



NEWSLETTER

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 the only organization in Illinois whose members include two- and four-year colleges and universities, both public and private.

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44th Annual ICCHE Conference to be held at EIU

ICCHE's 44th annual meeting will be held at Eastern Illinois University, organized around the theme, "Building a brighter future for adult learners." This change to the venue and a slight revision to the schedule is designed to build a brighter future for the organization as well.

By eliminating a pre-conference workshop that has been poorly attended in recent years, the 1½ day conference has now been scheduled for Wednesday afternoon and all-day Thursday, February 6-7, 2019. These changes will keep the conference affordable, may inspire more attendance from central and southern portions of the state, and will fit readily into the Amtrak schedule for those who wish to commute to Charleston by train. The recommended hotel is [Unique Suites](#) in

Charleston which will offer a state rate of \$66.60/night with breakfast included.

Vice-President Myra Gaytan-Morales is heading ICCHE's conference planning committee. "Our conference theme comes from a belief that when our students are successful we all succeed and will have a better society. Our committee is excited about organizing an opportunity for ICCHE members to learn from each other's best practices and to understand how to build a stronger adult student support system. I'm looking forward to visiting EIU for the first time."

Watch the ICCHE listserv for a call for presentations, with an anticipated due date in October.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear ICCHE Members:

The Executive Committee continues to work on the initiatives I outlined in my Spring newsletter message to membership. You've seen the announcement about the annual conference, and I hope that you will plan to attend the event at Eastern Illinois University. We believe that the change of venue will provide us with a cost-effective means of coming together to meet and exchange ideas. Please save the dates in your calendar and plan on attending. (Note that the days the conference will meet have changed to Wednesday and Thursday.) I look forward to seeing you there!



Donna Gardner Liljegren, ICCHE President

Additionally, we've been reaching out to those institutions with lapsed ICCHE memberships to learn why they've left and what they would value in an organization devoted to the continuing higher education community. I would love to hear from you as well. As you think about your time with ICCHE, consider what you value, what you would like to see ICCHE enhance, and what you might like the organization to de-emphasize. I hope that we can have these discussions together at the annual conference, and I welcome your ideas by email at any time. As we reframe our thinking about the annual conference, we have the same chance to consider what we'd like to see ICCHE accomplish in the coming years.

I hope your fall semesters are well underway. It was exciting to see students moving in at AU, and I am excited about all of the possibilities of the new academic year, including our time together.

Sincerely,

Donna Gardner Liljegren, EdD
President, ICCHE Executive Committee 2018-19



2019 conference logo



WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE STATE



Eastern Illinois University

Dr. James A Howley has joined EIU as Director, B.A. in General Studies, Educational Attainment, and Outreach. Prior to joining EIU, he served as the Dean of Instruction at Wilbur Wright College, one of the City Colleges of Chicago. His career also includes service at Governors State University: eight years as the Director of Interdisciplinary Studies (GSU's adult learner program) and six years as the Chair for the Division of Liberal Arts.

As of July 1, EIU completed a reorganization that replaced the School of Continuing Education with a School of Extended Learning that is now located within the College of Education. Dr. Douglas J. Bower now serves as its Dean. He was previously Associate Dean of EIU's College of Education & Professional Studies.

Northern Illinois University

The [Educate and Engage](#) Program of NIU's College of Education offers students opportunities to apply what they have learned as they prepare for subsequent careers. It recently added several new experiences in Engage U.S. and Engage Global, taking students from the Department of Kinesiology and Physical Education to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, the NCAA headquarters, the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs and to Sri Lanka for work related to Teaching Personal and Social Responsibility through sports. Under the Educate U.S. umbrella, four students traveled in May to the Mandaree School District, located within North Dakota's Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, for an immersion in an extremely rural setting.

The Department of Educational Technology, Research and Assessment (ETRA) has created a [User Experience \(UX\) Lab](#) that includes eye-tracking systems and brainwave monitors, as well as a 3D printer, a poster printer, and a soundproof lab for making recordings for online teaching. By tracking eye movements, researchers can, for example, analyze the effectiveness of online learning tools. The novelty of these technological resources resulted in the creation of a summer course, ETT [566: UX Research Methods and Technology](#) to enable graduate students to explore how these tools could be used for cutting-edge research.

