

Illinois Higher Ed  
*The Friday Memo*

IBHE  
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Executive Director Karen Hunter Anderson, Ph.D.

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March 21, 2014

**[National Student Clearinghouse releases state-level college student attainment rates](#)**

College students continue to take different pathways prior to attaining a degree according to the [Signature Report 6: State Supplement to the Completing College Report](#), just released by the National Student Clearinghouse. The report focuses on student-level data, tracking the completion of postsecondary certificates and degrees among first-time degree-seeking students who started their postsecondary education in fall 2007, and tracking their enrollments nationwide for six years, through the spring of 2013.

An example of the findings is: In most states, traditional-age students starting at four-year public institutions had higher completion rates than the delayed entry (age 21-24) and adult learner (over age 24) groups. In five states (Arizona, California, Illinois, Michigan, Texas), delayed entry students had a higher completion rate than traditional-age students. In Arizona, adult learners had a four percentage point higher completion rate than traditional-age students.

[The Signature Report State Supplement](#) includes detailed tables, providing a state-by-state overview of college completion outcomes within the four-year public, two-year public, and four-year private nonprofit sectors. The overall six-year completion rate for first-time degree-seeking college students, who first enrolled in 2007, was 56.1%. The overall completion rates for Illinois included for 4-year publics, 73.2%, community colleges, 44.4%, and 4-year private nonprofits, 73.6%.

**Legislation establishing distance learning state authorization reciprocity advances in the Senate**

[Senate Bill 3441](#), sponsored by Sen. Pat McGuire (D-43), unanimously passed the Senate Higher Education Committee on March 19. The bill now heads to the floor for full Senate consideration. With enactment of this legislation, the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) will be authorized to participate in a State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) allowing Illinois colleges and universities to offer distance learning courses and programs with streamed multistate approvals. Illinois will be a member of the [Midwest Higher Education Compact's M-SARA](#).

Illinois institutions of higher education who voluntarily participate in SARA only will need authorization from IBHE in order to offer distance education to students in any other SARA member states. Illinois being a SARA member state will allow institutions to provide students easier access to online education, and ensure standards as well as equitable consumer protection services, both to out-of state students as well as for Illinois students taking online courses from institutions in other SARA states.

**UPCOMING**

**MARCH**

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

[IBHE Faculty Advisory Council](#), Waubensee Community College, Sugar Grove

25 [Senate Higher Ed Committee](#), Room 400, Capitol, Springfield

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

[House Higher Ed Committee](#), Room 413, Stratton Bldg., Springfield

27 [House Approps-Higher Ed Committee](#), Room 114, Capitol, Springfield

[Senate Appropriations II Committee](#), Room 212, Capitol, Springfield

**APRIL**

1 [IBHE Board Meeting](#), College of Lake County, Grayslake

2 [Student Advocacy Day](#), Illinois Community College Board-SAC, State Capitol Complex, Springfield

**“COMBAT TO COLLEGE” CONFERENCE FOCUSES  
ON ILLINOIS STUDENT VETERANS SUCCESS AT COLLEGE**

**WHAT:** A free conference for Illinois College Student Veterans and Veterans Coordinators on college campuses to develop a network of support to assist veterans attending Illinois colleges and universities in successfully completing postsecondary degrees

**WHEN:** Tuesday, April 15 9:00 a.m. – 3: 30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Illinois State University, Bone Student Center Ballroom  
100 North University, Normal, IL

**WHO:** 300 Student Veterans, Veteran Coordinators, and Administrators from Illinois colleges and universities, College staff and faculty, Veterans Services experts, and State Leaders from Veterans Affairs and Higher Education Agencies discussing programs and services to facilitate student success

**Key Note Speakers:**

Dr. Charlotte Warren  
Veteran and Current President, Lincoln Land Community College  
and  
The Honorable Linda Chapa LaVia  
Veteran and Illinois State Representative

Go to link for: [Combat to College Registration](#)  
Visit [Conference Agenda](#) for more information about topics and speakers

**Conference Hosted by:**

\*Illinois Board of Higher Education, \*Illinois Department of Veterans’ Affairs, \*Illinois Student Assistance Commission,  
\*Illinois Community College Board, \*Illinois Campus Compact, and \*Illinois State University

