

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

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

ISAC
Chair Kym M. Hubbard
Executive Director Eric Zamikow

October 10, 2014

[Major grant awarded to MHEC for accelerating service member transition to college and career](#)

The Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) was awarded a \$900,000 grant from Lumina Foundation for the Multi-State Collaborative on Military Credit (MCMC), a 13-state initiative, including Illinois, to identify policies and practices to help military service members, veterans, and their families to overcome barriers to access, participation, and completion of a postsecondary credential and entrance into the workforce. Committed volunteers from various state agencies, university systems, college campuses, and other organizations have been working together for nearly three years to move this initiative to the next level.

[POTUS: Education and the economy](#)

During a recent [speech at Northwestern University](#), President Obama noted that the progress that America is seeing in the Nation's education system -- improved student achievement, record high school graduation rates, and more young people going to college -- is helping to fuel a stronger economy, and he encouraged continued commitment toward building an education system that supports every student.

My Brother's Keeper

In [remarks](#) at the Congressional Black Caucus awards dinner, President Obama announced the [My Brother's Keeper Community Challenge](#), encouraging communities (cities, counties, suburbs, rural areas, and tribal nations) to implement coherent cradle-to-college-and-career strategies aimed at improving life outcomes for all young people -- consistent with the goals and recommendations of the White House's My Brother's Keeper Task Force [report](#). Within six months of accepting the challenge, communities are encouraged to publicly launch a plan of action for accomplishing their goals, including a protocol for tracking data, benchmarks for tracking progress, and a blueprint for how the community will resource its efforts.

UPCOMING

OCTOBER

- 16 [ISAC Commission meeting](#), DePaul University, 1 East Jackson Blvd., Room 8002, Chicago
- 22-25 [ICCTA Board meeting](#), Hyatt Regency Chicago Hotel
- 23 [P-20 Council](#), video conference in Springfield, ICCB, 401 E. Capitol, 2nd floor, and Chicago, JRTC, 100 W. Randolph, 2nd Floor, Room 2-025

Join Us in the World's Largest Earthquake Drill.

October 16, 2014 Register Now at ShakeOut.org/centralus



The **Great Central U.S. ShakeOut** earthquake drill is a great opportunity for your entire campus community to learn, get prepared, and practice what to do during earthquakes ("Drop, Cover, and Hold On!"). All colleges and universities are encouraged to participate in the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut on **Thursday, October 16, at 10:16 a.m.** This ShakeOut is part of a large-scale ShakeOut involving millions of participants from more than 40 states and territories and several other countries. Colleges and universities must register at: www.ShakeOut.org/centralus/register.

Upcoming Higher Ed Conferences

HIGHER EDUCATION DIVERSE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY FAIR

October 15th - 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Southern Illinois University—Edwardsville in the Morris University Center Meridian Ballroom

The “Higher Education Diverse Business Opportunity Fair” is part of an initiative organized and sponsored by the Illinois Public Higher Education Cooperative (IPHEC) through its Diversity Working Group to significantly increase diversity among higher education vendors through an event designed to help diverse businesses gain more access in the procurement process. This inaugural event offers face-to-face opportunities for dialogue and networking between diverse business owners and university leaders. The fair is open to all businesses who desire to do business with any public universities.

2014 ICCFA Teaching & Learning Excellence Conference

October 23-24, 2014

Crowne Plaza Hotel & Conference Center, Springfield, IL

To see the tentative [conference program click here](#).

To register for the conference [click here](#). The deadline for registration is October 15.



2014 Annual ILSADE Conference

Friday, October 24th

@ 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Triton College

River Grove, IL

[CONFERENCE DETAILS](#)



The Illinois Council of Community College Administrators (ICCCA) is accepting registrations for the [41st Annual Fall 2014 Conference](#) at Hyatt Regency, Schaumburg, on November 19 – 21.

People in the News

Ocheng Jany, associate director of academic affairs, at the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE), received a Certificate of Appreciation from Governor Pat Quinn thanking him for his “steadfast commitment to strengthening Illinois’ higher education system, and 33 years of service and support to the faculty and students of Illinois.” The certificate was presented to Jany by Julie Smith, deputy chief of staff of education, at the October IBHE Board meeting. Jany will retire from IBHE at the end of October.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign professor of entomology, [May Berenbaum](#), has been awarded the National Medal of Science, the Nation’s highest honor for achievement and leadership in advancing the field of science, according to an announcement from the White House Press Office. The late mathematician [David Blackwell](#), an alumnus of the UIUC College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, also received the prestigious award.

[John Duffy](#) just turned 80 years old, and is still going strong as he closes out his fourth decade as a member of Elgin Community College’s (ECC) board of trustees. Duffy is one of just four known people in the northern Fox Valley who have held elected offices for 40 years or more, and he is one of only two who are still active. ECC President David Sam said that during Duffy’s almost-40 years on the board, the college has enrolled 247,940 different students. “Think of the number of families this has touched because of your leadership,” Sam told Duffy.

Campus News

[AASCU honors work of Governors State University with inaugural excellence and innovation award](#)

The American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) announced the inaugural winners in a new awards program honoring member institutions for excellence and innovation in several major areas of campus life and leadership. Among the seven colleges recognized was Governors State University receiving the *Student Success and College Completion Award*. With degree completion a national priority, Governors State University has developed a comprehensive approach for transfer students, the Dual Degree Program, that increases the number of students earning both an associate and a bachelor’s degree. The campus’ partnership with 17 area community colleges provides extensive support to facilitate transfer and completion.

News from Higher Education

[Dems demand more regs on for-profit colleges](#) (The Hill)

Sens. Dick Durbin (D-Ill.), Tom Harkin (D-Iowa) and Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-Md.) touted the support of more than a dozen attorneys general for their Proprietary Education Oversight Coordination Improvement Act, which would allow the federal government to increase accountability standards for the colleges.

Can focusing on workplace skills increase college completion rates? (Diverse Issues in Higher Education)

When Cheryl Hyman, a former utilities executive, was tapped to become chancellor of the City Colleges of Chicago, the system of seven community colleges had a graduation crisis: Only seven percent of students were finishing their educations in a timely manner.

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