring a full-time archivist, expanding space for archived materials, and making archived resources more accessible to students, researchers and the public. "This is an outstanding opportunity for Illinois College," President Barbara Farley said. "We envision that each year, students, faculty, and other scholars will initiate or continue substantive projects in our newly housed and professionally managed archives."

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

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#### [U.S. urges private lenders and servicers to help borrowers](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

Top Obama administration officials summoned the heads of more than a dozen financial institutions and loan servicing entities to the Treasury Department to discuss ways to improve the private student loan market.

#### [Higher-education lobbyists keep expectations low for state budgets](#) (Chronicle of Higher Education)

As higher-education advocates prepare for state legislative sessions across the Country, a new reality has set in about what they can expect from state budgets.

#### [Comprehensive on completion](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

Maryland's public colleges are six months into complying with one of the Nation's most ambitious college completion bills. The state-mandated push puts Maryland in a class with Tennessee, Indiana, and Georgia.

#### [Editorial: Measuring the value of college](#) (Chicago Tribune)

Higher education is one of the more expensive investments many people will ever make. The average cost of a year in college, including tuition, fees, room and board, now runs about \$23,000 — enough to buy a new car. Graduates typically leave with some \$30,000 each in student loan debt.

#### [Part-time students least likely to graduate on time](#) (USA TODAY)

Shannon Belanger was always planning to go back to school, but for nearly a decade, circumstances mandated otherwise: work, marriage, and moving to a new state came first. This fall, she decided it was "now or never."

**A request from Illinois Office of Tourism to Illinois colleges and universities**



**“Don’t Forget:** We’d love to hear about what you have going on! If you have info, events, or updates you’d like the Illinois Office of Tourism to consider for media opportunities, and on social media channels, send your releases to [illinoisnews@fleishman.com](mailto:illinoisnews@fleishman.com) and social media campaigns you’re launching to [illinoissocial@fleishman.com](mailto:illinoissocial@fleishman.com).”

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