



NEWSLETTER

ILLINOIS COUNCIL ON CONTINUING HIGHER EDUCATION

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Reduced rates at the Doubletree through 1/26/10!! >>

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35TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE FEBRUARY 10-12

Continuing Higher Education: First Responders in Finding Solutions is the theme of this year's exciting Annual Conference, slated for February 10–12, 2010 at the Doubletree Hotel Chicago in the city's Magnificent Mile.

Innovation, choice and a wealth of learning opportunities characterize this year's annual conference. ICCHE is partnering with ACHE (see below) to present the conference.

The annual meeting will kick off with a pre-conference session from 3–5 pm on Wednesday, February 10, "A Technology Petting Zoo," led by popular speaker and online

guru, Ray Schroeder. Attendees will explore the latest technology in this hands-on workshop. This will be followed by an opening reception.

A full day of learning continues on Thursday after the 8 am breakfast, with

the keynote address by Laurance J. Warford, Senior Workforce Consultant for the League for Innovation in the Community College.

He is directing the Walmart Brighter Futures Project, providing innovative approaches to dislocated worker training.

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Chicago's Magnificent Mile

ICCHE WELCOMES ACHE TO OUR FIRST JOINT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ICCHE welcomes the Great Lakes Region of the **Association for Continuing Higher Education, Inc. (ACHE)**, joint sponsor of this year's annual conference.

ACHE is an institution-based organization of colleges, universities, and individuals dedicated to the promotion of lifelong

learning and excellence in continuing higher education.

The Association for Continuing Higher Education (ACHE) evolved from the Association of University Evening Colleges, an organization dedicated to serving the entire spectrum of continuing higher education

in the United States and internationally. Founded in 1939, AUEC's early mission focused on professional development, collegiality and personal service for administrators and faculty in evening colleges. AUEC was founded in a belief that quality evening college professionals would lead to

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings,

Education, training and jobs—interconnected and relevant in today's economy.

Federal, state and local governments are trying to push what has been a focus of ICCHE for years—collaborative and effective partnerships that have effective outcomes:

- Universities and colleges in the state of Illinois partnering with community colleges to deploy training programs that have escrowed credit for the successful completers.
- Industry associations collaborating with education and labor to produce a skilled

workforce that is needed in today's economy.

ICCHE understands the need and sees the successes in partnering, as exhibited by this year's conference.

The conference planning team has collaborated with the Association for Continuing Higher Education (ACHE) Great Lakes Region to create a fantastic conference, filled with information, tools and tips that will fuel your efforts back on your home campus.

Our ever popular in-depth discussions on classroom diversity, outcomes and uses of technology return to this year's conference.

Join us for our 35th



Chris Wilkerson,
Workforce Institute of Harold
Washington College
ICCHE President

annual conference at the Doubletree Hotel and get reconnected with your peers and colleagues across the state.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Oh, and bring a friend this year. We'll make them feel right at home.

Christopher Wilkerson

...bring a friend this year. We'll make them feel right at home.

ADAM SHAMES CHALLENGES CREATIVITY AT FALL RETREAT

"Go from spectator to creator," dynamic keynote speaker Adam Shames challenged attendees at ICCHE's Fall Retreat in September at Starved Rock Lodge, in Utica, Illinois.

Shames is the founder of the Kreativitiy.Network, dedicated to helping "organizations and teams build cultures of innovation and collaboration to accomplish their goals and fulfill their mission."

Amid much laughter, attendees at the Fall Conference utilized drinking straws and baskets of toys to stimulate their efforts as they explored several aspects of creativity: fluency, the ability to think of a multitude of new ideas, flexibility, the ability to devise different kinds and combinations of ideas, and originality, the ability to identify unique solutions, "mining for inner gold". Applied Creativity is then

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IN THE SPOTLIGHT—NINA CRICK

BY HILARY WARD SCHNADT



Nina Crick

In this issue, the spotlight is turned on **Nina Crick**, Manager of Continuing Professional Education for **Rock Valley College (RVC)** and **ICCHE** Treasurer. While Nina is a ten-year

member of ICCHE, her most active participation began three years ago when she joined the ICCHE Executive Board as a community college representative. In early 2009, she became Treasurer.

Continuing professional education is something she values for herself, not just something she supplies to the Rockford area. "I feel it is very important for people to get involved in some kind of professional development organization—the networking opportunities are invaluable to your professional growth which leads to a successful Continuing Education program." She believes in participating in professional organizations on the local and national levels.

