



Newsletter

Institutional COVID-19 Responses

As we can all attest, COVID-19 hit higher and continuing education especially hard. From the stories and ideas that surfaced when faced with teaching during a pandemic, we should all be proud of the below stories of wins by our fellow institutions.

WINS

SIU Edwardsville

Learning Support Services moved all Academic Development coursework and Supplemental Instruction sessions online. Online services were also expanded in the Tutoring Resource Center and Writing Center.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

“Online Teaching Academy” bringing together experts from across campus to not only deliver instruction to faculty on how to adapt their face-to-face courses to online and blended formats, but also to be “support providers” to a small group of instructors.

Governors State University

School of Extended Learning quickly mobilized to move all face-to-face programming to either online or virtual. “We triumphed through departmental collaboration, strategic partnerships and sheer grit to build out new programming in response to COVID. Our newest and most popular program additions include:”

- COVID-19 Contact Tracing: Changing the Face of Public Health Workforce
- A Leadership Series presented by recently retired Prairie State College President, Dr. Terri Winfree
- Keeping your Business Lean Post Covid-19 with GSU College of Business Professors Dr. Tricia Kerns and Matthew Rassi.

Bradley University

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

- Zoom Meeting Training for volunteers and staff—over 200 participated and the training continues free
- Free themed Happy Hour—two to four times a month
- Virtual Learning Trips—curbside meal pick up and live behind the scenes with the chef via Zoom
- All classes, study groups and OLLI Conversations on Zoom
- Expanded weekly newsletter to 2 or 3 times a week, called to check on well being of members.

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ICCHE OFFICERS

Matt Hlinak

President
Dominican University
mhlinak@dom.edu

C. Myra Gaytan-Morales

Immediate Past President
University Center of Lake County
mgaytan@ucenter.org

Ruben Howard II

Vice-President
Oakton Community College
rhoward@oakton.edu

Dena Lawrence

Secretary
University of Illinois System
denalawr@uillinois.edu

Jennifer Everhart

Treasurer
Aurora University
jeveryhart@aurora.edu



Matt Hlinak, JD

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear ICCHE Colleagues,

This is a challenging time for our organization. 2021 may be the first year in our 45-year history without a face-to-face meeting of the membership. Although the Executive Committee is exploring all possible options, the virus will have the final say in how we gather in the coming year. But this challenge is also an opportunity, an opportunity to come together as a Council to reflect upon our mission and to perhaps chart a new course.

To that end, I have a couple of invitations for you. First, we have three vacancies on the Executive Committee:

Conference Vendor Chair—Serves on the Conference Planning Committee and works to secure vendors to provide sponsorship for meetings.

Private University Representative—A faculty or staff member from a private, nonprofit institution who serves on the Executive Committee.

Past Presidents Committee Chair—A former ICCHE President who chairs the Past Presidents Committee and presents the Past Presidents Award for Service.

If you or someone you'd like to nominate meets the requirements for one of these positions, please reach out to Nominating Committee Chair Myra Gaytan-Morales at mgaytan@ucenter.org or to me at mhlinak@dom.edu.

Second, I'd like to invite you to help the Executive Committee as we re-imagine what ICCHE can be. We are exploring ways to maintain the strong personal relationships that have always made this such a wonderful organization without necessarily sharing the same physical space. Stay tuned for further announcements about new opportunities to connect with your ICCHE colleagues.

I hope you and your families are staying healthy and happy during these trying times. Summer is traditionally a time to rest and recharge for the coming academic year. I encourage you to do what you can to relax—even if that just means taking a vacation from Zoom!—and spend time with loved ones.

Take care of yourselves and each other.

