



ICCHE

The Illinois Council on Continuing Higher Education (ICCHE) is a comprehensive organization of continuing higher education representing all regions of the state of Illinois.

Founded in 1975, ICCHE is an organization in Illinois whose members include two- and four-year colleges and universities, both public and private.

OFFICERS

Myra Gaytan-Morales
President
University Center of Lake County
mgaytan@ucenter.org

Donna Gardner Liljegren
Immediate Past President
Aurora University
dliljegren@aurora.edu

Matt Hlinak
Vice-President
Dominican University
mhlinak@dom.edu

Ruben Howard II
Secretary
Oakton Community College
rhoward@oakton.edu

Michele Gribbins
Treasurer
U of I Springfield
mgribbin@uis.edu

ICCHE VALUE-ADD PROPOSITION

Notes from Group Discussions

As part of the 44th Annual ICCHE Conference, members gathered to discuss what is valued, and what can be enhanced, as ICCHE revisions itself as an organization. Several themes emerged from the discussion:

Relevancy: Who are we and what do we do?

Members noted that the current ICCHE Mission and Statement of Ethical Practices need to be updated. The Mission does not currently reflect the entire ICCHE membership or explain what we do, and the Statement of Ethical Practices needs to be updated to reflect more inclusive language. We are no longer the only group supporting continuing higher education, so there is a need to determine how we are unique or distinguished from the others. And is “continuing higher education” the appropriate term to use or is it outdated? Might the term need to be more broadly defined? Additionally, it was noted that ICCHE does little community college outreach to build partnerships, which is a missed opportunity. An emphasis on forming partnerships with non-profits which have similar goals around continuing higher education, such as veterans’ organizations, CAEL, ACE, ACHE, LERN, ICCB, IBHE, REACH, and IATEC were suggested. It was also suggested by a couple of the groups that inviting HLC to present at the annual conference would bring more visibility to the group.

Continued on page 7

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

| | | | |
|---|---------|---|--------|
| Message from ICCHE President | Pg. 2 | What’s Happening | Pg. 3 |
| What’s Happening (cont’d) Job Openings | Pg. 4 | Member News Nominating Committee Seeks Input | Pg. 5 |
| Illinois Proud: Completing College | Pg. 6 | ICCHE Value-Add Proposition (cont’d from page 1) | Pg. 7 |
| Announcements | Pg. 8-9 | Did you know....? Mark Your Calendars | Pg. 10 |

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



I am deeply honored to serve as President of the ICCHE Executive Committee for the 2019-2020 year. This year, we would like your assistance with three initiatives that will help our organization to become stronger. The three initiatives are ICCHE relevancy, our annual conference proposal request and annual conference planning. This year will be a busy year for us at ICCHE, but I am hopeful that with your help we shall have a productive and successful year.

But first in formalities, let me start by thanking each of one you who have renewed your ICCHE membership and attended the ICCHE Annual Conference on February 6th and 7th at Eastern Illinois University, Charleston IL. Last year, we decided to move our ICCHE conference from the Doubletree in Chicago into a member institution, with the caveat to recover financial stability. We simply could not afford holding our annual conference at Chicago. Today, I am happy to report that thanks to that decision, ICCHE is in a better financial position than we were last year. This means that we may be able to reopen the researcher scholarship application for the upcoming year.

The 2019 ICCHE Annual Conference was a great success not only because we were able to recover some of our revenue, but the feedback which we received from the conference attendees was very encouraging and helpful. The theme for this year's conference was "Building a Brighter Future for Adult Learners". This theme could not be at a better time than today's State of Illinois 60 by 25 College Completion Agenda's effort. Our keynote speakers, Dr. Lori Suddick, President of the College of Lake County, and Dr. James Howley, Director of B.A. General Studies program at Eastern Illinois University, emphasized the importance of increasing diversity and equity, while eliminating achievement disparities across race, gender, ethnicity, socioeconomic and immigration statuses. These efforts will ensure that students can successfully complete their college degree. Most importantly, they emphasize that equality does not always means equity. Equity means that we take a proactive approach in order to provide students with the appropriate services and support, so they can have equal opportunities in our society. The student success outcomes are vital to the well-being of our social equity and future workforce in our society.

