

ICCHE NEWSLETTER

ILLINOIS COUNCIL ON CONTINUING HIGHER EDUCATION

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REGIONAL CONFERENCES SLATED FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 18!

Join colleagues from throughout the state as the Northern and Southern Regions hold their annual workshops later this month, on Friday, April 18.

Northern Region meetings will focus on "Remediation: Progressive Ideas & Best Practices," how best to strengthen adult students' academic skills to prepare them for college-level courses and eventual degree completion. To be held at the University Center of Lake County in Grayslake, IL from 9:30 am to 2 pm, cost is \$20, which includes continental breakfast and net-

working luncheon. Keynote speaker will be Tricia Kromer, of Olivet Nazarene University, followed by a panel discussion.

For additional information, or to register, contact hwschnadt@ucenter.org.

The theme of the **Downstate Region** Workshop will be "Best Practices: Show Me the Money (Don't Be the Biggest Loser!)" The downstate conference will run from 10 am to 2 pm at the University of Illinois-Springfield. A key feature will be a panel discussion. Cost will be \$15, which will include continental break-



fast and networking luncheon.

Contact Valerie Thaxton for additional information: Valerie.thaxton@swic.edu.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER ISSUES CHALLENGE

The **2008 Annual Conference Keynote Speaker, Roberts T. Jones**, President of Education Workforce Policy, LLP, knew that his audience was already convinced of the importance of continuing higher education. His message to IC-CHE was that we need to reposition the discussion within the political realm so that legislators understand that support for education is not just a moral

good but an economic necessity.

He saw his topic, "**The Employer's View: Global Competition and Liberal Education**" as "America's Challenge in a Changing World."

According to Jones, much of America is still mired in outdated stereotypes of American dominance in a global economy. Because we weren't prepared for a world in which

other countries have such a strong impact on the U.S. economy, we don't have a system in place to prepare our workforce for global competition.

Citing population trends that show developing countries growing at a far greater rate than the U.S., Jones asserted that while we cannot compete globally on the size of our labor force or the cost

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is my honor to offer greetings to the Illinois Council on Continuing Higher Education (ICCHE) members and friends as the 2008 President.

The ICCHE organization is unique in the way it brings all Illinois educational institutions (Community Colleges, Private Institutions, and Public Universities) together. ICCHE provides information for both non-credit programs and academic credit degree programs. Together, we build on strengths that only differences can provide, and we form life-time friendships and commitments.

As you know, our roles in continuing education often have us working with all branches of our campuses.

ICCHE provides us the contacts and resources necessary to extend our reach throughout the entire state of Illinois and beyond. We benefit from our participation in ICCHE.

I personally encourage all ICCHE members to actively participate throughout the year by attending the regional meetings near you in the spring, the membership and institutional representative meeting at Starved Rock in the fall, and the Annual IC-CHE Conference in February.

You are welcome to propose presentations, participate in workshops and panels, or submit a program nomination for an award.

Feel free to contact me via email (R-Carter@wiu.edu) or



Rick Carter
Western Illinois University
ICCHE President

by telephone 309/298-1929.

It is a great honor to serve as your president and I look forward to seeing you at the 2008 ICCHE events.



"Together we build on strengths that only differences can provide..."

PRESIDENT'S PANEL SPARKS LIVELY EXCHANGE

The **Presidents' Panel** is a cornerstone of the ICCHE Annual Conference. This year's panelists included Chester S. Gardner, CEO of the University of Illinois Global Campus; V. James Mannoia, Jr, President of Greenville College; and ICCHE stalwart Christopher Wilkerson of Wright College, pressed into service when City Colleges of Chicago Chancellor Wayne Watson was detained on college business.

Each panelist had been asked to reflect on two questions—1) how his institution was providing educational access in light of the

changing demographics of the Illinois student body, the dynamic changes in technology, and the changing needs of employers; and 2) what his institution was doing to address the fact that Illinois is a net exporter of graduates. Panelists were also invited to share personal thoughts on continuing higher education.

Moderator Charles Evans invited the panel to speak in the order of their institution's founding, so President Mannoia, expressing pride in Greenville's 1855 beginning (as Elmira College) and its current place on the list of *US News &*

World Report's 2008 Top Baccalaureate Colleges (Midwest), began the discussion.

James Mannoia, Jr. stressed the need for collaboration in the wake of a rapidly-changing marketplace. Greenville College established an Office of Strategic Innovation because he has found that markets change so fast that unless an institution is poised for rapid response, the window can close by the time they have developed a program plan and a business, and secured the appropriate accreditation.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING—AROUND THE STATE

Eastern Illinois University

The Academy of Lifetime Learning (ALL) provides low-cost, high-quality, non-credit, short courses to mature learners in the area. It provides an opportunity for retired and semi-retired persons to enjoy a lifetime of learning in a relaxed atmosphere, without the strain of having to do outside study, write papers, or take tests. Courses are taught by current and retired EIU faculty and staff. While all of the courses to date have been held in the Charleston/Mattoon area, ALL looks forward with anticipation to regional expansion in the coming semester. ALL is proud to announce that 25 courses are being offered in the spring semester of 2008. The Academy of Lifetime Learning works in collaboration with the Coles County Council on Aging and the University of Illinois Extension program.

