

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

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January 30, 2015

99th Illinois General Assembly Committee Chairs are named

Senate President John Cullerton has assigned Democratic senators to [committees](#) for the new General Assembly. Committee Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons have been named.

[Senate Higher Education Committee](#)

Chairperson:
Sen. Pat McGuire (43rd District)



Vice-Chairperson:
Sen. Bill Cunningham (18th District)



[Senate Appropriations II Committee](#) (Prepares budget bills for higher education agencies, community colleges and public universities)

Chairperson:
Sen. Dan Kotowski (28th District)



Vice-Chairperson:
Sen. Donne E. Trotter (17th District)



UPCOMING

JANUARY

30-31 **[IBHE-Student Advisory Committee](#)**, ISU, Normal

FEBRUARY

3 **[IBHE Board Meeting](#)**, NEIU, Chicago

4 **[State of the State Message](#)**, Springfield

9 **ICCTA Board of Representatives** meetings, Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, D.C.

18 **[Governor's Budget Address](#)**, Springfield

25 **[Student Veterans Leadership Day](#)**, Illinois State Museum

House Speaker Mike Madigan has assigned Democratic representatives to [committees](#) for the new General Assembly. Committee Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons have been named. In addition to the Higher Education Committee, a new Community College Access and Affordability Committee has been created.

Community College Access and Affordability Committee

Chairperson:
Rep. Thaddeus Jones (29th District)



Vice-Chairperson:
Rep. Mike Smiddy (71st District)



House Higher Education Committee

Chairperson:
Rep. Kelly Burke (36th District)



Vice-Chairperson:
Rep. Emanuel Chris Welch (7th District)



Vice-Chairperson:

Appropriations—Higher Education Committee

Chairperson:
Rep. Kenneth Dunkin (5th District)




Vice-Chairperson:
Rep. Cynthia Soto (4th District)



Short films Reel Ideas

Did you know that the Illinois Community College System serves 65% of all students in public higher education? The Reel Illinois is seeking captivating films about community colleges from the students that attend the 48 community colleges in Illinois. [The 2015 Reel Illinois Community College Film Competition](#) is intended to enhance school engagement, pride, and awareness. Utilizing the power of social media and utilizing the innate creativity and talent on local campuses, Illinois community college students will create short films about their colleges or a local small business. The competition is co-sponsored by the Illinois Community College Trustees Association, the Chicago International Social Change Film Festival, and Blue 1647.

	ILLINOIS EDUCATION RESEARCH COUNCIL	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville Box 1064 Edwardsville, IL 62026-1064 866-799-IERC (4372) 618-650-2840 www.siu.edu/ierc
<h3>Hold the Date</h3>		
<p>The Illinois Education Research Council announces the date for the 13th annual Focus on Illinois Education Research Symposium.</p>		
<p>October 8 & 9, 2015 at the Sheraton Hotel, Lisle, IL</p>		
<p>We invite you to join other researchers, practitioners, and policy makers as they come together to share and learn about research being done to improve Illinois education from pre-K through higher education (P-20).</p>		
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<p>Call for Proposals will be emailed early May, 2015.</p>		
<p>Visit our website at www.siu.edu/ierc/ for upcoming information.</p>		

People in the News

College of DuPage President [Robert L. Breuder](#) has announced plans to retire March 31, 2016. Entering his 35th year as a college president, President Breuder informed the COD Board of Trustees of his intention in a letter at the Board's January 22 meeting.

After nearly six years of service at Lindenwood University-Belleveille, [Dr. Jerry Bladdick](#) has announced that he will be stepping down from his position of campus president in December 2015.

Lincoln Academy of Illinois' Student Laureates honored



East-West University: Delano C. Lee is from Chicago, majoring in Business Administration.



Governors State University: Stefany Sigler is from Chicago, majoring in Psychology.



Illinois College: Jacob E. Dander is from Genoa, majoring in Chemistry.



Illinois Institutes of Technology: Sara Glade is from Sleepy Hollow, majoring in Chemical Engineering.

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.

Campus News

[Tarble Foundation donates additional \\$3 Million for Arts Center expansion, support](#)

The Tarble Foundation, a longtime supporter of the arts at Eastern Illinois University, has given another \$3 million that will, in part, help in the further expansion/renovation of the institution's Tarble Arts Center. More than a third of the gift -- \$1.2 million -- will be used in support of the proposed Tarble Arts Education and Outreach Expansion/Enhancement project, which will nearly double the amount of classroom space available in the arts center.

News from Higher Education

[Rauner pledges UI support](#) (News-Gazette)

After laying out a host of problems in the state of Illinois high property taxes, poor schools, conflicts of interest, unaffordable pensions, being economically uncompetitive with nearby states Gov. Bruce Rauner had some encouraging news for the University of Illinois and Champaign County crowd at the I Hotel and Conference Center.

[Illinois Innovation Index points to strong activity from universities](#) (Chicago Tribune)

Illinois is seeing a surge of startup and innovation spinning out of its universities, especially in biomedicine and information-technology software development. And licensing of university-developed patents is seeing especially strong growth. That's the upshot of the latest Illinois Innovation Index, released January 26.

[Rauner: Educators need to think strategically 'cradle to career'](#) (Daily Herald)

Gov. Bruce Rauner called Harper College a model for what Illinois' community colleges need more of: partnerships with employers and training for technical jobs.

[A quiet revolution in helping lift the burden of student debt](#) (The New York Times)

Has the student loan crisis already been solved?

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