In addition to the keynotes addresses, our conference presenters showed how they have been providing equitable student support services and solutions to college access and completion. Some of the workshops presenters demonstrated their home campus initiatives, such as Open Educational Resources, where all of the required textbooks are available to students online at no cost or a minimum cost; How To Build Seamless Transfer Pathways; How To Improve a Better Orientation for Online Adult Learners; How To Build Better Relationships with the Community and Business Partners, so the adult learners can have better internship or externship opportunities.

Furthermore, one of the workshops led by Dr. Donna Gardner Liljegen had a productive and meaningful dialogue about what is the value of ICCHE (*page 1 and 7*). For those of you who could not attend the conference this year, please feel free to reach out to us if you have any recommendations about what you think is the value of ICCHE. In summary, these are some of the highlights of this year's conference. I am very optimistic that by working together, we will continue making a difference in the lives of our adult learners.

Moreover, if you are interested in getting more involved with ICCHE, please contact us. We are about to start planning for our annual conference and we are seeking proposals from our members to host and be the conference service provider for the 2020 ICCHE conference. If you would like to help with the conference planning or interested in submitting a proposal (RFP), please see page 8 or contact Matt Hlinak mhlinak@dom.edu.

I look forward to continue working with all of you and leveling out the higher education playing field, so every student can successfully graduate from college. Only by working together, we will achieve this goal, which we owe to our future generations.

Myra Gaytan-Morales
ICCHE President
University Center of Lake County
mgaytan@ucenter.org



WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE STATE



Northern Illinois University

The NIU College of Education is celebrating several recent grants, including [\\$1.6 million from the Illinois State Board of Education to provide professional development in math pedagogy](#) to 160 teachers from Rockford and the Sauk Valley area. Dollars shared with NIU's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Center for P-20 Engagement also fund the development of online resources for the statewide implementation of transitional math. Others include \$100,000 from the New York Life Foundation for the [HOPE \(Hold On, Pain Ends\) Project](#), a free, school-based grief support group and clinical grief counseling; and state and federal dollars funneled through Rockford Public School District 205 for [SAITIS: Scientific Argumentation in Transportable Invention Space](#).

The NIU College of Education remains in the country's Top 10 among [U.S. News & World Report's annual rankings of online graduate programs](#). NIU ties for ninth in the 2019 rankings, which bring the College of Education's string of high recognition to seven consecutive years. The college's overall score climbed to 93 out of 100, while the Faculty Credentials and Training mark jumped to 96. Online graduate programs are offered within the departments of Counseling, Adult and Higher Education; Curriculum and Instruction; Educational Technology, Research and Assessment; and Leadership, Educational Psychology and Foundations.

The NIU Department of Kinesiology and Physical Education is administering a fitness leadership program at the Illinois Youth Center in St. Charles. [Project FLEX](#) – Fitness Leadership Experience – aims to not only provide 90 minutes of structured physical activity every Monday, Wednesday and Friday but also to help prepare the incarcerated boys and young men to lead more productive lives upon their eventual release. NIU graduate student Tim Mack, who is pursuing a master's degree in Sport Management, and an activity specialist at the center work with about 15 young men who have earned the privilege through good behavior.

Dominican University

Dominican University recently launched two new degrees to support adult learners and community college transfers. The Bachelor of Professional Studies (BPS) provides a flexible, transfer-friendly format for degrees offered online or in the evening to accommodate the schedules of working professionals. The BPS currently includes majors in Legal Studies and Human Services. The Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) was designed to support students who have completed an Associate of Applied Science in a technical discipline with an initial major in Culinary®. Both degrees will soon offer a number of other majors to further support post-traditional learners.