ETRA has 4 faculty and 6 students who are attending and presenting papers at the [Mid-Western Educational Research Association \(MWERA\)](#) annual meeting: October 24-26, 2018 in Cincinnati, OH and they invite others to attend. Guests would also be welcome at ETRA's Open House for prospective students for their MS in Educational Research and Evaluation on September 19 and at their Graduate Student Colloquium, "Curiosity, makerspaces, and innovation" presented by Dr. Tonia Dousay, University of Idaho on October 8. Email etra@niu.edu for details.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE STATE

(cont'd)



L-R, faculty member Peter St. Jean (Criminal Justice in SPS), Carolyn Dallas (faculty in Education) Viking mascot Ragnar, Dean Becky Nelson (Education), and Trevor James (SPS).

North Park University

North Park University tried something new this summer to raise brand awareness and knowledge of NPU's presence at the University Center. They participated in Grayslake's Summer Days and its parade. Trevor James, Associate Dean in the School of Professional Studies (SPS) served as the grand marshal of the parade, with the NPU Viking mascot, faculty, students, and alumni following the NPU float.



University of Illinois Springfield

On June 20-22, 18 administrators, instructional designers, and faculty members from around the state attended the first Digital Accessibility for Educators Workshop at the University of Illinois at Springfield. Attendees learned about the history and laws concerning accessibility in the United States. They also had a lot of hands-on experience working with various file formats. On the first day they learned how to make Word files accessible, and then worked on several files each from UIS classes and offices. On the second day they continued work on Power-Point and PDF, again making real-world files accessible. On the final day they learned about the requirements for videos and worked on making videos accessible.

Said one attendee, "While the scope is overwhelming, I see the importance of what needs to be done. There was a lot that I did not consider or understand before taking this course. We were given some great tools that will help make it easier to become compliant." Another reported, "Going in, I thought I had a good understanding of accessibility. This course was eye-opening! I definitely learned a lot with every activity."

This Fall, on October 16-18 UIS will be hosting the Second Digital Accessibility for Educators Workshop following a similar format, but attendees will be supplying their own files to work on. More information can be found at the [ION website](#). The event is \$749 for ION members and \$949 for non-members.

Member News Notes

- On July 1, **Monica Halloran** was named Assistant Dean of the recently-created College of Applied Social Sciences (CASS) at Dominican University. In that role she will provide leadership and support—including advising, intervention strategies for academic probation, disposition concerns, career development, and other efforts to support student success and engagement—for all Schools in CASS. CASS includes the School of Education, School of Information Studies, and School of Social Work, as well as several online undergraduate and graduate programs.



Felicia Townsend

- Dr. Felicia L. Townsend** serves as the director of corporate and community education at Governors State University School of Extended Learning and is the self-published author of *Special Topics Education: Lead the Way*. During the 6th Annual Author's Brunch in Illinois, Dr. Townsend served as a panelist during the "How to Start and Finish a Book" panel discussion. She was also interviewed on 106.3 radio station by the Author's Brunch founder, D.A. Rhodes.

- Kimberly Harrison** of Aurora University is now chairing ICCHE's Innovative Initiative Award committee.

Tim Panfil was promoted to Senior Director, Graduate Admission and Enrollment Management at Elmhurst College. In addition to graduate marketing, recruitment, and admissions responsibilities, he will now oversee application processing for all students applying to the college. Panfil will be celebrating his 14th anniversary with Elmhurst in September.



Tim Panfil

Additionally, on May 15th, he provided the commencement address for Oakton Community College's largest graduating class in its 49-year history. His commencement address was entitled, *"Wherever you go, there you are": Three "C's" for Career Success*. Recipient of Oakton's Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2014, Panfil is a two-time graduate (Class of '88 and '89). He also co-chairs the Oakton Alumni Council and was appointed liaison to the Educational Foundation Board.

