

ICCTA Mission Statement

The Illinois Community College Trustees Association supports all public community college trustees through information exchange, training, and advocacy to assist them in effective leadership locally and statewide.

ICCTA Vision Statement

All Illinois community college trustees will effectively lead their institutions and districts.

ICCTA Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement

The Illinois Community College Trustees Association recognizes that student, faculty, staff, and administrative diversity enhances the education of all students and offers direct and indirect public benefits to our state and nation. Diverse learning environments positively affect students' critical thinking skills, their civic commitment, and their preparation for work in a global economy, among other benefits. ICCTA and its member colleges are committed to making the utmost efforts to advance diversity, equity and inclusion in higher education.



401 E. Capitol Ave., Suite 200, Springfield, IL 67201
1-800-454-2282

iccta@communitycolleges.org

www.communitycolleges.org

[@ilcctrustees](https://www.instagram.com/ilcctrustees)

*Adjunct Faculty • Advocacy •
Alumnus • Business / Industry •
Certificate of Merit • Equity and
Diversity • Ethical Leadership •
Full-Time Faculty • Honorary
Member • Lifelong Learning •
Lifetime Member • Pacesetter •
Peace Essay • Student Essay •
Student Service • Student
Trustee • Trustee Achievement •
Trustee Education • 30- and 40-
Year Trustee Service*

ICCTA AWARDS BANQUET

Friday, June 6, 2025

Normal, Illinois



TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

WELCOME

Bishop Wayne Dunning
ICCTA president

INVOCATION

President Dunning

RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

President Dunning

GREETINGS

Jee Hang Lee
President/CEO
Association of Community College
Trustees

PRESENTATION AND GROUP PHOTOS OF AWARD NOMINEES

Jim Reed
ICCTA executive director

DINNER

ANNOUNCEMENT AND RECOGNITION OF AWARD WINNERS

President Dunning

ADJOURNMENT

**BUSINESS /
INDUSTRY
PARTNERSHIP
AWARD**

*The Business/Industry
Partnership Award
recognizes Illinois
businesses that have
built successful
workforce-training
alliances with their
local community
colleges.*

Congratulations to our 2025 nominees:

**Advanced Machine and Engineering Co. /
Hennig**
and Rock Valley College

City of Evanston, Illinois
and Oakton College

Constellation Energy
and Joliet Junior College

DYOPATH
and Illinois Central College

Intermountain Electronics
and Kaskaskia College

Northwestern Medicine Palos Hospital
and Moraine Valley Community College

OSF Healthcare
and Illinois Valley Community College

Sarah Bush Lincoln
and Lake Land College

FACT:

*During academic year 2020, Illinois
community colleges worked with
nearly 9,800 unique employers.*

FACT:

*The total statewide economic
impact of the Illinois community
college system was estimated at
\$3.5 billion and 43,316 jobs in
fiscal year 2020.*

EQUITY AND DIVERSITY AWARD

The Equity and Diversity Award recognizes exemplary commitment by an Illinois public community college board and its chief executive officer to achieve diversity, equity, and inclusion in the college's education programs.

Congratulations to our 2025 nominees:

Illinois Central College

Joliet Junior College

Oakton College

FACT:

*In fall 2022, ICCTA adopted one of the nation's first statewide Neurodiversity Inclusion Statements:
<https://tinyurl.com/kuyf7jyr>*

GARY W. DAVIS ETHICAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Gary W. Davis Ethical Leadership Award honors individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the pursuit and support of ethical leadership and decision-making in their fields of work and volunteer service.

Congratulations to our 2025 nominees:

Steven J. Frommelt

Executive vice president & board treasurer
Black Hawk College

Dr. David Hellmich

President
Sauk Valley Community College

Misti Pawlisa

Staff accountant
Kaskaskia College

FACT:

Illinois community college trustees complete ethics training during the 1st, 3rd, and 5th years of their terms.