In addition, Dominican's Master of Arts in Conflict Resolution (MCR) recently [ranked 11th nationally](#) among all online negotiation and conflict management degrees based on academic quality, faculty credentials and affordability. The program earned a special designation as the Best Interdisciplinary Program for its wide range of courses and faculty expertise. The MCR is offered in a low-residency model in which students complete two 5-day intensive courses at Dominican's River Forest campus or at the University Center of Lake County, with the remaining required courses completed online. <https://www.onlinemasters.com/best-degree-programs/negotiation-and-conflict-management/>.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE STATE



University of Illinois Chicago

Beginning Fall 2019, community college students will be able to complete their bachelor's degree in business administration online and on campus. "Making the BBA available both on-campus and online allows the college to more fully engage with Chicago-area community colleges, which are the primary pipeline for current BBA program students, as well as transfer students for campus-based programs," said Angela Prazza Winters, assistant dean, UIC Business Student Services. The program was originally only offered online.

UIC College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs will now offer a graduate degree in city design starting in the fall. Students will benefit from a curriculum encompassing urban planning, architecture, landscape architecture, urban studies and more while attending college in the ultimate urban environment, Chicago.

Also new this year, The **UIC John Marshall Law School**. Housed in Chicago's legal district in the Loop, students in the once private university now have expanded options for other educational goals and access to an accelerated program for students to obtain both an undergraduate degree and law degree in six years rather than seven.

JOB OPENINGS

The **University of Illinois Springfield** has an immediate opening for a **Director of Research Administration** to oversee and manage the activities of the UIS Office of Research & Sponsored Programs and work closely with other administrative and academic units to maintain and enhance the research enterprise at UIS.

The position is responsible for multiple research support functions and for the structure and organization of the unit, and reports to the Associate Vice Chancellor for Research & Institutional Effectiveness (AVCRIE). Administrative responsibilities include the development of new policies, procedures, and systems for several facets of research administration, and require the ability to effectively research, analyze, and evaluate information from a wide variety of sources and to exercise independent decision making. This position operates with a high degree of autonomy and makes decisions that have an impact across all or most of the academic units on campus.

The Director serves as the Authorized Organizational Representative for submitting grant proposals to external agencies. The position requires very strong communication skills and the ability to effectively communicate complex knowledge/information across a variety of research-related functional areas.

Full job description and application instructions:

<https://jobs.uis.edu/job-board/job-details?jobID=107242&job=director-of-research-administration>



MEMBER NEWS



Joel Williams began work in March as the Executive Director of the **University Center of Lake County**. From 2013 – 2019, he served as the Executive Director of PADS Lake County, the homeless shelter system that serves the region. Prior to that, he spent six years working for Lake County government in various roles within the Planning, Building & Development Department. He has also served as a part-time political science faculty member for **Elmhurst College**, one of the Center's member institutions.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE SEEKS INPUT

Per the requirements of the ICCHE by-laws, the following ICCHE members are serving on the nominating committee to develop the slate of officers for the 2020 annual membership meeting:

- ♦ Amy Barsha, Governors State University, representing public four-year institutions,
- ♦ Alisha Clark, Prairie State College, representing public two-year institutions,
- ♦ Nora Mena, University Center of Lake County, representing multi- and for-profit institutions, and
- ♦ Donna Liljegren, Aurora University, representing private institutions.

