

Applegate's Update

The Changing Funding Landscape for Higher Education

I noted myths surrounding higher education in my last update. While not perhaps a myth, an outdated perception of higher education is that it is largely a state driven enterprise with the federal government playing a much smaller role primarily in the areas of financial aid and research. That perception is increasingly inaccurate. I will be talking about the changing nature of the federal-state government relationship to higher education in Washington, D.C. next week: both what has changed and what needs to change. One focus on that panel will be a [new PEW Charitable Trust study of higher education funding patterns](#). Among the most striking findings in the report is that for all of U.S. higher education the federal government as of 2013 invested \$76.8 billion (financial aid, research, veterans, and other supports) while the states invested \$72.7 billion. That's right the federal government is the bigger investor. Even for public higher education the trends show increasing reliance on federal funds over time. Though the states still provide 21 per cent of revenue, the federal government share is 16 per cent and growing. I suspect this rebalancing of higher education funding will surprise many. The combined 37 per cent of government supports for public higher education of course also points to the increasing degree to which public higher education is increasingly dependent on student tuition and other private sources for its existence but we can debate that issue on another day.

These changing funding patterns (they do vary by state) suggest changes in the role states and the federal government will play in the future of higher education. Already we have seen a more aggressive role by the federal government in promoting greater transparency and better data around student outcomes. Beyond that are efforts to make that data more available to consumers to pressure improvements. The federal government over the years has poured billions of dollars into the development of state longitudinal data systems and now are expecting results. In Illinois we are now beginning to provide those results through better analysis of student outcomes across our P-20 system (e.g. the state high school feedback report, better connections between education and workforce data).

Beyond transparency and data, the federal government is taking a more aggressive stance in quality control/accreditation efforts especially in the for-profit sector. National goals for raising education attainment have been set recognizing our slipping international rankings are education is a threat to our economy. The federal government has provided hundreds of millions of dollars to support the state's work to create more rigorous and consistent K-12 standards and assessments better aligned with college and career readiness. Greater involvement in supporting innovations in the delivery of college level learning through technology supports has been another focus of federal efforts. We have seen more interest at the federal level in "maintenance of effort" strategies to sustain states' support for higher education to remain eligible for certain federal funds. Why some ask for example, should the federal government put more money into financial aid for low income students if state disinvestment leads to higher tuitions that undercut the outcomes of the federal investment?

In short, if the current trends of state disinvestment and federal investment in higher education continue, the U.S. may start to look more like many of our primary international competitors who more typically have national systems. Rather than let this significant shift happen under the radar, there should be a national conversation refocusing on the role and value of higher education (especially public higher education) and the most effective and efficient ways for federal, state, and local to play a role in maximizing higher education's return on investment. Several national nonprofits are beginning that conversation. The PEW analysis is a first step.

Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Illinois Community Colleges

At the June 21 IBHE meeting time was taken, in the midst of all the turmoil, to join with our community colleges in celebration of their 50 years of contributions to the people and the economy of Illinois. Our community college system is one of the best in the nation. National data recently showed that the Illinois system ranks fourth in the country in enabling students who enroll full time to complete credentials at a rate far above the national average. See the IBHE resolution highlighting the many contributions of the community colleges to Illinois is provided in this *Bulletin* below. Dr. Karen Hunter Anderson, the Executive Director of the Illinois Community College Board, highlighted those accomplishments at the meeting and was presented with that resolution.

Clearly those involved in IBHE's recommendation (against significant opposition I am told) to then Governor Otto Kerner to create the system as part of its higher education master plan were prescient. Most recent national data shows that Illinois ranks third in the country and significantly above national averages in the number of community college students who transfer successfully from community colleges to universities and complete baccalaureate degrees. Our work together is paying off for Illinois and its citizens.

Illinois Board of Higher Education Resolution Honoring the Illinois Community College System on their 50th Anniversary

WHEREAS, on July 15, 1965, the Illinois Public Community College Act was enacted; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Community College System has expanded during the last 50 years to include 39 community college districts, and 48 campuses; and

WHEREAS, nearly 1 million students are enrolled annually in college and community education courses; and

WHEREAS, Illinois community colleges have educated citizens who have graduated with postsecondary certificates, credentials and associate's degrees, preparing them for successful careers in the workforce, and transfers to four year colleges and universities; and

WHEREAS, Illinois community colleges also provide adult education, literacy and continuing education courses; and

WHEREAS, Illinois community colleges in partnership with school districts offer dual credit courses to high school students; and