Before joining ICCHE, she was a member of the Illinois Council for Continuing Education and Training (ICCET) and served as ICCET president in 2004. "ICCET serves only community and continuing education units from community colleges," she notes. "Otherwise, ICCET and ICCHE are very similar in their missions as professional development organizations."

The breadth of ICCHE membership, since it includes continuing education professionals at public and private four-year institutions in addition to community college colleagues, provides added value. ICCHE enables Nina to deepen her statewide network.

"I am also a member of the National Council for Continuing Education and Training (NCCET) and the Learning Resources Network (LERN). Being involved with national organizations broadens your awareness of programs that are offered in other areas of the country."

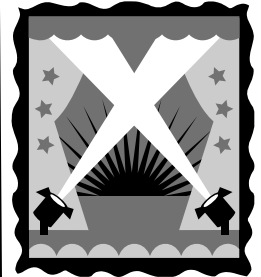
Nina is a veteran at Rock Valley

College, whose staff she joined in 1987. "In 1998, I moved from a Secretarial position to a Coordinator for On-Campus programs. In 2003, I became the Director of Technical Skills Outreach, and then in 2004 became Director of Business Outreach." In 2005 she assumed her current position as Manager of Continuing Professional Education. Before moving to RVC, she worked at Spoon River College in Canton, IL in the Developmental Studies Department.

She is proud of her unit. "Continuing Professional Education at RVC provides a wide variety of vocational training to a broad scope of students. CPE offers approximately 400 classes or programs each semester." Some programs are offered through a partnership with RVC's Career Education Divisions. Programs in the healthcare and computer areas have been particularly successful. Programs to retrain workers for new careers are offered in conjunction with the region's Workforce Board and Dislocated Workers program. In the current economy, this work is crucial.

ICCHE members have felt the impact of the current economy. Given the precarious funding of higher education in Illinois, it seems prudent to ask ICCHE's Treasurer about the organization's financial health. "We recently changed our membership dues to cover a three year period at a reduced rate. Many members have taken advantage of this savings, so we have been collecting dues for future years. Many members are using their college P-Card to pay the membership dues. It has been a much easier process than putting through check requests. As a whole, ICCHE is holding its own in these difficult economic times, and with the three year payments, there is a little cushion for the future."

Careful financial planning and a network of support sounds like just what is needed to weather tough financial times. For Nina Crick, professional development organizations have provided more than just sharper job skills, they have helped create her system of support. She concludes, "There have been so many wonderful colleagues that I have come to know in the last 10 years in my affiliation with ICCET, NCCET, LERN and ICCHE. . . I have made lasting friendships that go beyond the work environment."



"I have made lasting friendships that go beyond the work environment."

Adam Shames Challenges – Cont'd



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defined as the implementation of creative ideas—the necessary next step. As Shames sees it,

Adam Shames the creative problem-solving process involves pinpointing the problem to solve, coming up with new ideas, refining the ideas to create strong solutions, and

putting the plan into action. How to do all this? Shames recommends embracing diversity, seeking out new perspectives, adapting to change, and making use of cross-functional teams whenever possible, to combine ideas in the effort to meet new and emerging needs.

More information on Adam Shames and his innovative presentations can be found on his web site, <http://www.kreativity.net>. ☀

ACHE — cont'd

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quality evening collegiate programs.

Belief in the values of professional development, collegiality and service continue to guide the mission of the Association for Continuing Higher Education. The entire range of rapid change in higher education--the success of evening programs, the expansion of continuing education, the growth in number of adult students, the impact of technology, and the needs of training and retraining to sustain economic development--all provide added importance to ACHE and its commitment to serve the professional development and growth of its members. Today, in addition to evening programs, ACHE services influence all types of continuing higher education activities.

ACHE encourages professional networks, research, and exchange of information for its members and advocates continuing higher education as a means of enhancing and improving society. Several times each year, a newsletter, "Five Minutes with ACHE" is published, featuring Association news, personal items about members, brief items on new programs, regional news, job openings, personnel available, and resource information.

ACHE publishes the refereed *Journal of Continuing Higher Education* three times each year, as well as an annual summary of the discussions and papers presented at the ACHE annual meeting. Also included are minutes of business sessions and committee reports. Their website is <http://www.acheinc.org/>. The website includes [useful links to professional organizations, educational topics and publications](#).