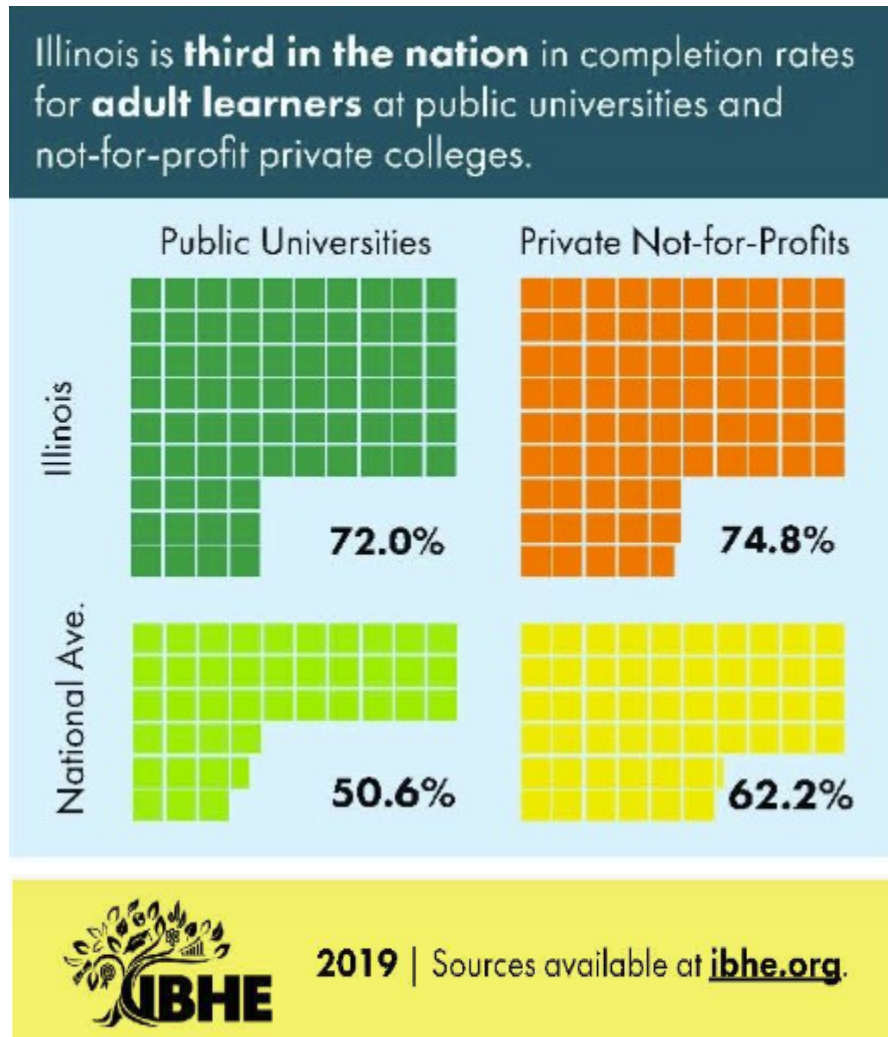
This year we are seeking nominations for two important executive committee roles: Treasurer and Secretary.

The position of Treasurer is a non-elected officer, appointed annually by the President with a majority vote of approval by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall collect all dues; keep in permanent record an account of all funds; pay all bills upon authorization of the President; and submit to the annual meeting an annual report of ICCHE transactions.

The duties of the Secretary are to keep the minutes of the Council and Executive Committee and send notice of all meetings. The Secretary shall serve as the archivist for the organization, maintaining copies of past minutes and treasurer reports and passing the historical data on to the next secretary. The Secretary serves for one year and is expected to assume the role of Vice President, President, and Immediate Past President in the subsequent three years. Due to the requirement to rotate the position of President, candidates for Secretary in 2020 are requested from public, four-year institutions.

If you would be interested in serving in either of these roles or have questions about the positions, please contact Donna Liljegren: dliljegren@aurora.edu.

ILLINOIS PROUD: COMPLETING COLLEGE



Across the state of Illinois, our work in support of adult learners is paying off! Illinois continues to be among the leading states in degree completion of adult learners at public universities and private not-for-profit institutions. According to the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, Illinois ranks third in the nation in this important measure. Adult learners at Illinois' 12 public universities have a 72% degree completion rate, as compared to the national average of just 50.6%. At private, not-for-profit institutions, that rate is even higher. Programs designed for success of adult learners will help Illinois reach its Public Agenda goal of having 60% of our adult population earn a college credential by the year 2025.

~Dena Lawrence

Multi-University Representative, ICCHE Executive Committee

ICCHE VALUE-ADD PROPOSITION

Notes from Group Discussions (continued from page 1)

Communication: Talk to us more and help us to talk with and learn from each other.

It was noted that there is little interaction of the membership outside of conference and newsletter. It was suggested by a couple of the working groups that ICCHE needs to make more effective use of social media for communication. Suggestions included creating a forum for continued sharing and communication, including policy updates that are developed at the state-level, and providing more ongoing professional development. Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter were all suggested as tools for communication, as was the listserv. Many members expressed that using the listserv for collaboration rather than one-way communications would be useful, and it was suggested it would enhance membership if the listserv and social media platforms did more job sharing.

Membership: We need to attract a more diverse membership.

