



A bi-weekly report from the Illinois Board of Higher Education

60 x 2025

Lewis University is partnering with **Joliet Junior College** and the **College of DuPage** to enhance student veteran retention and educational success. The new program <u>"Student Veteran Peer to Peer Mentorship Model from Community College to 4-Year University"</u> is set to begin fall 2017 and sponsored by a \$50,000 McCormick Foundation grant.

"This program enables us to connect with nearly 2,000 student veterans and better assist them through their entire process of attending a community college or a four-year university. For those interested in a four-year degree at the community college level, they can have a better understanding of how to make the transition," said **Roman Ortega Jr.**, director of Lewis University Veteran Affairs.

October is Manufacturing Month in Illinois. Manufacturers across the Midwest have been hosting events and activities meant to inspire the next generations of manufacturers and helping students with career path decisions. The **Illinois Community College Board**'s (ICCB) Career and Technical Education division applaud the manufacturers and associated groups, educational organizations, and individuals across Illinois that have highlighted opportunities for local students to discover what a career in manufacturing is all about.



The Collision Repair Education Foundation announced that the City Colleges of Chicago – Kennedy-King College's (KKC) Collision Technology Program received a preliminary award of \$22,500 through the generous support of the collision industry. The final award will be presented to the Collision Program at the SEMA Conference in November. KKC's Collision Program intends to use the funds to assist students with obtaining I-CAR certifications, purchase additional tools and consumables used for training, and provide students with opportunities to travel to specific industry expos, career fairs and tradeshows.

Highland Community College will co-host a Manufacturing Day with area high schools, Education for Employment, and Career TEC on October 20. Students from area high schools start with a tour of two local manufacturing businesses. They are then transported to the College and will rotate through a tour of the College's manufacturing building, a walk through Expo that includes 12-15 employers discussing their business and employment options and finally, a keynote speaker. This event was organized by business partners, Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center, Career TEC, and Highland Community College.

Richland Community College will celebrate Manufacturing Days October 25-27, 2017. Over 300 students from Heartland Technical Academy, MacArthur High School, and Eisenhower High School will celebrate with tours of Caterpillar, ADM Bio Processing Plant, Mueller Waterworks, Decatur Industrial Electric, and TCCI Manufacturing. Students will also attend a mid-day symposium with over a dozen local manufacturing companies to learn about career opportunities and what it means to work in today's manufacturing world.

Reducing Gaps for Underserved Students

Four Illinois State University graduate students have received Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois (DFI) fellowships.

Caress D. Brown is a doctoral student in higher education administration. She earned her bachelor's degree from ISU and master's degree from Loyola University Chicago. Currently Brown serves as a student services professional at City Colleges of Chicago – Malcolm X College. Her research includes African-American education and critical race theory.



Lashanti Brown



Michelle Ortiz Wortel

Lashanti Brown is a criminal justice graduate student. She earned her bachelor's degree from ISU and an associate's degree from City Colleges of Chicago – Malcom X College. She is a first generation college student and received the 2016 Peter V. Vitucci Award. She aspires to work as an instructor at a community college.

Tricia Rosado is a doctoral student in educational administration and foundation-leadership, equity, and inquiry (LEI) program. Rosado earned her master's degree in higher education leadership from Northeastern Illinois University-ENLACE Leadership Institute and her bachelor's degree from DePaul University. Her current work as a senior program manager in Chicago GEAR UP allows her to work with Chicago Public Schools students, their families, and teachers, helping students and families to understand the postsecondary process.



leadership in higher education at Northeastern Illinois University. She currently serves as the assistant director of financial aid at the Chicago Office of Financial Aid at Northwestern University. Wortel's university experience spans over 16 years, having also worked at both the University of Illinois at Chicago and Northern Illinois University.



