

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

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November 21, 2014

UI Names New President



A leading Welsh researcher in geophysics and space science has been named the 20th president of the University of Illinois.

Timothy Killeen, vice chancellor for research and president of the Research

Foundation of the State University of New York, will replace longtime UI administrator Bob Easter.

A start date has not been determined.

Killeen, 62, joined UI officials for the announcement at the three campuses and to meet with future colleagues, faculty, students and constituents.

"It's super exciting. I'm thrilled," said UI Board Chair Chris Kennedy.

The decision to hire Killeen was a unanimous

one, he said. Formal approval is expected to occur at the board's meeting Jan. 15 in Chicago.

Easter will retire from the office on June 30, 2015, after three years as president and 42 years as a student, animal sciences professor and administrator at the University of Illinois. He plans to continue his research in swine nutrition at the university.

UPCOMING

NOVEMBER

19-21 **Veto Session**

21 **IBHE- FAC meeting,**
Oakton Community College, Des Plaines

ICCB meeting,
Crisp Community College Center, Springfield

21-22 **IBHE-SAC meeting,**
Argosy University Chicago

DECEMBER

2 **IBHE Board meeting,**
University of Illinois at Springfield

UI's Berenbaum receives National Medal of Science



President Barack Obama today awarded University of Illinois Professor May Berenbaum the National Medal of Science, the nation's highest honor for achievement and leadership in advancing the field of science.

Berenbaum is one of the world's foremost entomologists.

Berenbaum will become president of the Entomological Society of America in 2016.

Berenbaum has been a member of the society since 1980, a fellow since 2002 and has received several awards over the years from the group. In 2010, she won the AAAS Public Understanding of Science and Technology Award, and in 2011 she won the Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement.

"Professor Berenbaum has done more to advance the field of entomology and explain the significance than nearly any other researcher today," Owen Lind, chair of the Tyler Prize executive committee, said that year.

Berenbaum is the author of many books, including "Buzzwords: A Scientist Muses on Sex, Bugs, and Rock 'n' Roll," "Bugs in the System: Insects and Their Impact on Human Affairs" and "The Earwig's Tail: A Modern Bestiary of Multi-legged Legends." Berenbaum also established the Insect Fear Film Festival on campus.

Corinthian's Nonprofit Buyer

The ECMC Group, a nonprofit organization that runs one of the largest student-loan guaranty agencies, announced Thursday that it will purchase 56 campuses from Corinthian Colleges, a crumbling, controversial for-profit chain.

ECMC will create a nonprofit subsidiary, called the Zenith Education Group, to run the campuses, which enroll more than 39,000 students. The sale price is \$24 million, according to a [corporate filing](#) from Corinthian. After having absorbed more than half of Corinthian's enrollment and assets, Zenith will operate the nation's largest chain of nonprofit career-oriented campuses.

Read more at <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2014/11/21/guaranty-agency-buys-most-crumbing-profit-corinthian-colleges-us>.

People in the News

Rock Valley College Names New Provost



Rock Valley College is pleased to announce the hiring of Dr. Carmen Coballes-Vega as the College's new Provost/Chief Academic Officer.

Dr. Coballes-Vega was most recently the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and Professor of Education at Eugenio Maria De Hostos Community College of the City University of New York, in Bronx, New York. Her extensive resume encapsulates 34 years of service to education, both in teaching and administrative capacities. A long-time Assistant Professor, she also has an expertise in bilingual education.

With her extensive experience in all facets of higher education, Dr. Coballes-Vega is a great fit at RVC," said RVC President Mike Mastroianni. "I look forward to working with her, and know that she brings the kinds of skills we need to continue our work creating educational opportunities for everyone in our area. Throughout this process she impressed our faculty, staff, students and trustees with her knowledge and her passion for her work."

Dr. Coballes-Vega completed her undergraduate work in English and Humanities at New York University, studying abroad in Paris and Japan in 1974, and earned her PhD in Reading and Linguistics/Teacher Education at the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana in 1980.

She will begin her new position at Rock Valley College in January 2015.