Elmhurst College

Elmhurst College will welcome Nobel Peace Prize winner and global policy expert Dr. Adil Najim of Boston University, to speak on Sunday, April 13 at 7 PM on "Democracy and the Muslim World." Admission is free and the public is invited. For more information, call 630-617-3033.

Millikin University

Millikin's 2008 James W. Moore lecture will feature author, fisherman, teacher, filmmaker, and advocate John Cronin, who will explore the human, political and moral dimensions in today's environmental headlines. His presentation is scheduled for Tuesday, April 22 at 7:30 PM. Tickets are free, but registration is required. Contact 217-424-6318 for tickets.

Oakton Community College

Jane Malik, Asst. Prof. of Library Services at Oakton is the winner of the North Suburban Library System (NSLS) Academic Library Staff Member of the

Year award. The award recognizes exceptional contributions to NSLS and its member libraries. NSLS is an organization of more than 650 academic, public, school and special libraries in north suburban Cook, Kane, Lake, and McHenry counties.

Oakton will also host "Global Legacies of Non-Violence: From Mahatma Gandhi to Martin Luther King, Jr.," Apr. 17-18 at its Skokie campus, 7701 N. Lincoln Ave. The 2-day academic conference is funded by a grant from the U.S. Dept. of Education. The 6-7:30 PM keynote by Dr. Clayborne Carson, Stanford U., is free and open to the public.

University of Illinois—Chicago

External Education at UIC will offer "Writing a Successful Research Grant Application: Strategies for Research Investigators," one of many courses in the UIC Writers Series. This 5-week course is offered entirely online. Grant Writing for Research will benefit first-time funding seekers and those with previous research grant experience.

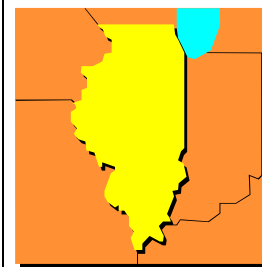
UIC Online announces 3 new online certificates: Advanced Practice Forensic Nursing Campus Certificate, Basic Community Public Health Practice Campus Certificate and Advanced Community Public Health Practice Campus Certificate. These courses will provide further training and education on current trends, topics and emerging fields. Visit www.uiconline.uic.edu for more information.

The deadline for admission to the MS in Health Informatics is 5/1/08, and 5/15/08 for the Health Informatics and Admin. Nursing Leadership IBHE Certificate and Public Health Informatics Campus Certificate.

University of Illinois—Urbana Champaign

The College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is working on a collaborative initiative with Illinois Community Colleges to offer several introductory agriculture foundation courses. This initiative is designed to assist community colleges that cannot support enough full-time faculty to teach much needed agriculture courses, but would

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CHARLES V. EVANS RESEARCH GRANT WINNERS

Warm congratulations to **Gayla Stoner**, Division of Continuing Education at **SIU Carbondale**, the 2008 Charles V. Evans Research Grant winner!

The research resulting from her winning proposal, *Student Demand, Faculty Recruitment, and Faculty Preparation for Online Courses*, will be pre-

sented at the 2009 ICCHE conference.

At this year's 2008 conference, **Vicki S. Cook**, Ph.D., Educational Leadership Program at the **University of Illinois at Springfield**, presented the results of her research from the 2007 Charles V. Evans

Research Grant, *Perspective of Selected Family Literacy Programming Staff in Illinois*.

The grant is named in honor of Evans, long time supporter of ICCHE and higher education throughout the state. ☀

PRESIDENT'S PANEL CONT'D.

(Continued from page 2)

Over the past ten years, Greenville has partnered with a variety of community colleges, including Lewis & Clark, Parkland, and Kaskaskia, and concentrates on filling niches not occupied by public four-year schools. Although Greenville is the first college to be totally wireless, it is still firmly rooted in personal interaction. Mission drives the technology, student need drives the programs and services, and collaborations between schools are built on personal relationships between presidents.

Chet Gardner provided the audience with a quick overview of the U of I system and more details about the University of Illinois Global Campus which was launched in January of 2008. The Global Campus initiative was prompted by President B. Joseph Wright, who took office in 2005. It is distinct from the many fine online programs already run by UIC, UIS, and UIUC, in that it is more mar-

ket-focused. While other online programs may have been developed based on faculty interest, the Global Campus strives to focus on high-demand programs and respond to students' demand for flexible, convenient access and affordability. Its academic term is eight weeks, which allows programs to scale up as the need increases. The Global Campus projects offering thirty programs within three years and forty within five years. Initial faculty apprehension seems to have dissipated, observed Gardner.