Declining ICCHE membership reflects the issues around relevancy and communication that have been noted. Suggestions included discounting conference fees for new member institutions; developing a mentoring program for new members; being more mindful about recognition of renewing member institutions; striving for better diversity in the ICCHE leadership; being more clear that membership should include faculty, admissions, marketing, administration, advisors, partnership directors, etc. It was suggested that upstate and downstate regional meetings be convened by the chairs (simple drive in meetings for a few hours of networking and collaboration). It was also suggested that a “top 5 reasons” for being a member marketing piece be developed. Additional suggestions included identifying members who can present at conferences as representatives of ICCHE; revamping the Research & Scholarship Grant to include grad students; and having student rates for conferences and membership to bring those early in their careers to the group.

Conferences: Yes! But what will work best for the membership?

It was suggested that hosting a bi-annual statewide conference with regional conferences during the off-years might be advantageous. Moving conferences around the state to ensure that all regions have an opportunity to attend was also noted. It was also suggested that we might want to pair our dates with another large conference, such as the Faculty Summer Institute, so that attendees could attend two conferences at the same time as a means of increasing participation. Keeping the conference in one location for two years was suggested, as was a change in timing so that weather would be less problematic for travel. Hosting additional events, such as Community Fairs for adult learners or smaller in-service training events that are sponsored by ICCHE, was also recommended.

What's Next?

The ICCHE Executive Committee believes that it is important to address issues around identity and relevancy before advancing to other issues. To that end, members are invited to participate in this discussion. If you are interested in being involved in a more in-depth review of the ICCHE purpose, please contact Donna Liljegren: dliljegren@aurora.edu.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAVE THE DATE!

The ICCHE Annual Conference will take place on **March 4-5, 2020**. The location is yet to be announced, but please mark your calendars for this great professional development and networking opportunity.

REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

We have reached the end of our contracted terms for both conference planning services and the conference venue, and seeking proposals from institutions interested in partnering with ICCHE in the coming years. We welcome proposals from institutions interested in providing either or both services. Click on the links below to read the RFPs and easily submit a proposal through Google Docs. The deadline is May 30, 2019. For more information, contact Matthew Hlinak, Dominican University, mhlinak@dom.edu or 773-612-5797.

Conference Planning Services RFP:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScolUgu_uQAGG0bcLg975Bp3-c37vEPp5WvI8COKwB6Vr48kiA/viewform?usp=sf_link

Conference Venue RFP:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc6nJZH35BvdPILguzjKDEnUhEUKJBB2W0Wv1bOSkGGrx4rqg/viewform?usp=sf_link

From Patrick Lane, Vice President, Policy Analysis and Research Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) and the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) are [joining forces on a new study](#) that builds on a decade of ground-breaking research on prior learning assessment (PLA). This will provide the adult learning and postsecondary fields with up-to-date findings on the experiences and outcomes of students who earn credit through PLA. We are reaching out to you in case institutions in your states may be interested in participating. We are examining the relationship between PLA credit-earning and undergraduate student educational outcomes such as persistence and degree-earning. Participating institutions will be asked to share de-identified student data with us and complete a questionnaire on the PLA policies and practices at their institutions. A grant from Lumina Foundation for Education is making this study possible and allowing WICHE and CAEL to offer up to 70 postsecondary institutions stipends of \$2500 each for their participation and contribution to this study. We are looking for four-year colleges that have offered at least two types of PLA since 2011 and two-year colleges that have offered PLA since 2013.

This study builds on CAEL's, [Fueling the Race to Postsecondary Success: A 48-Institution Study of Prior Learning Assessment and Adult Student Outcomes](#), published in 2009. This report found that adult students with PLA credit were two and a half times more likely to complete their degrees compared to adult students without PLA credit. Applications are due May 10, 2019. See the link for more details including description of tasks and timeline: <https://www.cael-wiche-pla.org/>. Institutions will hear about their participation status by early June.