Matt Hlinak



COVID-19 WINS

Northern Illinois University College of Education

- Dean Laurie Elish-Piper provided a perspective to Northern Public Radio/WNIJ explaining why COVID-19 confirmed that educators are essential workers.
- Faculty from the Department of Special and Early Education helped students complete their early clinical teaching requirements during COVID-19 through an innovative use of Blackboard Collaborate.
- The Department of Counseling and Higher Education's Community Counseling Training Center shifted to offering telehealth during the statewide stay-at-home order.
- Dean Laurie Elish-Piper and Laura Ruth Johnson, an associate professor in the Department of Educational Technology, Research and Assessment, began last summer to develop a research-practice partnership with Chicago's Youth Connection Charter School (YCCS). Intended to create positive outcomes for high school students from vulnerable, underserved populations no longer enrolled in their neighborhood schools, the project quickly shifted gears this summer to confront new inequities exacerbated by COVID-19. These included the launch of a 24/7 hotline connecting students and their families to wraparound social services and assisting YCCS to communicate about the coronavirus in a language that resonates with its students.

Please see other personalized stories of COVID-19 Wins throughout the newsletter.



Presenting the new

ICCHE COFFEE CHAT

We are pleased to announce the first ICCHE Coffee Chat. The board hopes to virtually host these Coffee Chats monthly (even after the pandemic) with a different theme each month. Each chat will be held via Zoom.

September's theme

Surviving and Thriving: Continuing Higher Ed & COVID-19
(hosted by Kimberly Harrison, Aurora University)

<https://aurora.zoom.us/j/92733820050?pwd=MHVnZzNyUGRGM1NmTE5rbFI1T1pSdz09>

Password: 104641

Dial in: +1 929 436 2866 US

Meeting ID: 927 3382 0050



INNOVATIVE COURSES

Spoon River College

Spoon River College Office of Community Outreach and the Canton Area Chamber of Commerce present a new Dale Carnegie course series —Cultivate Your Leadership. The courses are:

- Leading Through Change
- Crucial Conversations & Handling Mistakes
- Creating a Culture of Cooperation

Enroll at src.augusoft.net or 309-649-6260.

Governors State University

“We are excited to announce that for the first time ever, GSU’s lifelong learning program, The Knowledge Exchange (TKE), will continue to exchange ideas virtually.” The fall 2020 schedule will include four non-credit classes. A sampling of TKE’s fall topics include: Cinema Studies, Medieval Islamic Literature and Foreign Policy Association’s Great Decisions.

For more information email Suzanne Patterson at spatterson3@govst.edu.

Medical Cannabis for Paraprofessionals. This class will be lead by Ms. Mary Mims, a nurse for 36 years. This course is for any medical professionals that would like to learn more about cannabis and their patients.

For more information email continuinged@govst.edu

MEMBER NEWS

Northern Illinois University College of Education



Dean Laurie Elish-Piper provided a perspective to Northern Public Radio/WNU to comment on why teacher-preparation programs must intentionally, and deeply, address equity, race, racism and social justice.

Laura Hedin was named chair of the Department of Special and Early Education.



Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) is excited to extend outreach efforts in support of four new fully online undergraduate degree completion programs, set to launch this fall. Ready, excited and positioned to provide specialized support, the new Office of Online Student services is comprised of a team of individuals all charged with extending the on ground SIUE experience virtually.

MEMBER NEWS



Led by Stephanie Simpson, Assistant Director of Online Student Services, the team has managed to navigate the uncharted waters of Covid-19, reimagining communication efforts, providing flexible options and customized support.

Recently joining the team in support of these efforts is Zach Santos, Admission Coordinator for Online Student Services. “I’m pretty pumped to be working with online students. I can’t think of a time when online education has been more important to our community, and I’m excited to be a part of what we’re doing here at SIUE,” said Santos. A new resident of the southern Illinois region, Zach brings a wealth of student facing experience to the position.



Preparing online students to succeed with the appropriate tools and resources requires forecasting potential barriers in addition to many other critical efforts. One of the main goals of the Online Student Services team is to compliment the tremendous work that takes places daily in support of SIUE’s mission to shape a changing world.

TEACHING CERAMICS DURING COVID-19

Until the COVID-19 pandemic shut the doors to on-campus learning, Associate Professor of Ceramics Shane Harris had never taught an online class.

His ceramics and 3D art classes are hands-on and require studio space and materials.

