

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

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February 28, 2014

[Governor Quinn joins President Obama to announce New Digital Manufacturing Hub in Illinois](#)

Governor Pat Quinn joined President Barack Obama on February 25 in Washington, DC, to formally announce that Illinois has won a new digital manufacturing hub, supported by funding from state and federal governments and corporate partners. The hub will have a far-reaching impact on jobs across many industries and benefit small businesses across the Nation. The White House announced a \$70 million Department of Defense award for the Digital Manufacturing and Design Innovation (DMDI) Institute, which UI Labs will operate in Chicago. The support from President Obama, coupled with \$16 million from the Quinn Administration, gives the institute the necessary funds to build partnerships with manufacturers and strengthen Illinois' economic comeback.

"Illinois is at the forefront of a high-tech manufacturing revolution that will make our state the center of high-tech job creation," Governor Quinn said. "This first-of-its-kind digital hub will make companies more competitive and stronger by providing them with the most cutting edge tools and technologies. It will be the birthplace for innovations that will change the world in which we live, work, and play."

Among the universities involved are the following Illinois institutions of higher education: Illinois Institute of Technology, Northern Illinois University, Northwestern University, Southern Illinois University, University of Chicago, University of Illinois at Chicago, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Western Illinois University.

[MAP grant awards for 2014-15 academic year are suspended for FAFSAs filed after February 27](#)

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) has suspended 2014-15 Monetary Award Program (MAP) grants for all students whose initial 2014-15 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is received **on or after today, February 28**. The February 28 suspension date is the result of continuing state budget difficulties and an unprecedented number of early applicants. This is the earliest the State has had to suspend award announcements.

UPCOMING

MARCH

- 1 [IBHE-Student Advisory Committee](#), Columbia College, Chicago
- 4 [Senate Higher Ed Committee](#), Room 400, Capitol, Springfield
- 5 [House Higher Ed Committee](#), Room C-1, Stratton Bldg., Springfield
- 6 [House Approps-Higher Ed Committee](#), Room 114, Capitol, Springfield

- 14 [Illinois Community College Presidents Council meeting](#), Sheraton Hotel, Lisle

[Illinois Community College Board Student Advisory Committee meeting](#), Sheraton Hotel, Lisle
- 15 [ICCTA Board of Representatives meeting](#), Sheraton Hotel, Lisle

- 20 – 21 [State Universities Retirement System Board meeting](#), TBA

- 21 [ICCB meeting](#), Danville Area Community College, Danville

- 26 **Governor's FY 15 Budget Message**, Capitol, Springfield

ISAC encourages students to continue to file their FAFSAs, as the same application determines their eligibility for other financial aid programs, including Pell grants, student loans, and federal work-study. Filing soon is still an advantage, because in the event that all MAP awards are not claimed by those students who have filed before February 28, FAFSAs remaining on the "wait list" will be considered on a first-received basis. Last year, MAP awards were suspended on March 1, but ISAC did award additional MAP grants to students who had filed through March 16.

"More high schools and colleges are encouraging students to file FAFSAs, and to file them as soon as possible in the calendar year," Katharine Gricevich, ISAC's director of government relations stated. "We're seeing more low-income students apply for assistance and do it early. That's a good thing, since the FAFSA is the key to securing financial assistance and filing it is correlated with an increased likelihood of enrolling in college. Unfortunately, higher demand also means that Illinois MAP grants are committed sooner."

Federal resources promoting FAFSA completions

In a February 26 letter to the Nation's superintendents, USDOE Secretary Arne Duncan outlined new resources from the Department that are designed to increase the number of students filling out the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#) (FAFSA). The FAFSA takes an average of only 23 minutes to complete online, and it is entirely free and secure.

The [FAFSA Completion Tool](#) was created to help financial aid professionals, school administrators, and practitioners track and increase FAFSA completion. The tool -- updated bi-weekly through the spring -- provides every high school in the U.S. with information about how many applications were submitted and completed for the 2014-15 application year, as well as comparison data from the 2013-14 application year. And, coming online soon will be a resource for states to provide counselors with information to see if particular students have completed their FAFSA.

Two new reports from the National Center for Education Statistics

- "[Projections of Education Statistics to 2022](#)," issued by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), provides data on student enrollment, graduates, teachers, and expenditures for schools and degree-granting institutions. A slowdown in higher education enrollment growth is predicted.
- Also, a new NCES First Look report provides [national data on services and support programs offered to military service members and veterans](#) enrolled for credit at postsecondary institutions, as well as those dependents with military or veteran's financial education benefits.