Contact:

Patrick Lane
303.541.0266
www.wiche.edu



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois (DFI) Program

The goal of DFI is to increase the number of minority full-time tenure track faculty and staff at Illinois' two- and four-year, public and private colleges and universities. African American faculty constitute five percent and Latino faculty three percent of all faculty at Illinois colleges and universities. This level of representation is much lower than the diversity found in Illinois' student enrollment and state population. A diverse faculty and student enrollment enhances the educational experience of all students and better prepares students to work and live in an increasingly diverse world. Faculty diversity is especially critical for students from underrepresented groups. The DFI Initiative works to increase the number of minorities with master's and doctoral degrees by providing financial assistance, based on demonstrated financial need, for students to complete graduate degrees. In addition, the program administrators work with higher education institutions to offer workshops and pursue other outreach opportunities to meet the goals and objectives of the Initiative.

A DFI Fellow must be an Illinois resident and U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident alien who is a member of an Underrepresented Group. Black/African American, Hispanic American, Asian American, American Indian, Alaskan Native, and Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander. "Traditionally underrepresented minority group" means any of the minority groups designated in the Public Act which are represented in Illinois post-baccalaureate enrollment at a percentage rate less than the minority group's representation in the total Illinois population. The Public Act further specifies that to be classified as an Illinois resident, an applicant must possess a high school diploma or postsecondary degree from an accredited Illinois educational institution or have lived in Illinois for at least three years.

For more information, please go to: <https://www.ibhe.org/dfi.html> or contact:

Arthur Sutton, Ed. D.
Deputy Director for Diversity and Outreach
Illinois Board of Higher Education
 1 North Old Capitol Plaza, Suite 333
 Springfield, IL 62701
 217-557-7347

Brook Stewart
Assistant Director, Diversity and Outreach
Illinois Board of Higher Education
 1 N. Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 333
 Springfield, IL 62701-1377
 217-557-6360
stewart@ibhe.org

**WEST
 SUMMER
 SUMMIT**



Demonstrating Value: Economic Trends and the Changing Needs of Students June 6-7 | Portland, OR

Are you wondering how student populations are changing, what campus solutions are working, and how to positively impact the perception of higher education? This June, join ACE experts, regional leaders, and economic specialists to unpack public perceptions, expand pathways for non-traditional students, and position your institution for success.

ILLINOIS COUNCIL ON CONTINUING HIGHER EDUCATION MEMBERSHIP:

If you are not already a member, consider [joining ICCHE today!](#)

The \$125 annual fee includes membership for an institutional representative and up to nine additional professionals from the same institution. Or, for an annual institutional fee of \$200, 11–20 professional staff from the institution can be members and enjoy all the benefits!

We're on the Web!

www.icche.org



Like us on
[Facebook!](#)

Find ICCHE Networking
group on LinkedIn.

ICCHE Listserv

To send a message to all the people subscribed to the ICCHE Membership list, send an email to:

icchemembers@googlegroups.com

Note: You must be listed as a member of ICCHE in order to use the listserv.

DID YOU KNOW....?

The oldest college in Illinois is [McKendree University](#), founded in 1828!

- Located in Lebanon, Illinois
- Originally named "Lebanon Seminary"
- Private Liberal Arts University
- Home of the Bearcats



MARK YOUR CALENDARS



June 25, 2019

ICCHE Board Meeting

July 18, 2019

[College Changes Everything](#)
Conference, Tinley Park

October 14-16,
2019

[ACHE 2019](#)
Denver, Colorado

March 4-5, 2020

ICCHE Annual Conference
Location TBD

COMMENTS / QUESTIONS / INPUT?

Suggestions for changes? Want to be a roving reporter and/or join the fun?

Please let us know your thoughts about the ICCHE e-newsletter! How can it be improved? What types of information would you like to see included?

Please forward comments or questions about this e-newsletter, and/or information for future issues to Teri Karpman or Hilary Ward Schnadt at the addresses below.

Teri Karpman
Communications Co-Chair
Assistant Director
Academic Programs & Services
University of Illinois System
807 S. Wright St. Suite 370
Champaign, IL 61820
217.265.5602
tkarpman@uillinois.edu

Hilary Ward Schnadt
Communications Co-Chair
Associate Dean
Academic Services & Programs
University Center of Lake County
1200 University Center Drive
Grayslake, IL 60030-2614
847.665.4004
hwschnadt@ucenter.org