His remarks were developed from a team-building exercise at Elmhurst in which he was asked to reflect on *what I wish I knew when I first graduated college*. "Actually, these are the same things I press with my teenage daughter and her friends. . . I focused on the soft skills and traits that I've observed in the most successful people I know or have studied, regardless of their industry or education level: Communication, Character, Confidence, and (a closely-related bonus 4th C) Courage."

- Laurie Elish-Piper**, dean of the NIU College of Education, was named an Impact Academy fellow. She joined a cohort of 13 leaders chosen for their commitment to improving educator preparation; collectively, they lead programs that enroll more than 3,500 teacher-candidates in 11 states. Launched in summer 2016, the Impact Academy fellowship combines intensive in-person sessions with ongoing support, mentoring and individual learning.

SPOTLIGHT:

Dr. Myra Gaytan-Morales, ICCHE Vice-President

By Teri Karpman



Myra Gaytan-Morales is a very busy woman. She is currently serving as the Vice - President for ICCHE and is the Chairperson for the 2019 ICCHE Conference. Along with her ICCHE duties, Myra serves as the Assistant Dean for Academic Services and Programs at the University Center of Lake County. You can learn more about Myra by reading below.

Tell us a bit about your work with the University Center.

I am part of an excellent team at the University Center. We are a team of 8 fulltime staff and together represent 18 public and private universities. We serve over 1,500 undergrad and graduate adult students who live and work in Lake County. I have different roles at the University Center. I manage the student database from the 18 institutions. I manage and developed outreach programs and am responsible for fundraising, building partnerships and community outreach. My work at the University Center is very diverse and since we are a nonprofit organization with very limited resources, we have to be very creative in maximizing our resources in order to better serve our adult learners and community.

Was there an event or turning point in your career that brought you to where you are today?

The turning point that brought me where I am today was during my last undergrad class. At that time, my goal was to go to law school so I could advocate for the needs of underserved communities. However one of my Pre-Law professors told me that if my goal was to serve the underserved communities, I was in the wrong field. He said underserved students need to see role models who look like them at an early age, so they can also dream and be inspired to reach their full potential. He told me that if I really want to give back and make a difference in people lives, I should consider going into education because that is where you can make a difference in people' lives. It is best to start early with underserved students so they do not become victims of the criminal justice system. I listened to my professor and here I am working at the University Center, and taking advantage of every opportunity to talk to parents, students and community leaders about the importance and process of going to college.

What do you see as the most important initiative in continuing education today?

In my opinion one of the most important initiatives in continuing education is high quality online education. Online education provides endless opportunities to busy working adult learners. Online learning made a difference in my life. Thanks to this type of education I was able to complete all of my doctoral course work and graduate with my PhD. I did all this while I maintained a full-time job, stayed active in the community and supported my family, especially my young daughter and spouse. My story is not unique because every day I see adult learners who have so many commitments and responsibilities, yet they are taking advantage of online education to make their education dreams come true. Most importantly,

Continued on page 7

SPOTLIGHT (cont'd)

these learners are able to advance in their career thanks to online education and extension centers such as the University Center of Lake County.

What path would you take if you were just starting out in continuing education? Do you see any new directions for educating the students of today and tomorrow?

If I have to start all over with my career in continuing education, I would not do anything different. I really like what I have done and currently do. Every job that I have had, from Student Worker to Assistant Dean, in continuing education has shaped my career and made me who I am today. I am deeply grateful for all these job opportunities that I had throughout my career in continuing education.

In my opinion, the direction that I foresee in educating the new students will continue to be online, accelerated, flexible but interactive, and high quality education. Students like flexibility but also appreciate high quality education and things that get done fast. They are multi-taskers and very high tech. Technology is part of their life and therefore online education is now a normal way of being educated.

You wear many hats, including Vice-President of ICCHE. How did you get involved with ICCHE?

About ten years ago I was invited by my supervisor, Dr. Hilary Ward Schnadt, to the ICCHE conference. I was impressed with the ICCHE mission, professionalism, passion, scholarship, and the kindness from the ICCHE members so much that I wanted to be part of this group. Years later, to be exact it is about three years ago, I was again invited by my supervisor, Dr. Hilary Ward Schnadt, to serve the Executive Board as the Secretary. I immediately accepted the invitation and my nomination was accepted by the ICCHE Board and the rest is history. I am very proud to serve as the ICCHE Vice-President and extremely thankful to Dr. Hilary Ward Schnadt and the ICCHE Board for giving me this wonderful opportunity to serve on this board.