An institutional membership is open to institutions of higher learning that have programming or administrative units responsible for continuing higher education activities. In addition, membership is also available for organizations, professionals, students and retirees.

The Association is divided into eight regions. Each region usually conducts one or more meetings each year. Illinois is in the Great Lakes Region, which encompasses Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana and Ohio, plus central Ontario in Canada. The regional chair is Pamela Collins. For additional information, feel free to contact her at Eastern Illinois University, Phone: 217-581-5114, E-mail: pjcollins@eiu.edu

Content courtesy of ACHE website ☀

"Mining for inner gold—
bringing out ideas unique
to you!"

WHAT'S HAPPENING—around the State

Elgin Community College

ECC's Division of Corporate and Continuing Education has been awarded one of ten federal HSIAC grants. The \$600,000 HSIAC Grant (Hispanic Serving Institutions Assisting Communities) comes from HUD - the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department. ECC is the only College or University in Illinois to be awarded this competitive grant. \$600,000 is the largest amount awarded for the HSIAC/HUD grantees. ECC's grant project period is three years.

The plan includes training 251 individuals. At least 51% must be low to moderate income individuals. Non-credit will be offered within four municipalities - Elgin, South Elgin, Streamwood, and Carpentersville. Some of the funding will be used to subsidize non-credit training for employees at four participating businesses within the ECC District.

Illinois Valley Community College

IVCC signed a five-year lease with the city of Ottawa in late December to create the first full-service satellite campus in the college's 85-year history.

Next fall, IVCC will offer a full slate of transfer courses, CNA, adult education and continuing education offerings at the center, an 11,000-square-foot downtown building that is currently an operations center for a local bank.

The project will be partially funded by a pair of private donations totaling \$300,000 from two former Ottawa residents. IVCC believes the downtown campus will attract not only students from Ottawa but also students from several other communities in the eastern half of its district.

"It has long been our college's dream to provide better access to



Saint Xavier University President Judith A. Dwyer, Ph.D., and Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley

the eastern half of our district," said President Jerry Corcoran. "With the number of courses we have planned, the experienced instructors who will be teaching and the services we'll provide such as registration, counseling and financial aid - Ottawa Center will have everything the serious student needs."

For example, the college plans to offer all the general education courses students will need to transfer to four-year universities and colleges and may be able to earn their associate's degree by taking only Ottawa Center classes.

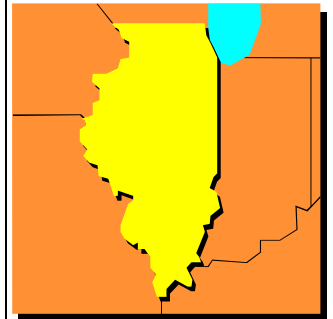
St. Xavier University

Saint Xavier recently received a Chicago City Council resolution, presented by Mayor Richard Daley, commending the University's environmental sustainability efforts.

Also, President Barack Obama signed an omnibus spending bill containing \$1.25 million for Saint Xavier University to upgrade its Chicago campus library and develop a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education center at its Orland Park campus.

Congressman Dan Lipinski (IL-3) and Senator Dick Durbin worked together to secure funding for Saint Xavier's library improvements and other local projects. Congresswoman Judy Biggert (IL-13) procured funding for the

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WHAT'S HAPPENING—around the State Cont'd

(Continued from page 5)

STEM center.

The University will receive \$750,000 to update the Robert and Mary Rita Murphy Stump Library. Funds will be used to develop digital literacy programs, mobile computer labs and online communications systems providing live web casts, on-demand materials, and lecture and distance learning programs.



Truck driver training at Joliet Junior College

Joliet Junior College

Joliet Junior College's Corporate and Community Services (CCS) division has created a new career program to prepare people to drive tractor-trailers and take the CDL exam.

"This program is designed for people with little or no commercial driving experience," said CCS Director, Amy Murphy.

"Whether products are manufactured here or overseas, they still need to be delivered in an efficient and environmentally friendly way.

"Additionally, our recruiters work with many trucking companies that will pre-hire students. We believe that many of them receive several job offers prior to completing their training," said Murphy.