WHEREAS, these graduates have contributed to Illinois' economy, providing Illinois employers with highly trained employees with skills for industry, manufacturing, health care, information technology and other essential workforce talents; and

WHEREAS, the state has benefited from the leadership and guidance provided to the community college system by the Illinois Community College Board, the Illinois Community College Trustees Association, the Illinois Council of Community College Presidents, the Illinois Council of Community College Administrators, and the Illinois Community College Faculty Association; therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Illinois Board of Higher Education offers its sincere respect to one of the largest and highest quality community college systems in the world providing accessible and cost-effective postsecondary education opportunities; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Illinois Board of Higher Education expresses its deep gratitude to Illinois community colleges for the important contributions over the past 50 years fulfilling their mission to raise the level of education and training for millions of Illinois citizens living and working in Illinois communities.

June 21, 2016

2016 Spring Enrollment Snapshot for Public Universities



IBHE has issued a [report based on a 2016 spring enrollment snapshot](#) from the Illinois public universities and includes information for the last two academic years. It focuses on full-time-equivalent (FTE) enrollment at the graduate and undergraduate levels, as well as FTE undergraduate and graduate enrollment combined. Over the past two academic years, total enrollment at the Illinois public universities was flat, evidencing no significant total changes in the number of students being served. However, there was some variation between the public universities, as some experienced enrollment growth and others experienced enrollment declines. Total enrollment (full-time equivalent) for the spring 2016 session was 161,333, a -0.1% difference from the spring 2015 session enrollment figures.

Increasing Affordability

IBHE has issued its [Fiscal Year 2015 Academic Discipline Unit and Comparative Cost Study](#). The agency annually releases the report that details costs for instruction, organized research, and public service activities at each public university in Illinois. For those costs related to instruction, it provides information on how these costs break down by academic discipline and level of study. In Fiscal Year 2015, the total public universities instructional cost was \$2.132 billion, or \$1.1 million (0.05%) less than the prior year of \$2.133 billion. The total credit hours students received were 4.99 million, or 20,694 (0.4%) lower than the 5.01 million reported in the prior year. The total instructional cost per credit hour was \$427.08, or \$1.54 (0.4%) higher than the prior year of \$425.54. The complete report is available on the [IBHE website](#).



[The 2016 Green Technology Report](#) (required by P.A. 97-241) has been released by IBHE. It reports on the efforts by Illinois public universities to promote the green technology industry by the development of academic programs and putting environmentally sustainable principles into practice on their campuses. Illinois universities have gone beyond instituting degree programs geared toward green technology, also supporting centers of research that address green issues like

Eastern Illinois University's Center for Clean Energy Research and Education and **Northern Illinois University's Analytical Center for Climate and Environmental Change**. Other activities on campuses described in the report include: ride-sharing programs, solar energy technology, tree-planting, recycling programs for electronics, bird-safe windows, biodegradable and compostable disposable cups and napkins in use in the cafeterias, and the use of bio-friendly cleaning products. In the winter, to decrease the use of salt and chemicals to melt snow, campuses are using roller brushes or even beet juice to keep walkways and parking lots clear. The full report includes a list of the innovative practices at all twelve Illinois' public universities.

The cost of college tuition increases every year, leaving many families wondering how they will be able to afford college. The **College Illinois! 529 Prepaid Tuition Plan** is designed to offer Illinois families an affordable way to pay for college. College Illinois! is holding newborn enrollment through August 31, 2016, for children born on or between September 1, 2015, and August 31, 2016. [Click here to watch an informative video](#) that will help you learn more about College Illinois! or visit us at collegeillinois.org.



Reducing Gaps for Underserved Students

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) and **Kaskaskia College** (KC) have signed a [2+2 Articulation Agreement](#) in early childhood education to better ensure a seamless transfer experience as students transition from KC to SIUE. Students enrolled in the program will complete two years of coursework at each institution and will qualify for an associate's in arts or applied science from KC and a bachelor's in early childhood education from SIUE. "I am extremely excited to finalize what I hope to be just one of several 2+2's that are in the works at the present time," added **Dr. Martha Latorre**, associate professor in the **Department of Teaching and Learning**. "For more information on the SIUE and KC 2+2 program, visit siue.edu/transfer/programs.

