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Newsletter



Hello Fall and welcome members of ICCHE!

I hope everyone has been enjoying the fall season and that the new academic year is going well.

There are exciting times ahead for ICCHE as we move forward on updating our website. Our conference planning committee is well into preparations for the 2023 annual conference and will be sending out information on registration soon. Plus, the ICCHE listserv is also getting an upgrade to provide better communication and outreach to our members.

Thank you to all of the ICCHE officers and committee members that are assisting with these projects.

We would also like continue to invite and welcome new members to ICCHE.



*"I awoke this morning
with devout thanksgiving
for my friends, the old
and the new."*

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Dena Lawrence, Ed.M.

Good day ICCHE member community,

I hope this message finds you well! Fall is upon us – always for far too short a time, in my opinion. The holidays are right around the corner. We hope that you and yours will be warm, safe, and happy with many blessings to celebrate!

As you read in the newsletter, we have some exciting things coming up. We have begun the process of redesigning our website and we are preparing to return to a face-to-face venue for our annual conference in the spring! For the upcoming conference, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville will be our host. For those of you who have not been to the SIUE campus, I predict you will LOVE it! I've been there many times and never tire of its beauty. I could not do better than the description on the SIUE website (<https://www.siu.edu/about/about-the-university/index.shtml>), so I will borrow their description: "Situated on 2,660 acres of beautiful woodland atop the bluffs overlooking the natural beauty of the Mississippi River's rich bottomland and only a short drive from downtown St. Louis, the SIUE campus is home to a diverse student body of more than 13,000." We look forward to sharing details as they become available and hope to see you there!

Another exciting ICCHE initiative between now and the conference is that we are undertaking a membership drive. As your President, your colleague, and your fellow member of ICCHE, I need to ask for your help. Please give us a hand with these two things:

1. Would each of you please tell one non-member colleague about ICCHE? That person can be at your institution or a colleague from elsewhere. Whomever you reach out to, your assistance is critical in our endeavor to expand awareness about ICCHE.
2. Please send me a quick email (denalawr@uillinois.edu) to say what you like best about ICCHE and what we can improve. There will be no judgements in your replies! I will compile the feedback and will NOT attach any names. We – the Executive Committee – want to serve a growing, vibrant membership. To do so, we must have your feedback on how ICCHE can be of more value to you.

Finally, please remember that continuing higher education is a growing field and encompasses a great deal across all fields of education. We sincerely want the ICCHE community to reflect that!

Best always,

Dena

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ICCHE SPOTLIGHT

Getting to know you—

Matt Hlinak was selected as the recipient of the Past President's Service Award at the 2022 annual conference for his continued contributions to ICCHE. Now we get the opportunity to learn a bit more about Matt.

1. How and when did you get involved with ICCHE?

I became involved with ICCHE in 2011 when I came to work at Dominican University. Dominican was an institutional member and my predecessor, Bryan Watkins, had been active in ICCHE. I started by just going to the conference, but quickly became more involved. I started off as the Northern Region co-chair, which was a nice, low-commitment office to help ease into leadership.

2. What do you think is the best thing that ICCHE provides to those working in higher education?

ICCHE provides a supportive network of fellow adult education professionals. I've picked up so many great ideas from my ICCHE colleagues—I usually leave our annual conference with 3 or 4 things I want to try right away. And when I recently changed jobs, one of my fellow board members served as a reference for me. ICCHE is a real community and I feel lucky to be a part of it.

3. What was the turning point in your career that brought you to where you are today?

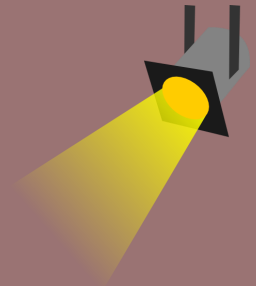
My career turned rather recently. I just began a new position as the Executive Director of Sigma Tau Delta, the international honor society for the English discipline. I have served for the last 10 years on the board of directors for Alpha Sigma Lambda, the national honor society for adult learners, and that experience turned out to be excellent preparation for my new position. Volunteering for ICCHE and ASL have turned out to be excellent career moves and I doubt I'd be where I am today if I hadn't gotten active in the broader higher education community.

4. What is your best advice for people looking to enter the field of higher education today?

The higher education field is more volatile and complex than it has ever been. This is why it's important to practice what we preach and focus on our own professional development as well as that of our students. I earned two master's degrees and two certificates from my previous institutions using my employee tuition benefit. I wouldn't have gotten my job without these additional credentials and I'm much more effective in the role for having periodically updated my skills.

5. Now that people are traveling again, where is your favorite place to visit/vacation?

Our family rents a cabin on Lake Delton in Wisconsin every August. We spend a week enjoying nature and having fun as a family. I love to eat at Ishnala Supper Club for an authentic Wisconsin dining experience. I always come back refreshed and ready to start the new year.



Shining a spotlight on ICCHE members and programs.



Pictured: Matt Hlinak



WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE STATE



Governors State University -

Governors State receives \$130K to support education, workforce development.

[The Community Foundation of Will County \(CFWC\)](#) recently awarded [Governors State University](#) more than \$130,000 for two programs to train early childhood educators and machinists through partnerships with local school districts and community colleges in Will County.