People in the News

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City Colleges of Chicago Chancellor Cheryl L. Hyman announced the appointment of [Angelina N. Millender](#) as president of Olive-Harvey College. Olive-Harvey is City Colleges’ College to Careers hub for Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics (TDL) programs. A new \$45 million TDL facility is currently under construction that will provide training to prepare students for the 110,000 TDL jobs expected to be created in the Chicago area over the next decade. Most recently, Millender served as District Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management at Broward College in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Millender brings more than 30 years of education administration experience to the position, as well as an extensive understanding of the Chicagoland community. She spent 20 years working in a variety of administrative roles at Robert Morris College, including Vice President of Student Services, as well as Director of Career Planning and Placement. Millender is a graduate of National Louis University’s Master of Science program in Management. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Education from Chicago State University. In addition, Millender received a Certificate in Mediation from DePaul University’s Center for Conflict Resolution.



A senior at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, [Michelle Kelley](#) is among the recipients of this year's prestigious Gates Cambridge Scholarship. She was selected from a pool of 800 applicants as one of 40 U.S. students to receive the merit-based scholarship funded by an endowment from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. A student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Kelley majors in physics with a minor in mathematics. She has been promoting the hard sciences through outreach events at elementary schools, as well as through the Midwest Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics. In her career, Kelley envisions promoting scientific careers to young children, especially girls, as well as to the public. She also strives to make her research understandable and relevant to multiple audiences

### [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.



**William Estrada** is currently pursuing his Master of Arts in Art Education (2015), and received his Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art Education (2000), from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. He has worked with institutions and organizations since 1998, and continues to participate in various projects in the Chicagoland area in engaging community needs. William currently works as an artist in residence at Telpochcalli Fine Arts Community School where he collaborates with teachers and students in developing curriculum that integrates art, academic content, and social justice practices. He also teaches at Chicago Arts Partnership in Education (CAPE), Hyde Park Art Center, Marwen Foundation, and South Chicago Art Center where he develops and facilitates student guided projects. Estrada has participated, and has been invited to present, in various panels regarding community programming, arts integration, and social justice practices in relation

to community engagement at the following: Illinois Art Education Association, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Illinois Humanities Council, Smart Museum of Art, National Guild of Schools in the Arts, National Art Education Association, and Teachers for Social Justice San Francisco. He has traveled to various parts of Mexico to research traditional and contemporary cultural practices and organizations that engage students and artists in implementation of social justice practices. William's teaching and art making philosophy stems from personal interest and constant discussion with people who deal with racism, displacement, media inequality, cultural preservation, miseducation, misrepresentation, historical passivity, community engagement, addressing equity, and other matters affecting underrepresented communities.

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



**Monmouth College: William T. Terrill is from Sugar Grove, majoring in English.**



**National Louis University: Kristine Becker-Kristufek is from Mt. Prospect, majoring in Applied Behavioral Sciences.**



**North Central College: Colin J. Loeffler is from Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, double majoring in English and Theater.**

***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.***

### Campus News

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#### **Certification pass rates exceed national average for COD EMT program**

According to a report released by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT), College of DuPage (COD) ranks far above the national average for passing rates on the emergency medical technician certification exam. College of DuPage students pass the exam on first attempt at a rate of 89 percent, while the national average is 72 percent. Fire Science Manager Dan Krakora said the success of the EMT program at College of DuPage is directly related to the high quality of instructors, as well as the College's choice to train students at the NREMT level. Krakora added that passing the NREMT exam awards students both national certification and state of Illinois licensure, offering two levels of credentials for one test.

**Half of states incentivize colleges to graduate more students** (The Washington Post)

Colleges and universities in 25 states must meet performance requirements to receive at least part of their funding from state governments as education experts increasingly focus on closing the gap between the number of students who enroll in postsecondary institutions and those who actually graduate.

**College admissions offices mine data on prospective students** (Chicago Tribune)

The first of six data reports hits Kent Barnds' mobile device at 5:45 a.m. every morning. He scrutinizes each one, crunching globs of numbers that will help plan his day. Barnds is not a stock analyst checking overnight markets, but a vice president at Augustana College in Rock Island, in western Illinois.



**Message From Illinois Office of Tourism...for Campus events**

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). We can't guarantee that all events submitted will be featured, but we always love hearing about what's going on your campus, so keep sending your information!

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