Christopher Wilkerson serves as the Executive Director of Business & Industry Services for Wright College. His department trains corporate and business employees and delivers programs in English, Spanish, and Polish that are tailored to the culture not just the vocabulary of the speakers of those languages. Because he believes (as Roberts Jones does) that continuing education should be portable, he makes sure that Wright programs are based on industry standards and lead to industry-specific certifications

when at all possible. This allows participating employees (who are able to pass industry exams) to gain credit they can carry with them throughout their career. He came to his current job after working as a corporate trainer and was surprised to discover that the K-12 school system was not well articulated with higher education. He advocated involving more business leaders in the K-16 conversation.

The panelists also responded to questions from the audience. Gardner quipped that one of the transferrable project management skills he learned in implementing the Global Campus was "You need one throat to choke if it all goes wrong." When asked about online courses, Mannoia observed that his institution found an "incarnational delivery system" to be more in keeping with Greenville's evangelical Christian mission. At yet another ICCHE conference, hearing the presidential perspective triggered lively discussion. ☀



"You need one throat to choke if it all goes wrong."

2008 INNOVATIVE INITIATIVE AWARD WINNER

Each year, the Illinois Council on Continuing Higher Education recognizes an outstanding academic initiative, either credit or non-credit, which is innovative, effective, and represents the ideals of the ICCHE organization. The 2008 honor has been awarded to **Carreras En Salud (Healthcare Careers): a Chicago Bilingual Healthcare Partnership** sponsored by Humboldt Park Vocational Education Center of Wilbur Wright College, one of the City Colleges of Chicago, along with the Instituto Del Progreso Latino, Association House of Chicago, and the National Council of La Raza.

Carreras en Salud was "created with the purpose of building a customized career pathway in nursing occupations in order to assist employers to meet the demand for a bilingual workforce that satisfies the needs of the region's burgeoning Hispanic population." Unique to the program are its effective partnership network, the career pathway that seamlessly moves students from their studies onto the job, the bridge pre-college curriculum that takes students from wherever they start academically and builds on their skills, and the strong and constant academic and non-academic support services provided to program participants.

The success of their education model is reflected in the numbers—with completion rates averaging more than 90% as of Fall 2007.

This program has received numerous honors in addition to the ICCHE award, including the 2007 National Exemplary Program in Workforce Development Award by the National Council for Continuing Education and Training, and has been cited as one of the top six Career Pathway Models by both the Aspen Institute and the US Dept. of Education.

Kudos to Wilbur Wright College and its partners!



Carreras En Salud program participants

*"This initiative..
..provides a
unique distance
education
opportunity..."*

WHAT'S HAPPENING—AROUND THE STATE, CONT'D

(Continued from page 3)

still like to provide the opportunity to their students. The initiative will be available to all community colleges. This initiative will pool resources and student numbers and will provide a unique distance education opportunity, including interaction with university faculty. Students will take courses mainly through online technologies such as "Elluminate" as well as one or two trips during the semester to the UIUC campus

This initiative is mainly geared toward students at community colleges interested in transferring to a 4-year institution such as the University of Illinois. For more information, contact Heather Miller, program director at hmiller1@uiuc.edu or 217-265-6568.

Waubonsee Community College

Waubonsee Community College is offering free discussions and refreshments in their 2008 Earth Series. On Thursday, April 17, 7-9 pm, the topic will be "Waterworld: Global Oceans, Ice and Climate Change." The discussion continues on Thursday, May 1, 7-9 pm with "Slowing Climate Change: Our Responsibility, Our Options."

Waubonsee also announces its second annual Renewable Energy Fair slated for Saturday, October 18, 2008, from 9 am to 6 pm. The Fair will feature workshops and exhibits emphasizing renewable energy and sustainable living, and offers fun for the entire family.



Illinois Council on Continuing Higher Education

Leadership in Lifelong Learning

Be sure to check out the great information at:

Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE)
www.ibhe.org

and

Illinois Community College Board (ICCB)
www.iccb.state.il.us/



MISSION: 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 membership includes two and four year colleges and universities, both public and private.

MEMBERSHIP: If you are not already a member, consider joining ICCHE today! The \$75 annual fee includes membership for an institutional representative and up to ten professionals from the same institution.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER, CONT'D

(Continued from page 1)

of our labor, we can and should compete on the quality of the workforce. To do that we need to manage education so that the process produces equal outcomes for the entire potential labor force not just equal opportunity. This will require strengthening the K-12 system, remediating current high school graduates who are not fully prepared for college, and building stronger feedback loops between higher education and the employers who hire college graduates. He also advo-

cated for the creation of "Lifelong Learning Accounts" that would include contributions from the employer, the employee, and the government, and would allow the employee to retrain to meet the changing demands of the labor market.

Mr. Jones is President of Education and Workforce Policy, LLC, "a consulting firm whose singular focus is the advancement of education, training and workforce policy." He has served as the Asst. Secre-

tary of Labor under President Reagan and again under President Bush, as President and CEO of the National Alliance of Business, and served on the board of many organizations. He has "been engaged personally in every major piece of education, training and workforce legislation for the past 40 years."

A downloadable copy of his keynote presentation is available at http://www.icche.org/2008_Conference_Recap.html.



Comments/Questions/Input??

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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