GANDHI / KING PEACE ESSAY SCHOLARSHIP

**Endowed by
Jody Wadhwa
and the Oakton
College Educational
Foundation**

*The Gandhi/King Peace
Essay Scholarship
provides a one-time
\$1,000 stipend to the
Illinois community
college student who
best articulates the
peaceful messages of
Mahatma Gandhi and
Dr. Martin Luther King,
Jr.*

Congratulations to our 2025 nominees:

Maddison Foster

Heartland Community College

Elizabeth Huffaker

Illinois Valley Community College

Khamiya Langston

College of DuPage

Ikenya Margrum

Kaskaskia College

Hilda Osei

Kishwaukee College

Moo Paw

Waubonsee Community College

Alma Villalobos

College of Lake County

Jacob Weingardt

Oakton College

Mikaela Whitley

Elgin Community College

Loyal Zaidan

Moraine Valley Community College

FACT:

*The Illinois community college
system is the third largest in the
United States, educating more
than 600,000 credit-enrolled
students each year.*

**PRAIRIE STATE
COLLEGE /
GIGI CAMPBELL
STUDENT TRUSTEE
EXCELLENCE
SCHOLARSHIP**

**Sponsored by
Prairie State College**

*Student trustees
created this award in
1997 to recognize
exemplary leadership
by their peers.
This year's recipient
will receive a \$500
stipend for fall 2025
educational expenses.*

Congratulations to our 2025 nominees:

Michael Deno

Shawnee Community College

Emma Garretson

Illinois Valley Community College

Kailee Harper

Triton College

Jess Heiser

Elgin Community College

Abbie Kelly

Lake Land College

Auston Koch

Heartland Community College

Anam Sultana

College of DuPage

Connor Wademan

Kaskaskia College

**Click here for a listing
of ICCTA's previous award recipients:**



**PAUL SIMON
STUDENT ESSAY
SCHOLARSHIP**

**Sponsored by the
Illinois Community
College System
Foundation**

*Named after the late
U.S. Senator and
cofounder of the
Illinois community
college system, the
Paul Simon Student
Essay Scholarship
provides a one-time
\$1,000 stipend to the
student who best
describes "How My
Community College
Has Changed My Life."*

Congratulations to our 2025 nominees:

Cooper Cain
Kaskaskia College

Skyler Edwards
Southeastern Illinois College

Isabella Garza
Elgin Community College

Sarah Housh
Lake Land College

Sophia Hubbs
Heartland Community College

Tanisha Jones-Robinson
Kishwaukee College

Michelle Ky
Oakton College

Eleanor Stuckey
Lincoln Land Community College

Truc Tran
Waubensee Community College

Garrett Weigel
Moraine Valley Community College

Maggie Yang
Illinois Valley Community College

Abena Yeboah
College of DuPage

Lichang Zheng
College of Lake County

**GREGG
CHADWICK
STUDENT SERVICE
SCHOLARSHIP**

**Sponsored by the
Illinois Community
College System
Foundation**

*ICCTA's newest
scholarship honors the
community-focused
legacy of 2020-2021
ICCTA president Gregg
Chadwick of Heartland
Community College.
This year's recipient
will receive a \$1,000
stipend for fall 2025
educational expenses.*

Congratulations to our 2025 nominees:

Kaylee Blackford
Lake Land College

Ella Brownlee
Heartland Community College

Joshua Crane
Rock Valley College

Kristen Joyce Lopez
College of DuPage

Maha Motan
Moraine Valley Community College

Abigail Schaber
Elgin Community College

Ashton Watkins
Illinois Valley Community College

**LIFELONG
LEARNING
AWARD**

*The Lifelong Learning
Award celebrates the
accomplishments of
Illinois community
college students who
have used their college
as a resource on
multiple occasions.*

Congratulations to our 2025 nominees:

Alexandria Davidson
Moraine Valley Community College

Tasha Kimble
Kishwaukee College

FACT:

*Nearly two out of five students
in the Illinois community college
system are first-generation
students.*

PACESETTER AWARD

The Pacesetter Award recognizes the accomplishments of Illinois' recent community college graduates. Nominees must have completed a recognized program of instruction (including dual credit courses) or attended at least 30 semester hours at an Illinois public community college after June 30, 2014.