Heartsaver AED Fund Grant announcement

The Heartsaver AED (automated external defibrillator) Fund Grant program provides matching funds for AEDs to any Illinois School, Public Park District, Municipal Recreation Department, Conservation District, Forest Preserve District, and **public or private College or University**. The application is available on the Department of Public Health's Electronic Grant Administration and Management System (EGrAMS), which can be found at www.idphgrants.com. The Heartsaver AED Fund Grant award for FY 2014, is \$450 or at 50% of the purchased AED price if less than \$900. All AEDs purchased between July 1, 2013, and June 30, 2014, will qualify for the grant. Questions regarding the grant application process can be directed to: paula.atteberry@illinois.gov or at (217) 785-2083.

Applications continue for NEWLeadership Illinois 2014



March 3 is the application deadline for **college women** interested in IGPA's NEWLeadership Illinois program. The program, which will be held June 2-6, in Chicago, accepts 20 college women from across Illinois for the week-long residential program. NEWLeadership Illinois is a partnership of IGPA and the Conference of Women Legislators of the

Illinois General Assembly that is designed to increase women's representation in all elements of public life, including elected office. [Click here for information and application.](#)



Please join us for the [2014 College Changes Everything Conference](#) on July 17, 2014, at the Tinley Park Convention Center. This one day conference will focus on effective practices and showcase resources available to help with increasing college access and college completion that support the State's Goal 2025 – to increase the proportion of adults in Illinois with high-quality degrees and credentials to 60% by the year 2025.

One of the strengths of this conference is that it brings together a diverse audience from across the State: college access practitioners; high school leaders, counselors and case managers; college and university leaders and administrators; and policymakers and elected officials interested in higher education. Sessions presented by state and national leaders provide purposeful information and engage the audience in thoughtful discussions on the serious issues we face in reaching Goal 2025.

Call for Proposals – The Conference Planning Committee is making a call for proposals for the 2014 Conference. Help make this conference a valuable professional development experience by sharing your knowledge, enthusiasm, and questions with colleagues from all over the State.

Deadline – Completed session proposal forms need to be submitted to the Conference Planning Committee by **March 3, 2014**, by emailing the form to: isac.collegechangeseverything@isac.illinois.gov. The form is available on the College Changes Everything [website](#).



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. Complete applications with all the required supporting materials must be submitted (postmarked) by **May 1, 2014**.

People in the News



[Geoffrey A. Nagle](#), a leader in early childhood policy and research, began his tenure as president and CEO of the Erikson Institute on January 1, 2014. Kate Neisser, chair of the Board of Trustees, said, "Geoff is an innovative 21st century leader who will help guide Erikson — and the entire early childhood field — to new levels of influence and impact. His presidency will build on Erikson's history of leadership, while also extending its entrepreneurialism in the service of children and families." Located in Chicago, Erikson Institute is a graduate school in child development. Previously, Nagle served as the director of the Tulane Institute of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health and associate professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at the Tulane University School of Medicine. Nagle succeeds Samuel J. Meisels, who ended his 11-year presidency to become the founding executive director of the University of Nebraska's Buffett Early Childhood Institute.

The American Council on Education (ACE) will give the 2014 Donna Shavlik Award to Governors State University President [Elaine P. Maimon](#), during a presentation at ACE's 96th Annual Meeting in San Diego in March. Presented annually, the award honors an individual who demonstrates a sustained commitment to advancing women in higher education through leadership and career development, campus climate, and mentoring.

Western Illinois University Institute for Environmental Studies Director [Roger Viadero](#) has been named director of the school's new Ph.D. program in environmental science. The new program will begin taking students in Fall 2014, at WIU's Quad Cities Campus, located on the banks of the Mississippi River. Viadero came to Western in July 2007, after having served as director of the West Virginia University Center for Environmental Research, an interdisciplinary environmental research unit since 2005. Viadero is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Mary Washington College (VA), where he earned a bachelor's degree (1993) in physics. He earned his master's degree (1994) in nuclear engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and his Ph.D. (1997) in environmental engineering from West Virginia University. "I'm tremendously excited that Western is able to offer this distinctive new program," said Viadero. "As the only state supported university in Illinois with a campus located on one of the world's largest and most environmentally significant river systems, our students will have a unique experience to study and work in the heart of a 'living laboratory'."