Increasing Adult Degree Completion



The **Urban Institute**, with its partner the **Aspen Institute**, recently released its final implementation report on [Accelerating Opportunity](#), the first in a series of final reports on the initiative. Accelerating Opportunity, a **Jobs for the Future** (JFF) initiative, is designed to transform how states work with their adult education programs and community colleges to provide training for underprepared adult learners. [The AO Final Implementation Report](#) documents how the state of **Illinois**, along with three other participating states (Kansas, Kentucky, and Louisiana) successfully implemented the program in its first three years. The report highlights cross-cutting lessons on supporting student success, sustainability, and partnership development and provides recommendations to assist other states in creating similar integrated career pathways for adults with low basic skills.

Of the four states in the report, Illinois has the largest community college system (and the third largest in the country), and the state engaged about 40 percent of its colleges. The goals of AO were well aligned with state goals to increase the proportion of adults with high-quality postsecondary credentials to 60 percent by 2025. After three years of implementation, 1,441 students had enrolled in an AO career pathway in the state of Illinois. "The findings of this report show great successes with implementing AO in the state of Illinois. We have worked hard to build a strong partnership between our Division of Adult Education and Career and Technical Education Division to ensure that AO students are truly recognized as postsecondary education students," said **Karen Hunter Anderson**, Executive Director at **Illinois Community College Board**. "We are continuing to work to expand the reach of career pathways, and are thrilled to see an overall positive cultural shift towards integrating adult education programs with postsecondary education throughout the country."

Upcoming Events



Tinley Park Convention Center
July 21, 2016 – 8 am - 4:30 pm

College Changes Everything is pleased to announce the 2016 conference keynote speakers. **John M. Burnett** serves as President and CEO of the **Community Education Coalition** (CEC), a nationally recognized not-for-profit organization committed to the development of an aligned, high quality community and regional learning system supporting learners of all ages. **Jack Hess** serves as Executive Director of the **Institute for Coalition Building**. The Institute serves communities across the country, nurturing leaders collectively to solve their grand challenges. Reaching Illinois' 60 x 2025 goal is going to take cross-sector collaboration and Burnett and Hess will share how the city of Columbus, Indiana, collectively addressed complex social problems and produced meaningful outcomes.

IBHE Student Art Exhibition

These paintings were created by students at **John Wood Community College**, with each student painting one panel.

**Jamie Feramisco,
Dustin McCune, and
Jaycie Womack**



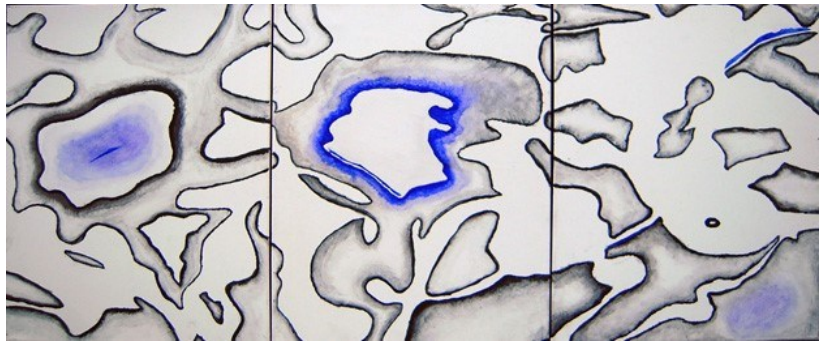
Tuberculosis

Nick Berry, Haley Coburn, and Daniel Curzio



Feeding Frenzy

Lewis Denckla, Samantha Gredell, and LeeAnne Hodge



Memories

Rian Ogilvie, Keegan Peters, and Shanna Roberts



Upstream

Student Laureates

In each issue of *The Bulletin*, we will feature student laureates recognized by the Lincoln Academy of Illinois.

Olivet Nazarene University



Chelsea Risinger
Tremont, IL
Major: Nursing

Principia College



Shontee Pant
Coppell, TX
Major: History and
Political Science

Quincy University



Catherine Richards
Quincy, IL
Major: Biology and Chemistry

In Case You Missed It

A few articles and reports worth the read:

[WUIS 91.9-NPR Illinois](#): Education desk: higher ed is low on funding, June 13, 2016.

[Danville Area Community College](#): DACC president receives certificate of merit from ICCTA, June 16, 2016.

[WBGZ Radio/Alton Daily News](#): Fewer MAP grant applications filed, June 16, 2016.

[Chronicle of Higher Education](#): Turmoil raises specter of faculty exodus from public colleges, June 19, 2016.

[WSIU 91.9-NPR](#): SIU president tells IBHE there is a crisis in confidence, June 22, 2016.

[Bloomington Pantagraph](#): Chairman: Higher ed in 'survival mode' because of budget stalemate, Jun3, 2016.

IBHE

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