Congratulations to our 2025 nominees:

Casey Butler

Lead game programmer
American Pinball Inc.
John A. Logan College

Edgar Lucero Castillo

Attorney
Perona, Peterlin, and Associates
Illinois Valley Community College

Craig Dickerson

Senior trainer
Verizon
Carl Sandburg College

Michael "Guido" Esteves

Director of audio, eSports, and
community engagement
Danville Area Community College
Danville Area Community College

Jona Hall

Founder
Zeta Mu Phi / Illuminate: Lighting the Way
Against Trafficking & Abuse
Illinois Central College

Kathleen Hanks

Recovery coach
Serenity House / Kane County Drug Court /
Naomi's House
College of DuPage

Jazmine Nathan

Outreach navigator
Rock Valley College
Rock Valley College

Cameron Townsend
Criminal justice student
Southern Illinois University at
Carbondale
Elgin Community College

Christopher Walk
Finance and project manager
Walk Stock Farm Inc.
Lake Land College

David R. Western
Embedded software engineer
Lockheed Martin
Lincoln Land Community College

**DISTINGUISHED
ALUMNUS
AWARD**

*This honor symbolizes
the professional,
technical and
humanitarian
accomplishments of
those individuals who
have graduated from
Illinois community
colleges.*

Congratulations to our 2025 nominees:

Dr. Doug Brining
Executive director
Office of Animal Resources
University of Texas Medical Branch at
Galveston
Carl Sandburg College

Casey Butler
Lead game programmer
American Pinball Inc.
John A. Logan College

Shannon S. Butler
Social work coordinator
DeKalb County Government
Shawnee Community College

Dario Castañeda
Attorney / founder
N400 Harbor Immigration Law
Oakton College

Matt Duffy
Executive director
DeKalb Chamber of Commerce
Kishwaukee College

Nicolas Farley

IT manager
Americana Building Products
Kaskaskia College

Dr. Jermaine Ford

President
Florence-Darlington
Technical College
Moraine Valley Comm. College

David Fowler

Executive director
Computer Banc
Lincoln Land Community College

Gene Honn

Former president
Jaycees USA
Lake Land College

Dr. Keith Knepp

President
Carle Health Greater Peoria
Illinois Central College

Zach Laidlaw

Executive chef /
Vice president of experiences
Hua Momona Farms &
Foundations
Elgin Community College

Bing Liu

Filmmaker / director
Rock Valley College

Michael McGrone, Sr.

Principal
Illinois Youth Center – Chicago
Triton College

Dr. Judy Mitchell

President emerita
Joliet Junior College
Joliet Junior College

Jacqueline Ruiz

Author / entrepreneur / pilot
College of DuPage

Simran Sandhu

Director of strategy and
innovation
Illinois Farm Bureau
Heartland Community College

Terrance “Tat” Taylor

President and CEO
TAT Global Enterprises
Richland Community College

Edward Torrez

Architect / President
Arda Design
College of Lake County

Walt Zukowski

Legal counsel
Illinois Valley Community College
Illinois Valley Community College

FACT:

*Morton College alumnus
Jim Peterik (Class of 1970)
performed an impromptu
version of his Grammy
Award- winning hit “Eye of
the Tiger” at ICCTA’s 2019
awards banquet in Itasca.*

**OUTSTANDING
ADJUNCT
FACULTY
MEMBER
AWARD**

*This award honors
Illinois' part-time
community college
instructors and their
invaluable
contributions to their
students and
institutions.*

Congratulations to our 2025 nominees:

Claudia Alonzo

English

Black Hawk College

Sister John Baricevic

Mathematics and computer science

Southwestern Illinois College

Mary Busler

Speech

Lewis and Clark Community College

Jan Dowell

Human nutrition

Lincoln Land Community College

Christopher Dunn

Emergency medical services

William Rainey Harper College

Becky Echelberger

Dental hygiene

Carl Sandburg College

Kerry Fisher

Basic nurse assisting training

Lake Land College

Jeremy Foy

Art, ceramics, and 3D design

Kishwaukee College

Dr. James Halm

Social science

Triton College

David Junkins

Sociology and social work

Rend Lake College

Dina Khoury
Arabic language
College of DuPage

Sabrina Nevler
English
McHenry County College

Christopher Lacina
Law enforcement
Oakton College

Javier Reyes
Culinary arts
Joliet Junior College

Dr. Jiyeon Lee
Music
John A. Logan College

Dr. James Sanders
Biology
Sauk Valley Community College

Donald Leynaud
Biology
Illinois Valley Community College

Rebecca Schaefer
Humanities
Heartland Community College

John McCormack
English
Morton College

Kara Thomas
American Sign Language
College of Lake County

Nina Ulman
History
Elgin Community College

FACT:

*Illinois community college
graduates with an associate
degree have an employment rate
of 85% five years after graduation.*

FACT:

*High school dual credit students
now comprise more than one out
of every five Illinois community
college students enrolled in
credit courses.*

**OUTSTANDING
FULL-TIME
FACULTY
MEMBER
AWARD**

*This award honors
Illinois' full-time
community college
instructors – the heart
and soul of our
educational
institutions.*

Congratulations to our 2025 nominees:

Danielle Aquiline

English

Oakton College

Dyke Barkley

Horticulture/agriculture

Lake Land College

Andrea Blaylock

Engineering technology

Triton College

Dianna Brevitt

Radiologic technology

Sauk Valley Community College

Dr. Soma Chattopadhyay

Engineering

Elgin Community College

Dr. Samantha Chesters

English

Morton College

Rob Craig

Electronics

John A. Logan College

Merri Fefles-Dark

History and political science

Moraine Valley Community College

Todd Flessner

Manufacturing engineering technology

Danville Area Community College

Tauya Forst

Criminal and justice studies

College of DuPage

Jen Fuhler

English

*Lewis and Clark Community
College*

Theresa Gilbert

English composition

Rock Valley College

Dr. Joi Kazenski

Nursing

Lincoln Land Community College

Stephanie Klie

Outcomes assessment / Business

Southwestern Illinois College

Dr. Paige Lush

Music

McHenry County College

Dr. Tom McCulley

Humanities

Heartland Community College

Mike McNally

History

Shawnee Community College

Dr. Pardess Mitchell

Health education

William Rainey Harper College

Kyra Rider

Mathematics

Kishwaukee College

Jennifer Roehm-Scheffer

Spanish and English

Southeastern Illinois College

Brent Steffens

Psychology

College of Lake County

MaryBeth Stopoulos

Biology

Black Hawk College

Rebecca Werland

English

Spoon River College

Samantha Whiteaker

Nursing

Illinois Valley Community College

Tim Wills

Health / Physical education /

Education

Rend Lake College

Dr. Jennifer Wills-Savoia

Nursing

Joliet Junior College

Jennifer Wright

English

Carl Sandburg College

FACT:

*America's first public
community college was
established in Joliet, Illinois,
in 1901. Today there are
45 community colleges and
39 community college
districts in Illinois alone.*

ADVOCACY AWARD

The ICCTA Executive Committee created this special award to honor individuals who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in advocating for the needs of students and the Illinois community college system.

Dr. Keith Cornille

Chair

*Illinois Council of Community College
Presidents*

Dr. Keith Cornille has served in dual leadership roles this year: as president of Heartland Community College and chair of the Illinois Council of Community College Presidents. Under his leadership, the Council has expanded its systemwide marketing and transformative manufacturing initiatives, pushed to refine the Illinois Dual Credit Quality Act, and worked closely with the Trustees Association and the Governor's office on community college baccalaureate degree legislation.



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CERTIFICATES OF MERIT

The Certificate of Merit is presented to individuals who have made significant contributions to ICCTA, the Illinois system, or an individual college.

Congratulations to our 2025 recipients:

Dr. Maureen Dunne

Trustee

College of DuPage

Julie Shroka

Trustee

College of Lake County

Kathleen Spears

Trustee

Kishwaukee College

Terry Wilkerson

President

Rend Lake College

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

ICCTA's Lifetime Membership provides an opportunity for community colleges to recognize their retiring board members.

Torrie Newsome
College of Lake County

Julie Shroka
College of Lake County

LINDEN A. WARFEL TRUSTEE EDUCATION AWARD

Dr. Frank Barbre
Southeastern Illinois College

FACT:

Recipients of this award must have completed at least 100 ICCTA continuing education programs.

TRUSTEE SERVICE AWARDS

This honor recognizes the Illinois community college system's longtime public servants.