[SPOTLIGHT: 2013 - 14 DFI Fellows](#)

One hundred and seven Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois (DFI) Program Fellows, 48 new and 59 renewals, were awarded a Fellowship for the 2013-2014, 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.





Jacob B. Chacko was born in Kerala, India and immigrated to the United States in 1994. Jacob attended school in Skokie, where he developed a passion for the Spanish language in high school. He attended Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) and graduated with a degree in Secondary Education and Spanish. During the last semester of his undergraduate career he was given the opportunity to student teach in South Korea as part of a pilot study abroad/student teaching experience. After four months of student teaching and graduating from NEIU, he was offered a full time teaching position in South Korea. Jacob remained in South Korea from 2009, until September 2012, teaching conversational English at a public middle school. He returned to the United States to continue his graduate education at Illinois State University (ISU). At ISU, Jacob holds a 4.0 GPA, a full time assistantship, and leadership roles in student organizations such as Alpha Psi Lambda, Fraternity Inc., and the Korean

Student Association. He will complete his degree in May, 2014. Jacob looks forward to obtaining his Ph.D. in Education Policy.

Lincoln Academy of Illinois' Student Laureates honored



Lewis University: Samantha J. Rinehart is from Marion, Iowa, majoring in Biology and Chemistry.



Lincoln College: Josh A. Jones is from Joliet, majoring in Sports Management.



Loyola University Chicago: Thomas J. Serena is from Shorewood, majoring in Psychology of Natural Sciences.

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.

[IEMA announces UIUC first Illinois university to attain Ready to Respond campus designation](#)

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) is the first higher education institution in the State to receive the Ready to Respond Campus designation from the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA). UIUC is one of nine campuses in Illinois that participated in a pilot of the Ready to Respond Campus program, an initiative aimed at enhancing campus safety, preparedness, and response efforts. Participation in the program is voluntary.

“The Ready to Respond Campus designation represents the university’s strong commitment to ensuring the safety of their students, staff, and visitors to this campus,” said IEMA Director Jonathon Monken. “Attaining the designation isn’t easy, but UIUC officials were diligent in their efforts to meet the program’s rigorous standards. The Ready to Respond Campus logo tells current and prospective students and their parents that safety is a top priority on this campus.”

To achieve Ready to Respond Campus status, a college or university must meet criteria that address hazard identification, risk assessment and/or consequence analysis, operational planning, incident management, training, and exercise. In addition, the campus must develop and maintain a violence prevention plan and implement a campus outreach and education campaign. Monken said IEMA expects other schools from the pilot program to achieve the Ready to Respond Campus designation in the coming months. Schools that took part in the pilot program include Augustana College; Columbia College in Chicago; Heartland Community College; Parkland College; Moraine Valley Community College; Richland Community College; Southeastern Illinois College; and Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

[New partnership between Rockford Airport and Rock Valley College’s Aviation Maintenance Technology Program takes flight](#)

In a move designed to promote economic development and position a more strongly aligned workforce, the Greater Rockford Airport Authority (GRAA) and Rock Valley College (RVC) have combined efforts to create an expanded Aviation Maintenance Technology Program expected to quadruple annual graduates. As a part of the proposed lease, GRAA will lease land to RVC to build a state-of-the-art 40,000 square foot Aviation Maintenance Training facility on Airport grounds to house the RVC educational course of study for aeronautical maintenance and repair. Currently, the program is taught in a 9,800 square foot building. “Important partnerships with great impact take careful planning and consideration, and we are proud that months of discussion have culminated in an agreement that will serve RVC students, the airport, and the entire region with such significance,” said Michael Mastroianni, RVC Interim President.

[CFPB vs. ITT](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau filed a lawsuit against ITT Educational Services, accusing the large for-profit higher education company of engaging in predatory lending and other abusive practices.

[Minority male students face challenge to achieve at community colleges](#) (Chronicle of Higher Education)

Although black and Latino male students enter community colleges with higher aspirations than those of their white peers, white men are six times as likely to graduate in three years with a certificate or degree, according to a report released by the Center for Community College Student Engagement at the University of Texas.

[Illinois leads multistate probe of Sallie Mae's student loan practices](#) (Chicago Tribune)

SLM Corp., better known as Sallie Mae, faces a multistate probe led by Illinois into its student loan practices, a spokeswoman for Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan said. The investigation is part of an increasingly broad review of student lending by state and federal regulators.

The Friday Memo returns on March 14.

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