JERRY THOR

We, the members of the Illinois Board of Higher Education, extend our gratitude and deep respect to Jerry Thor for his commitment to student leadership and his service as the Board's student representative.

Jerry has been an active voice for students and a thoughtful advocate for their interests. He has an impressive record of leadership throughout his collegiate career, beginning at Moraine Valley Community College in Palos Hills. He served on the Illinois Community College Board's Student Advisory Committee, including membership on the Finance Advisory Committee. Having served as the alternate student board member for the IBHE during 2007, Jerry came to his position as student representative last year with perspective and experience to make a purposeful difference on behalf of the students. He also joined with his fellow IBHE student representative, Ashley Dearborn, to serve on the Illinois Advisory Team for the National Governor's Association Policy Academy on Civic Engagement of Older Adults. Jerry also provided valuable student perspective in the development of the *Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success*.

This record speaks to Jerry's sense of public service as well as the respect of his fellow students and Board members. Jerry's presence has been steadfast and the Board has benefited from his willingness to devote his time and energy with a thoughtful temperament to work well with fellow Board members.

The Board extends their best wishes to Jerry as he continues towards the completion of his baccalaureate studies in finance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign by December, 2009 and makes plans to attend Officer Candidates' School for the Marine Corps.

The Board also congratulates Jerry on forging strong relationships with his colleagues on the Illinois Board of Higher Education and being a positive influence on this body's deliberations to support Illinois' college students.