40-YEAR TRUSTEE

Tom Colclasure
Carl Sandburg College

30-YEAR TRUSTEES

Linda Butler
Spoon River College

Dr. Clare Ollayos
Elgin Community College

Diane Viverito
Triton College

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

ICCTA Honorary Membership is reserved for those individuals who have established the very highest standard of service and who have clearly benefitted the entire Illinois community college system.

Dr. Clare Ollayos

Trustee

Elgin Community College

Dr. Clare Ollayos retired from trusteeship in April after 30 years of dedicated service. In addition to serving two terms as Elgin Community College board chair, she served as ICCTA president and as an ACCT board member. As chair of ICCTA's Awards Committee, she proposed the creation of the Lifelong Learning Award and the Gary W. Davis Ethical Leadership Award. In the community, Dr. Ollayos serves on the Elgin Public Museum Board and is an active member of Altrusa International and the Elgin YWCA.



RAY HARTSTEIN TRUSTEE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Ray Hartstein Trustee Achievement Award recognizes a trustee whose exemplary board service and leadership sets the standard for outstanding trusteeship in Illinois.

Jane Goetz

Illinois Valley Community College

Linda Stover

Kaskaskia College

FACT:

The average full-time Illinois community college student pays only \$4,710 per year in tuition and fees – nearly 70% less than the average tuition and fees at Illinois public universities.

**2024-2025
ICCTA
OFFICERS**

Bishop Wayne Dunning
President
Richland Community College

Patricia Joan Murphy
Vice president
Moraine Valley Community College

Shawn Boldt
Secretary
Highland Community College

Janet Hood
Treasurer
Heartland Community College

Maureen Broderick
Past president
Joliet Junior College

**2024 - 2025
ICCTA
AWARDS
COMMITTEE**

Greg Wolfe
Chair
Danville Area Community College

Diane Harris
Vice chair
Joliet Junior College

Dr. Florence Appel
College of DuPage

James L. Ayers
Parkland College

Dr. Maureen Banks
Parkland College

Maureen Broderick
Joliet Junior College

Samantha Enz

Lincoln Land Community College

James Meyer

William Rainey Harper College

Pennie Groezinger

Highland Community College

Torrie Newsome

College of Lake County

Janet Hood

Heartland Community College

Dr. Clare Ollayos

Elgin Community College

William Kelley

William Rainey Harper College

Dr. Donna Redmer

Elgin Community College

Mandy Little

John A. Logan College

Tracy Sullivan

Moraine Valley Community College

Dave Maguire

Spoon River College

Laura Wedekemper

Kaskaskia College

Tom Whitt

Heartland Community College

FACT:

In fiscal year 2023, the average age of an Illinois community college student enrolled in credit courses was 26.3 years.

FACT:

Investing in an Illinois community college long-term certificate or associate in applied science degree adds more than \$600,000 in lifetime earnings (an average annual rate of return of 27%).

IN MEMORIAM

Brian Courtney

Trustee
Kaskaskia College

James Darden

Trustee
Shawnee Community College

Warren Hadley

Trustee
Black Hawk College

Dr. Jack D. Hill

President
Shawnee Community College

Risé Jones

Trustee
Elgin Community College

Richard Kolze

Board chair
William Rainey Harper College

Frances Sullivan

Trustee
Triton College

Mike Sullivan

Board chair, Lake Land College
President, ICCTA

Robert Watson

Board chair
Lewis and Clark Community College

Dr. Alfred Wisgoski

President
Illinois Valley Community College



SHARE YOUR #ilcctrustees PHOTOS

At your community college, you followed your dreams. You pursued your education in classrooms and job sites, libraries and labs, in person and online. Tonight we're celebrating YOU -- not only how far you've come, but how far you're going. Share your award photos on social media using

#ilcctrustees



THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 CONVENTION SPONSORS

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Illinois Community College System Foundation

Gregg Chadwick Student Service Scholarship

Paul Simon Student Essay Scholarship

Jody Wadhwa / Oakton College Education Foundation

Gandhi / King Peace Essay Scholarship

Prairie State College

Prairie State College / Gigi Campbell Student Trustee Excellence Scholarship