

Illinois Higher Ed
The Friday Memo

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April 24, 2015

Illinois college students urge General Assembly to support funding for Illinois higher education and MAP grants



Photo by Russ Kimmons

Meeting with Rep. Bob Pritchard (R.-70) outside the House Chamber on IBHE-SAC Lobby Day (left to right) Mekenah Merrill, IBHE-SAC secretary, from UIUC, Alejandro Molina Hoyos, IBHE-SAC Chair, from UIUC, Sean Anderson, IBHE Student Board Member, from Roosevelt University, Kyle Walsh, from Heartland Community College, Christine Elie, from Chicago State University, and Tyler Solorio, IBHE Nontraditional Student Board Member, from DePaul University.

On April 22, Illinois college students converged on the Statehouse in Springfield to talk with their legislators about the importance of higher education funding, including the Monetary Award Program (MAP) for financially needy students. Students attending the Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities' Private College Student Lobby Day urged support for funding MAP, at the same level or above this year's support, in the FY 2016 Budget. Governors State University students came to raise awareness of how the Governor's proposed 31.5% budget cut to Illinois' public universities would affect their campus. The Illinois Board of Higher Education Student Advisory Committee leaders also in Springfield the same day, discussed with several legislators the importance of state investment in higher education in order to reach the 60% by 2025 goal, urging support for the IBHE budget recommendations for flat funding across the higher education system in FY 2016, with a modest increase of \$50 million for MAP as a down payment for the State's growing affordability problem. The IBHE-SAC group also spoke with Rep. Michelle Mussman (D.-56), chief sponsor of [HB 821](#), the Preventing Sexual Violence in Higher Education Act, discussing the IBHE-SAC resolution urging legislation

UPCOMING

APRIL

Community College Month

28 [Senate Higher Education Committee](#), Room 212, Capitol

ICCTA Board meeting, Crisp Community College Center, Springfield

29 [House Higher Education Committee](#), C-1 Stratton Bldg, Springfield

ICCB-Student Advocacy Day in Springfield

[ICCTA Lobby Day](#) in Springfield

to address campus sexual assaults, adopted at their March meeting. Later that day, the Illinois House voted and passed the bill, sending it to the Senate. On April 29, Illinois' community college students will gather in Springfield for Student Advocacy Day, urging support for [HJR 35](#), affirming that community colleges play a dynamic and essential role in driving the economy and workforce of the State.

People in the News

Lincoln Academy of Illinois' Student Laureates honored



Millikin University: Eleanor Spencer is from Flanagan, majoring in Athletic Training with a double minor in Psychology and Nutrition.



University of St. Francis: Amanda Buechel is from Joliet, majoring in Nursing.



VanderCook College of Music: Marlee Wilde is from Princeton, majoring in Voice.



Western Illinois University: Ashley Luke is from Oak Creek, Wisconsin, majoring in Political Science.

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.

The Sauk Valley Community College Board of Trustees has announced that [Dr. David Hellmich](#) will lead the College as its 6th president, beginning July, 2015. Dr. Hellmich will replace current president, Dr. George Mihel, who plans to retire in July after serving as College president for 10 years. Dr. Hellmich has been the Vice President of Academics at Bluegrass Community and Technical College in Lexington, Kentucky since 2006.

The Board of Trustees of the Art Institute of Chicago, which includes the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC), elected [Elissa Tenny](#) as the art and design school's president, effective July 1, 2016. Tenny currently serves as SAIC's provost and senior vice president of academic affairs and will succeed current President Walter E. Massey, who will complete the final year of his presidency during the 2015–16 academic year.

Gov. Bruce Rauner has appointed [Mary Ann Louderback and Robert Dobski](#) for six-year terms on the Illinois State University Board of Trustees. Louderback will serve her first term on the Board of Trustees after being active with the ISU Alumni Association for more than 20 years. Dobski will return for his second term after serving from 2008 to 2013.

Two students who will graduate from North Central College this year have been awarded prestigious Fulbright English Teaching Assistantships. The latest Fulbright honors for seniors [Heidi Nelson and Kristin Rose](#) are the 10th and 11th Fulbright awards earned by North Central College students and alumni. North Central College has been recognized among the U.S. colleges and universities that produce the highest number of Fulbright recipients for 2014-2015 international exchanges.

Campus News

[Vice President Biden marks Sexual Assault Awareness Month at UIUC campus](#)

On April 23, Vice President Biden visited the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign campus, honoring April as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month by sharing an update on the Administration's efforts to help combat sexual assault, especially on college and university campuses. Last year, the Obama Administration launched a public awareness and education campaign called [It's On Us](#), which seeks to empower college students to respond effectively to sexual assault, and to prevent it in the first place. Biden came to UIUC after learning about the campus' local involvement with the campaign, including public service announcements featuring athletes and other students.

News from Higher Education

[MOOCs for \(a year's\) credit](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

Arizona State University, in partnership with edX, this fall will begin to offer credit-bearing massive open online courses at a fraction of the cost of either in-person or traditional online education.

[Analysis: Medicaid spending to hurt higher ed](#) (Diverse Issues in Higher Education)

A "dismal outlook" is projected for state higher education funding in most states over the next decade due largely to a "crowding out" of discretionary funding by Medicaid, a new analysis shows.

[Rich new resource on postsecondary attainment](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

A new federal report presents a wealth of data about how 2002's 10th graders fared in higher education (and not) a decade later -- potentially offering researchers and policy makers enormous insight into who attains postsecondary success and why.

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