“It was a challenge just thinking about it, how was I going to adapt,” Harris said. “I had to think on my feet. I didn’t just want to assign them a paper on the history of pottery based on the pottery wheel.”

Harris had to get creative, and fast. He and a few of his student workers met to box up tools and pug the clay. Pugging is the process of removing the air from clay to make it usable.

Harris then contacted each one of his ceramics students to find out where they would be living during the shelter-in-place. He hand delivered or shipped 25 pounds of clay, tools and instruction cards to each ceramics student in his class, including one living in Florida, so that they were prepared for online learning.

“The pottery wheel is just a tool,” said Harris. “Their hands are their most important tool.”

Those students will be creating a set of six cups and bowls for their grade.

Then, Harris had to equip his home studio for remote learning. I had to get an extender to reach my home studio, then get an extender for that extender, in order to have Wifi for the Zoom conferences,” Harris said.

Harris is meeting with his classes through Zoom and has found online videos and even pottery wheel apps for students to throw clay. For his 3D art students, Harris found the online design tool Tinkercad.

The highlight of the 3D art class is creating multi-dimensional cardboard art and then using those pieces in a live-action performance. Students will still work to create their pieces, which will be 3D printed at the end of the semester, and Harris has promised to glaze and fire all of the ceramics projects brought back to campus this fall.



ICCHE SPOTLIGHT - RUBEN HOWARD II



Ruben Howard II

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

I got involved with ICCHE by serving as the Community College Representative Board Member in 2017 and served two terms. Since then, I have served as the Secretary and was elected as Vice President in 2020.

2. How do you think COVID-19 will most influence continuing higher education? Lessons learned from the pandemic to date?

COVID19 will influence how prepared colleges are and how they can pivot quickly when there are disruptions beyond their control. It forces us to continue to review policies, technology systems, communications and emergency plans so that we can respond better and act immediately.

Some of the lessons learned from the pandemic include: the inequality of access to technology still exists for students, online training and support resources for faculty should be ongoing and student support including advising, career services, and tutoring are needed more than ever in a virtual environment.

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

The turning point in my higher education career occurred when I was hired as the first full-time faculty in logistics management with Lone Star College. At that time, there were few academic programs focused on logistics/supply chain management offered at the community college level. My charge was to develop the curriculum, teach the courses, build relationships with business/industry and market the program. Since I had industry experience in supply chain management and my undergraduate and master degrees were both related to the logistics industry, I knew the importance of having both industry experience along with formal academic training. This position allowed me to expose potential students to a career that has endless opportunities. It also allowed individuals already working in the field to further their academic goals.

4. Tell us a bit about your work as Director of Workforce and Strategic Partnerships at Oakton.

As the Director of Workforce Development and Strategic Partnerships with Oakton, I am responsible for managing several areas including Workforce Solutions (Customized Training), Internships/Apprenticeships, Continuing Education for Health Professionals (CEHP), Rentals, and offering Cannabis professional development training. The other part of my role includes cultivating and maintaining relationships with business/industry and the community that will support our strategic initiatives.

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

Follow your passion and seek out mentors/sponsors in higher education. This is critical in order to better navigate through the field of higher education.

6. What was your first job and how did it influence your current work ethic?

My first job was a detailer for a car dealership. It gave me responsibility and taught me hard work, discipline, professionalism and the importance of paying attention to detail. I have continued to use these foundational principles over the years in every role and at every level.



SELF CARE FAVORITES

Help Guide — <https://www.helpguide.org/>

Sea Otters at Monterey Bay — <https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/animals/live-cams/sea-otter-cam>

Healthy Mind Platter — https://www.drdansiegel.com/resources/healthy_mind_platter/

Rubin Daily Offering for meditation — <https://rubinmuseum.org/landing/the-rubin-daily-offering>

Hilton Chocolate Chip Cookie Recipe — <https://www.travelandleisure.com/food-drink/doubletree-by-hilton-chocolate-chip-cookie-recipe>

Stay Safe and Well!

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/IDEAS?

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 at the address 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

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icchemembers@googlegroups.com

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