Saint Anthony College of Nursing president to retire



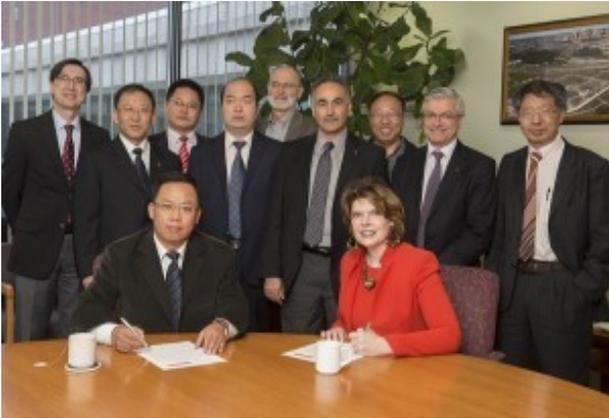
After 23 years, Saint Anthony College of Nursing (SACN) President Terese Burch, Ph.D., R.N., has announced she will retire from the college. Dr. Burch has served as president for 19 years. The Saint Anthony College of Nursing board is grateful for the dedication she has shown to the students and the college.

"Dr. Burch has played a major role in making the college what it is today, the preferred choice for nursing education in the Rock River Valley and as we approach our centennial year, the college will continue to prosper," said Ken Dufour, chairman of college board.

During her tenure, Dr. Burch has had many accomplishments, including the growth of the college from an enrollment of nine students to now more than 300. In addition, she was instrumental in the efforts that brought the bachelor of science, master of science and now doctor of nursing practice degrees to the college. Today, SACN has one of the highest pass rates for the NCLEX-RN and APN certifications in Illinois and the country.

A committee composed of college board members is conducting a national search for Burch's replacement and hopes to have a new president in place before her departure in May 2015.

[SIUE Reaches 2+2 Agreement with Shenyang Aerospace University](#)



Southern Illinois University Edwardsville Chancellor Julie Furst-Bowe signed a letter of affirmation with China's Shenyang Aerospace University (SAU) on Tuesday, Oct. 28. The two institutions signed an earlier agreement in China to collaborate in faculty and student exchanges as well as 2+2 programs for SAU students in the areas of mechanical engineering, computer science and electrical engineering.

In these programs, students will study the first two years at Aerospace University and the next two at SIUE, receiving bachelor's degrees from both institutions.

SAU will seek to recruit students for the 2+2 program. Students will begin their studies at SIUE at the earliest suitable date.

[UIC, IIT Chicago-Kent offer new law school admission program](#)

The University of Illinois at Chicago's Honors College announced a new partnership with IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law that will provide guaranteed seats for UIC graduates in the law school.

The new program is part of UIC's highly competitive Guaranteed Professional Program Admission initiative (GPPA), which admits a few select new first-year students to UIC with guaranteed admission to a professional degree program. UIC now offers 24 GPPA programs in 11 colleges, including law, medicine, pharmacy and dentistry.

Nearly all GPPA students are enrolled in the UIC Honors College in addition to the college of their major.

The UIC-IIT Chicago-Kent program is open to applications from current UIC undergraduates as well as new freshmen, making it the first GPPA program to offer a guaranteed admission option to returning students.

[WIU Librarian's Updated GIS Project Tracks Thanksgiving Foods](#)

What do Thanksgiving foods and geographic information systems (GIS) have in common? They are both components of the updated ["Where Does Thanksgiving Dinner Grow?" project](#) created by Linda Zellmer, government and data services librarian at [Western Illinois University Libraries](#).

To help people understand how geographic information systems (GIS) can show information and to celebrate Geography Awareness Week (Nov. 16-22), Zellmer has utilized GIS to prepare a set of maps and a poster that show where the foods—such as turkey, cranberries, squash and green beans—consumed at the traditional Thanksgiving meal are grown/produced in the United States.

[Online bookstore eyed to lower Heartland textbook costs](#) (Bloomington Pantagraph)

A Heartland Community College task force reviewing textbook costs suggested Tuesday night that the school look at moving away from a traditional bookstore.

[Colleges Saw a Flood of Students at Recession's Peak—and Discouraging Results](#) (The Chronicle of Higher Education)

Six years after a flood of students entered college, many seeking shelter from a sinking economy and a leg up in an uncertain job market, their progress report is in, and it isn't encouraging.

Only 55 percent of the students who entered college in the fall of 2008, at the peak of the Great Recession, had earned college degrees or certificates by May 2014, according to a report released on Tuesday by the [National Student Clearinghouse Research Center](#). That's down from 56.1 percent for the cohort that started in 2007.



*There will be no Friday Memo next week.
We wish you and your family a very
Happy Thanksgiving!*

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