

Illinois Higher Ed  
*The Friday Memo*

IBHE  
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Executive Director Dr. James L. Applegate

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

ISAC  
Chair Kym M. Hubbard  
Executive Director Eric Zamikow

December 5, 2014

[Illinois Community College and University Presidents join ICCB Executive Director at White House College Opportunity Day of Action](#)



Pictured from left to right: Dr. Ken Ender, President of Harper College; Dr. Sylvia Jenkins, President of Moraine Valley Community College; Dr. Karen Hunter Anderson, Executive Director of the Illinois Community College Board; Dr. Terri Winfree, President of Prairie State College; and Dr. David Sam, President of Elgin Community College

On December 4, **Karen Hunter Anderson**, executive director of the Illinois Community Board (ICCB), along with Illinois college presidents joined President Obama, the First Lady, and Vice President Biden and other higher education leaders to announce new actions to help more students prepare for and graduate from college. **The White House College Opportunity Day of Action** helps to support the President's commitment to partner with colleges and universities, business leaders, and nonprofits to support students across the country to help the nation reach its goal of leading the world in college attainment. Three public university leaders **Chancellor Paula Allen-Meaers**, University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), **President Doug Baker**, Northern Illinois University, and **President Elaine Maimon**, Governors State University, also attended, joined by community college presidents, including those pictured above.



"It was inspiring to hear support for first-generation, low-income college students from President Obama, First Lady Michelle Obama, and Vice President Biden," [stated President Maimon](#). "In effect, our nation's leaders were giving strong support to the principles of the **Illinois Public Agenda**." President Baker led the Northern Illinois Regional P-20 Network delegation, making [commitments for creating P-20 partnerships](#) around college readiness in the region. Chancellor Allan-Meaers emphasized [UIC's commitment](#) to developing programs and strategies to support recruitment and retention of minority students and women majoring in STEM fields at UIC. The commitments made by Illinois colleges, ICCB, and the Illinois Student Assistance Commission can be found [here](#).

UPCOMING	
DECEMBER	
11	<b>Illinois Council of Community College Presidents</b> meeting, Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield
11-12	<u><a href="#">State Universities Retirement System</a></u> meetings, location TBA
12	<u><a href="#">IBHE- FAC meeting</a></u> , Springfield
JANUARY	
12	<b>Inauguration of Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner</b> , Springfield
14	<b>Inauguration of the 99<sup>th</sup> Illinois General Assembly</b> , Springfield
16-17	<u><a href="#">ICCB Student Advisory Committee</a></u> meetings, Hilton Hotel, Springfield
23	<u><a href="#">Illinois Community College Board</a></u> meeting, Crisp Community College Center, Springfield

## Federal student aid conferences

U.S. Department of Education Under Secretary Ted Mitchell recently addressed the Federal Student Aid (FSA) [Servicing Summit \(remarks\)](#) and the Federal Student Aid (FSA) [Training Conference](#). In both settings, he discussed the Administration's efforts to promote innovation and competition in the higher education marketplace by demonstrating new approaches that can improve learning and reduce costs. He also provided an overview of the steps the Administration has taken as part of the President's Year of Action, including improved servicing and a commitment to extend access to the [Pay as You Earn](#) repayment option. Additionally, he gave an update on the Administration's proposal to create a college rating system aimed at providing useful information to students and families and encouraging institutions to improve.

## **The 98<sup>th</sup> Illinois General Assembly adjourns**

The House of Representatives adjourned from veto session on December 3, and is not scheduled to return until inauguration day for the new 99<sup>th</sup> General Assembly on January 14, 2015. The Senate adjourned on December 4, with the possibility for a lame-duck session day on January 13 or before, even while Senate President John Cullerton stated he did not expect any further action. No specific higher education action occurred during veto session, although the Senate did approve a bill to increase the State's minimum wage, [HB 4733](#). In order for the 98<sup>th</sup> General Assembly to pass the bill, it would have to come back for a special session, which does not appear likely. Governor-elect Bruce Rauner will be inaugurated on January 12. The calendars for the [House](#) and [Senate](#) spring session are established and available on the website.