You are the Chair for the 2019 ICCHE Conference. What can we expect at this year's conference?

At this conference you should expect to learn the best practices and infrastructures that build futures for adult learners. This will be a great opportunity for all ICCHE members to share what is working at our campus. Together we can help each other build a stronger support system for adult learners where all students can reach their full potential. When they succeed, we succeed. Many of us are in higher education because we believe that education changes lives and opens doors that otherwise would be impossible to open. Therefore, education is the key to success for many adult learners.

What is something people would be surprised to know about you?

When I was at college, I was a very shy student and did not like to do any type of public speaking or presentations. I was terrified to speak in public! Due to that fear, I almost failed one of my undergrad political science classes because I froze during my final class presentation. I couldn't speak or move, I had a panic attack and ended up with an incomplete grade from that class. Thankfully my professor understood my fear and gave me a second chance with another assignment. The new assignment was a book report, and I successfully completed and passed the class! Now, I love talking to people and look forward to opportunities to speak in public. I am even part a local radio station talk show, Union Latina, where each month I talk about different education topics.

Job Openings

- ◆ North Park University has an opening for the [Director of Graduate and Adult Admissions](#).
- ◆ University of Illinois at Springfield's Educational Leadership department seeks candidates for a [full time, tenure track position](#). Closing date is 9.10.18.
- ◆ Apply or nominate by 11.2.18: [American Council on Education Fellows Program](#) for 2019-20.
- ◆ First publicized to ICCHE 7.18.18 but still on [Illinois Community College Board's](#) website as of 9.10.18:

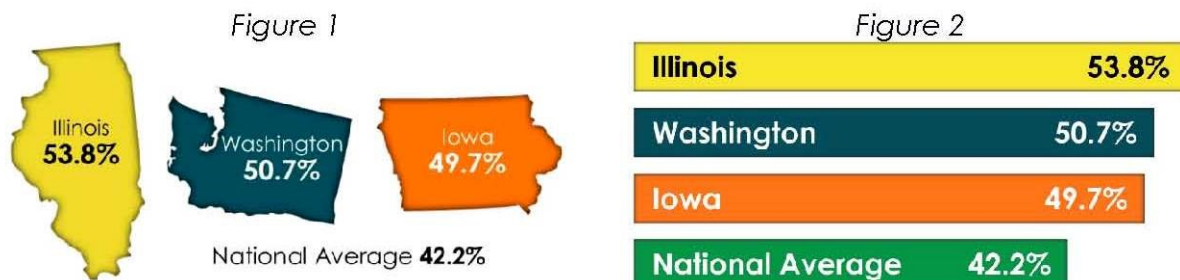
Senior Director for Academic Affairs, Academic Affairs & Career/Technical Education Division

Associate Director for Research and Policy Studies, Research & Policy Studies Division

IBHE Data Points

Transfer Success in Illinois

Figures 1 and 2: Rates of Bachelor's Degree Completion among Community College Transfer Students



Excerpted from: https://www.ibhe.org/assets/files/DataPoint_Transfer_Success_in_Illinois.pdf

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 ICCHE 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.

ICCHE Haiku Corner

Inspired by the [IT professionals who rendered various computer error messages into Haiku](#), this new feature encourages ICCHE members to tap their creativity while reflecting on continuing education.

Charleston welcomes us
To build a brighter future
In 2019.

Send your 5/7/5 syllable wit and wisdom on continuing education to hwschnadt@ucenter.org for future issues.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| September 14, 2018 (10 am) | Conference planning meeting at Dominican University (Crown 332) |
| October 12, 2018 (11 am) | ICCHE Executive Committee meeting |
| October 16–18, 2018 | Second Digital Accessibility for Educators Workshop
Details at ION website . |
| October 24–26, 2018 | MWERA meeting , Cincinnati |
| February 6–7, 2019 | ICCHE's 44th Annual Conference, EIU, Charleston |



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 the attention of:

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