

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

IBHE
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Executive Director Harry J. Berman, Ph.D.

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

ISAC
Chair Kym M. Hubbard
Executive Director Eric Zamikow

February 7, 2014

[IBHE recommends level funding for Fiscal Year 2015 higher ed budget](#)

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) met on February 4, and took action on budget recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly for fiscal year 2015 higher education operations, grants, and capital improvements. The budget recommendations utilize the investment or step level approach for the seventh year, linking the recommended step increases to the goals of the **Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success**. Performance funding for public universities and community colleges is also incorporated into the funding proposals. Step One is essentially a flat budget, increasing only 0.2% over the FY 2014 budget. The Monetary Award Program (MAP) is protected from cuts.

[Showcasing the IBHE Illinois Cooperative Work Study Grant Program](#)

Before approving \$1,114,500 in grant awards for fiscal year 2014 to 57 projects at Illinois colleges and universities, the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) Board was briefed on the efforts of two campuses that are long standing grantees of the Illinois Cooperative Work Study (ICWS) Program. ICWS provides financial assistance to expand opportunities for students to pursue internships, clinical placement, cooperative programs with business and industry, and other work opportunities linked to a student's academic program.



Dawn Koeltzow shared the history of ICWS at Bradley University and discussed the recruiting and placement process, as well as program outcomes. She was joined by Bailey Miller, a Bradley University graduate, who currently works as an Executive Team Leader for Target in Streamwood, Illinois. Miller spoke about the positive impact the work study program has had on her, and how it helped her to be successfully hired for a full-time position with Target.



Jennifer Neff, Associate Director of Career Connections at The Career Center at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), summarized the goals of the work study program and how UIUC connects students to work opportunities. Mark Niemeyer, Engineering Supervisor for the Champaign Simulation Center, spoke about the benefits of the work study program to students, as well as his company Caterpillar, and how students get that "hands on experience" that is so valuable.

UPCOMING

FEBRUARY

- 10- [ICCTA Board Meeting](#),
Marriott Wardman Park
Hotel, Washington, DC
- 21 [IBHE-Faculty Advisory
Council](#), College of
DuPage, Glenn Ellyn

IBHE executive director Harry Berman concludes his service on February 14



At the IBHE Board Meeting, the Board expressed their appreciation to Dr. Harry Berman for his tenure as executive director, which is concluding on February 14. Dr. Berman was presented a proclamation from the Board, read by board member Elmer Washington. A letter from Lt. Governor Sheila Simon was read by board member Justin McDermott. Dr. Karen Hunter Anderson, executive director of the Illinois Community College Board, and Eric Zarnikow, executive director of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, also spoke describing the positive working relationships they have experienced with Dr. Berman at the helm. Dr. James Applegate begins at the IBHE as executive director on February 17.

ISAC schedules workshops on financial assistance for college

Governor Pat Quinn has announced a series of free statewide workshops for parents and students in connection with Financial Aid Awareness Month during February. The workshops, conducted by experts from the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC), will help families navigate the college financial aid process and apply for assistance.

The financial aid assistance workshops are being conducted by specially trained members of the ISACorps, which is funded in part by the College Access Challenge Grant Program from the U.S. Department of Education. The Corps' main mission is to expand ISAC's college outreach programs and services to help students with career exploration, college selection, test preparation, scholarship searches, application completion, and the financial aid process. The Financial Aid Awareness Month workshops will specifically help families understand and complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form, the document upon which most college financial aid is based.

The financial aid workshop dates and locations are at www.isac.org/calendar.

TurboTax users to have new tools to learn about student loan repayment options

Student loan borrowers interested in income-driven repayment plans can visit studentaid.gov to learn more, and for those that use TurboTax Online tax preparation software, a new collaboration among the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE), the Treasury Department, and Intuit Inc. (the company behind TurboTax), will make it easier to learn about repayment choices. This tax-filing season, a banner will be featured on the TurboTax software that lets users know they have options for repaying federal student loans. The banner will link to USDOE's online [Repayment Estimator](#), where users will be able to determine if they could lower their monthly student loan payments through an income-driven repayment plan. From there, users can apply for the plan that makes the most sense for them.

Federal call to end sexual assault

As part of an unprecedented national effort to tackle alarming rates of sexual assault on college campuses, President Obama issued a [Presidential Memorandum](#) to establish a White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault. A report issued by the White House Council on Women and Girls -- "[Rape and Sexual Assault: A Renewed Call to Action](#)" -- reveals one in five women and one in 71 men have experienced rape or attempted rape in their lifetimes. The task force, which will include USDOE Secretary Duncan, is charged with sharing best practices and increasing transparency, enforcement, public awareness, and interagency coordination to prevent violence and support survivors. It builds on federal efforts already underway which seek to break devastating cycles of violence on campuses and around the Country.