## [Call for Proposals - 2015 Early Childhood Educator Preparation Program Innovation Grant](#)

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE), Illinois Community College Board, Illinois State Board of Education, and the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development, in conjunction with the Illinois Early Learning Council's subcommittee on Higher Education Learning and Professional Development, are collaborating to offer the **2015 Early Childhood Educator Preparation Program Innovation Grant**. Through this 2015 grant, institutions of higher education have an opportunity to apply for up to \$50,000 in grant funds to support program innovation and partnerships for early childhood educator preparation. The eligible applicants are consortia of two- and four-year institutions of higher education. The four-year institution must be the fiscal agent and must be accredited with a currently approved early childhood educator preparation program. Please read the [informational memo](#), [FAQ document](#), and [application form](#) for complete details. **Applications are due to IBHE by December 18, 2014.**

## [Redesigning Math Pathways Institute with Uri Treisman to be held on January 15](#)

On January 15, 2015, at the University of Illinois at Chicago's Student Center, Complete College America (CCA) is sponsoring a visit by Dr. Uri Treisman, Executive Director of the Charles A. Dana Center. Dr. Treisman will share his expertise on redesigning math pathways and co-requisite remediation. The morning session (10 a.m.-12 p.m.) will feature a presentation from Dr. Treisman followed by a large group Q&A session. The afternoon (1 p.m. – 5 p.m.) will allow specific campuses to plan for implementation with the assistance of Dr. Treisman. Math faculty from Illinois community colleges and universities are invited. Participants are invited to attend the full day; including the technical assistance opportunities during the optional afternoon session. The Institute will take place at the UIC Student Center East, Cardinal Room at 1200 W. Harrison Street, Chicago. Register [here](#).

## **People in the News**

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[Patrice Boyles](#), associate professor in the Department of Secondary Education, Professional Studies and Recreation at Chicago State University received the North Central Business Education Association (NCBEA) Teacher of the Year Award on November 14, during the Illinois Business Education Association Annual Conference in Normal, Illinois. Boyles has been a CSU faculty member since 2000. Previously she taught at South Suburban Community College. She earned her bachelor of science in education at CSU (year), her master's in Business Administration at Chicago State, and her Ph.D. at Northern Illinois University.



**Suzanne Morris** assumed the position of commission chair of the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC), during the commission's semi-annual meeting held in Milwaukee on November 16-17. Morris was elected last fall and served a year term as vice chair (2013-14), and a term as the Compact's treasurer (2012-13). She is vice-chair of the Illinois Community College Board. One of four regional higher education compacts in the United States, MHEC ([www.mhec.org](http://www.mhec.org)) is a nonprofit regional organization assisting its 12 member Midwestern states in advancing higher education through interstate cooperation and resource sharing.

North Central College has named **Dr. Abiodun "GP" Goke-Pariola** its next vice president for academic affairs and dean of faculty. Dr. Goke-Pariola will begin his new role at North Central College on July 1, after serving most recently as provost and vice president for academic affairs at Queens University of Charlotte in North Carolina. He previously served as provost and vice president for academic affairs at Otterbein University in Westerville, Ohio.

## Student Laureates Honored



The Lincoln Academy of Illinois



**Aurora College:** Hector Velazquez is from Aurora, majoring in Political Science, with minors in Criminal Justice and Pre-Law.



**Benedictine University:** Sydney Van Alstyn is from Island Lake, majoring in Health Science.



**Blackburn College:** Allison Funneman is from Effingham, majoring in Professional Writing, with a minor in Communications.



**Bradley University:** Brian Thomas Deal is from Naperville and is majoring in Psychology.

*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.*

## News from Higher Education

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### [Study shows community colleges' return on investment](#) (Bloomington Pantagraph)

In a report filled with figures, one stood out for Heartland Community College President Rob Widmer: 32.7 percent.

### [State-related community colleges](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

State spending on higher education has improved since the depths of the recession. But competition for public funds is intense in most states, where K-12, Medicaid and pensions are the primary budget drivers.

### [Most college students don't earn a degree in 4 years, study finds](#) (The New York Times)

The vast majority of students at American public colleges do not graduate on time, according to a new report from Complete College America, a nonprofit group based in Indianapolis.

### [New rules would judge teacher-prep programs on job placements and student learning](#) (Chronicle of Higher Education)

Teacher colleges aren't feeling very thankful for new rules that could make some of their students ineligible for Teach Grants.

### [Your college's new website is student-focused, mobile-optimized, and probably long overdue](#) (Chronicle of Higher Education)

When Stanley T. Wearden was still considering whether or not to take a job as provost at Columbia College Chicago, he did what most prospective students do when weighing college choices. He turned to the Internet.

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