Eastern Illinois University graduate-level counseling student Maliya Smith recently earned a Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois (DFI) fellowship. "This is wonderful opportunity for me to continue making a positive difference in advancing important diversity initiatives in Illinois higher education," Smith said. "I've been inspired by so many people at EIU and in my own family to use my voice to lift up other underrepresented students who are trying to create better lives for themselves and their families. This DFI Fellowship will help me to do just that, and to accomplish so much more in the future. Thank you to Eastern Illinois University and the Illinois Board of Higher Education for their ongoing support and encouragement."



Caress Brown



Tricia Rosado

People in the News



Jay D. Gatrell, Ph.D., has been selected as provost and vice president for academic affairs at Eastern Illinois University. EIU President David Glassman said, "Jay stood out among the group not only for his outstanding professional experience and achievements, but also for his high level of energy and personable approach to leadership."

"I look forward to collaborating with the faculty on strategic initiatives as the leadership and entire community begin the important process of charting and implementing new pathways for student success," Gatrell said.

Currently a professor of geography and environmental studies and vice provost for faculty affairs and research at Bellarmine University (Kentucky), Gatrell holds degrees from Eastern Michigan University, the University of Toledo, and West Virginia University.



L to R: Fuentes and Mireles

The University Center of Lake County's Governing Board added two members when it held its quarterly meeting on September 13, 2017.

Luis Fuentes, a realtor and a resident of Mundelein, was elected to serve as a community member filling a vacancy caused by a resignation. Mr. Fuentes has lived in Mundelein for the past thirty years and has worked as a realtor for the past 24 years. During that time, he has been an active volunteer in the community. He has worked closely with the University Center on three significant initiatives: the FAFSA workshop series; the Taste of College

program with Mundelein school districts; and the Familias en Educacion workshops.

Martin Mireles is enrolled in the B.S. in Special Education program offered through the Center by Southern Illinois University Carbondale and was elected as the student representative to the Governing Board. Mr. Mireles is a paraprofessional at Grayslake North High School, where he has worked for the past three years. He anticipates receiving his degree in July of 2019; licensure as a special education teacher will enhance his current career. Mr. Mireles is an alumnus of the College of Lake County and graduated with an Associate Degree in Science with high honors in July of 2016.

Gail Summer, Ed.D., has been named provost and vice president for academic affairs at Augustana College. "We look forward to having Dr. Summer join us as we continue to build on a strong student experience at Augustana," said President Steve Bahls. "I am very impressed with Dr. Summer, and am fully confident in her ability to lead our academic program."

Before joining Augustana, Summer served as vice president for academic affairs at Ferrum College in Virginia and at Lenoir-Rhyne College in North Carolina. She earned her bachelor's degree from Indiana University Bloomington; her master's degree from the University of South Carolina; and her doctorate from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.



Upcoming Events

ISAC is answering financial aid questions on Facebook Live during College Changes Everything Month!



The **Higher Education Committee of the Association of American Publishers** is holding a **College and University Dialogue** on the role that digital course materials and technologies play in reducing higher education costs and improving student success. On Friday, October 27 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at RedShelf, 500 N. Dearborn Street, Suite 1200, Chicago, faculty, administrators and students from Illinois colleges and universities, along with state government and education publishers' representatives, are invited to attend. To RSVP or for more information, please contact **Amanda Straub**.

IBHE Student Art Exhibition

Jimmy Vitullo, Northern Illinois University







Jellies Little Red Riding Hood

Samantha Butkus, **Northern Illinois University**



East



Hydrangea and Her Harp

McKenzie Zarn, Danville Area Community College



As Time Turns



Owl





Loving Her Was Red (Scarlett)



Cellist

In Case You Missed It

The Atlantic: The rural higher-education crisis, September 27, 2017.

Belleville News-Democrat: Illinois college offers free tuition for low income students, October 2, 2017.

Crain's Chicago Business: Chicago is now the nation's best-educated big city, October 4, 2017.

WBEZ Chicago/NPR: Nobel goes to American Richard Thaler for work in behavioral economics, October 9, 2017.



1 North Old State Capitol Plaza | Suite 333 | Springfield, Illinois 62701 217-782-2551 TTY 888-261-2881 email info@ibhe.org to subscribe