College Town Summit on alcohol diversion

The Illinois Liquor Control Commission is sponsoring a College Town Summit at the I Hotel and Conference Center in Champaign on February 19. Discussions are planned with campus representatives on alcohol issues, including alcohol diversion programs, party buses, private parties, and ways to reduce high-risk alcohol consumption. [Registration](#) deadline is February 10.



Hold the Date

The Illinois Education Research Council announces the date for the 12th annual **Focus on Illinois Education Research Symposium.**

This year's symposium is moving to **October 7 & 8, 2014** at the DoubleTree in Bloomington, IL.

We are excited to announce [Dr. Terrell Strayhorn](#), Director of the Center for Inclusion, DivErsity & Academic Success (IDEAS) at The Ohio State University, will be a keynote for the symposium.

We invite you to join other researchers, practitioners, and policy makers as they come together to share and learn about research being done to improve Illinois education from pre-K through higher education (P-20).

Call for proposals will be issued in early May, 2014.

Visit our website at www.siu.edu/ierc/ for upcoming information.

ILACHE 22nd Annual Professional and Student Development Conference ***The Latino Impact: Education, Politics, and Leadership*** ***March 21, 2014 -- Roosevelt University***

Call for Proposals Deadline is Monday, February 17, 2014
Submissions: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ILACHE2014>

Scaling Up Pathways to Results 2014

The Office of Community College Research and Leadership, along with the Pathways Resource Center at the University of Illinois, are holding the *Scaling Up Pathways to Results 2014* conference on Wednesday, March 5, at the I-Hotel and Conference Center in Champaign, IL. Marcy Drummond, Lead Senior Program Officer, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, is the keynote speaker. The focus of the *Scaling Up Pathways to Results 2014* conference is on building, evaluating, and improving P-20 education through career pathways to achieve equitable outcomes for all students.

Debra Bragg, higher education professor and OCCRL director, said the conference will focus on many forms of pathways. “We are very pleased to have speakers from throughout the Country who will present research and information about pathways to and through education and employment that are closing equity gaps for students historically underserved by P-20 educational systems,” Bragg said. Breakout session topics include secondary to postsecondary transitions, evaluation and benchmarking, and career pathway policies and practices. For more information visit [OCCRL website](#).

[Web & Database Developer wanted for state higher ed efforts](#)

The Illinois Board of Higher Education is seeking applicants for a Web and Database Developer. Primary duties include development, design, and maintenance of the IBHE and affiliated websites, and the creation of database-driven web applications. Visit the website at www.ibhe.org for more information about this position. For full consideration, submit application materials by February 24 (AA/EOE).

People in the News

Lincoln Academy of Illinois' Student Laureates honored



Governors State University: Ricca Louissaint is from South Holland, majoring in Psychology.



Greenville College: Alyssa R. Gosselin is from Derby, Vermont, majoring in Elementary Education and a minor in Music.



Illinois College: Phuong Hoang Nguyen is from Thai Binh, Vietnam, double majoring in Communication, and Rhetorical Studies and Economics.

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.

The American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT) has announced its Barbara Lotze Scholarship for Future Teachers awards to two Illinois college students. [Angela Moore](#) is a member of the Class of 2014, at Chicago State University. A non-traditional student, she has been a PhysTec fellow, a Robert Noyce Intern and scholar, received an award for her presentation at an APS meeting (based on research with a CERN project); and worked as a teacher and teacher's assistant for Chicago State University's CAT's (Cougar Academy for Teachers), a summer enrichment program for junior high school students. [Logan Nelson](#) is a member of the class of 2015, at Illinois State University. "My experiences with tutoring physics and other subjects, observing quality high school physics teachers at two different schools, teaching physics in a real classroom without prior planning, and my coursework at Illinois State University have all made me committed to teaching high school physics and provided a clear path to that as a profession." Nelson says.

[J. Gary Eden](#), the Gilmore Family Professor of electrical and computer engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), was elected to the National Academy of Engineering for his work in micro-plasma and laser technologies. Eden is an alumnus of the UIUC, having earned his Ph.D. in electrical engineering in 1976. He worked at the Naval Research Laboratory before returning to Illinois as a faculty member in 1979.

[News from Higher Education](#)

[Crackdown on coding academies](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

A new type of educational provider has quietly sprung up in San Francisco and several other major cities, providing specialized training in computer coding and other skills that are in great demand from technology companies and other entrepreneurs.

[Grades still matter most in admissions](#) (Chronicle of Higher Education)

A majority of colleges attribute little or no importance to students' race and ethnicity or first-generation status when reviewing applications, according to survey findings released by the National Association for College Admission Counseling.

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