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ICCHE ANNUAL CONFERENCE—CONT'D

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Numerous networking forums, University and College Presidents' Panel, and breakout sessions round out the day, ending with a reception with exhibitors.

On Friday morning, 2009 Evans Research Grant recipients and UIUC staff members Faye Lesht and Deborah Windes will share their findings, and the 2010 winner of the Innovative Initiative Award will be named. These presentations will be followed by a panel of representatives from state agencies to bring attendees up to date with key issues throughout the state.

The closing speaker will be David Schejbal, Dean of Continuing Education, Outreach, and e-Learning at UW—Extension. He will speak on "Continuing Education: Leading Higher Education to Curricular Sustainability."

The conference concludes at 11:30 am

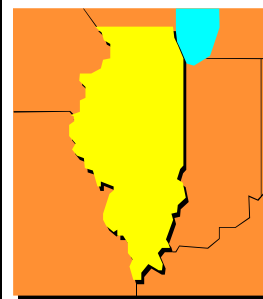
Friday with drawings for great door prizes.

Early Bird (before 1/22) Registration of just **\$190** for members includes all conference sessions, materials, lunch on Thursday, two continental breakfasts, all refreshment breaks and both receptions. Note: Attend the Pre-Conference workshop for an additional \$30 fee.

The **Doubletree Hotel**, 312-787-6100, has extended a special **\$119/night** rate if **requested by 1/26/10**. Just mention ICCHE!

Register online at <http://www.dce.slu.edu>. Contact Jackie Welch, jackiew@slu.edu with any registration questions, or call 618-536-7751. For questions about the conference, please contact Joy Thompson at jthompson@stfrancis.edu or 815-740-3525.

In these days of restricted travel budgets, the ICCHE Annual conference is one of the best deals in town—be there! ☀



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)

<http://www.ibhe.org>

And

Illinois Community College Board (ICCB)

<http://www.iccb.state.il.us>



**ICCHE
on
Facebook!**

Add ICCHE as one of your Facebook Groups. Contact Rick Carter

r-carter@wiu.edu for more information.

ICCHE Listserv

To send a message to all the people subscribed to the ICCHE Membership list, send an email to Jim Onderdonk at: onderdon@illinois.edu, and Jim will post to the listserv.

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

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 \$125 annual fee includes membership for an institutional representative and up to ten professionals from the same institution. And for an annual institutional fee of \$200, an unlimited number from the institution can be members and enjoy all the benefits! See www.icche.org for details.

WHAT'S HAPPENING—Around the State Cont'd

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Training is held at Joliet Junior College's Weitendorf Agricultural Education Facility, 17840 Laraway Road, Joliet. The program can be completed in 4 weeks by attending full time, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. An additional 30 hours of home study is also required.

Students may enroll at any time. Full time classes start every two weeks, but can start more frequently based on location and program demand. Anyone interested in this program should contact a recruiter at (815) 727-0957, or e-mail CDLinfo@jjc.edu.

University of Illinois Chicago

The UIC Online catalog of programs is growing! Three new online master's degree programs and five new graduate certificate programs are now being offered from the School of Public Health, College of Education, College of Applied Health Sciences and the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs. More information about UIC Online programs and courses may be found at www.uiconline.uic.edu.

Whether you're seeking professional development or personal enrichment opportunities, UIC has the non-credit course for you! Spring courses include: Mastering Grant Writing Online, Project Management Online, Creative Writing, Finance and Accounting for the Non-Financial Professional, Grammar Workshop Online and Business Writing. Read course descriptions at www.externaledu.uic.edu.

The 7th annual Sloan Consortium Conference and Workshop on Blended Learning: The Promise and Practice of Blended Learning, will be held April 19-20, 2010 in Oak Brook, Illinois. Administrative leaders, faculty, instructional designers and researchers should attend to learn more about the potential impacts of this unique model of instruction. Visit the conference Web site for registration information and more at www.sloan-c.org/blended. ☼

Comments/Questions/Input??

Like our new look? 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:

Robin Nash
Manager, Alternative Education
Oakton Community College
1600 East Golf Road
Des Plaines, IL 60016
Ph: 847-635-1971
Email: rnash@oakton.edu

Hilary Ward Schnadt, Ph.D.
Assoc. Dean for Acad. Services and Programs
University Center of Lake County
1200 University Center Drive
Grayslake, IL 60030
Ph: 847-665-4004
Email: HWschnadt@ucenter.org