A \$60,000 grant will fund the university's efforts to develop and launch an eighteen-month paraprofessional to early childhood educator career pathways program to fill a void in schools and community-based early childhood centers.

In addition, a \$71,000 grant will allow the university to develop and implement an eighteen-month manufacturing automation upskilling program through the [School of Extended Learning](#) (SXL). The program will strengthen partnerships with the county, engage employers and schools in building pipelines for a strong labor market, fill immediate workforce recruitment needs for CNC Machinists, and build GSU's institutional capacity in Manufacturing Automation continuing education. Current workers will benefit as well by improving their skills to move into supervisory positions.

Both grants were made possible by a donation Amazon provided to CFWC in 2021. The grant was earmarked to support local workforce development and education in Will County. The CFWC divided that donation into four grants and announced them on Friday.

GSU President Cheryl Green said the university is grateful to have received two of the four grants, which will allow the university to continue making an economic impact in the region.

"I am honored that the Community Foundation of Will County has selected Governors State to receive \$131,000 to support students, who in turn, graduate and continue supporting the community. Ninety percent of our graduates remain in the area—working, living, and improving communities near and far. Their contributions impact local and state economies to create growth."



WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE STATE

Governors State University -

GSU welcomes new executive director for SXL.

[Governors State University](#) (GSU) welcomes Craig Schmidt as Executive Director of the [School of Extended Learning](#).

As Executive Director, Schmidt, a GSU alumni and College of Business Hall of Achievement inductee (20'), will head the university's hub for non-degree options geared toward working professionals. Schmidt will work with business leaders to identify training opportunities and collaborate with community organizations on grant funding. He will also partner with GSU's colleges and faculty to deliver training that creates innovation and prepares individuals for jobs of the future.

Schmidt comes to GSU from the Calumet Area Industrial Commission, a non-profit organization specializing in economic and workforce development. There, he served as Vice President of Talent Development, leading workforce development efforts linking businesses to educational programs and resources.

With more than 20 years of experience in leadership positions in the public and private sectors, Schmidt has raised over \$25 million for organizations he's worked for. His expertise includes strategic planning and leadership, workforce development, education and training, grant writing, event planning, community engagement and curriculum development. Some of his various roles have included Consultant at CDS Workforce Solutions, Vice President of Community and Economic Development at Prairie State College and Director of Education and Administrative Services at Blue Cross Blue Shield Association.

"I'm excited to join GSU and contribute to their excellence in education and to add to its presence as a valuable partner and educator in the Chicago Southland region and beyond," Schmidt said.



Pictured: Craig Schmidt



TRENDS, NEWS, AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

University of Illinois Springfield

Five Thoughts on the Next Five Years: Where Higher Ed is Headed—
Vickie Cook | Executive Director of Online, Professional and Engaged Learning,
University of Illinois Springfield

“As we move into the fall 2022 academic year, it has become apparent that a few significant trends will have a big impact on higher education. While the most impactful trends will vary somewhat among institution types, this article will review five trends that will impact institutions across the United States in the next few years. “

Please follow the link below to continue reading the rest of this insightful article .

<https://evollution.com/programming/applied-and-experiential-learning/five-thoughts-on-the-next-five-years-where-higher-ed-is-headed/>

Oakton Community College

Career Opportunity—

Oakton Community College is hiring a Continuing Education for Health Professionals Manager. For position details go to:

[Continuing Education for Health Professionals \(CEHP\) Manager](#)

ICCHE member update—

Past ICCHE President, Dr. Ruben Howard II, has recently transitioned into a new administrative role with Oakton Community College. He is now serving as the Director of Workforce Curriculum and Instruction.

Governors State University -

Career Opportunities—

Governors State has multiple positions available listed below:

[Enrollment Services Specialist](#)

[Career Success Coach](#)

[Director, Grant Initiatives and Outreach](#)

[Manager, Program Marketing and Outreach](#)



IN REMEMBRANCE

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville—

It is with deep sadness that we share the passing of our SIUE colleague and ICCHE Downstate Representative, Kemp Nishan Muñiz. Mr. Muñiz passed away at home on Sunday, June 5.

Kemp joined the Office of Online Services and Education Outreach (OSEO) in 2020, first serving in an extra help position from February-October 2020 and then as program coordinator since December 2020. He has been a valued team member and colleague.

He is survived by his two daughters, Reilly and Reigan. Both are sophomores in the SIUE College of Arts and Sciences. Kemp was a fan of all St. Louis sports teams, especially the St. Louis Cardinals. He enjoyed Star Wars, Marvel and Doctor Who movies. Kemp was a fan of useless knowledge and loved playing monopoly and trivia games.

OSEO Director Mary Ettling shared, “We have been grateful to have Kemp as a part of our team for the last few years. We will miss his humor, wit, and his work to advance our initiatives with alternative credentials.



Kemp Nishan Muñiz

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
EDWARDSVILLE



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Standing Committee Chairs

Follow the link below for the complete list of ICCHE Standing Committee Chair members.

<https://www.icche.org/about/standing-committee-chairs>

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/IDEAS?

Please let us know your thoughts about the ICCHE e-newsletter! Suggestions for changes? 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 Becky White at the address below.

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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.

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www.icche.org

We're on LinkedIn!

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