ICCTA ACTION ALERT

April 13, 2006

The Illinois General Assembly has concluded its business for the week. The Senate adjourned on Tuesday afternoon, while the House adjourned on Wednesday morning in order to send members home for the religious holidays.

The House returns to Springfield on Tuesday, April 18, and the Senate has scheduled Tuesday, April 25 to return. Although April 7 had been the scheduled final adjournment date, an impasse in reaching an agreed budget plan for Fiscal Year 2007 is preventing the conclusion of the session.

Some members are predicting that the spring session will extend through early May, or about one month past the originally scheduled final adjournment schedule. Democrats, who hold the majority in each house, actually have until midnight, May 31, to craft a budget plan. After that, Republicans become involved in negotiations, because the Illinois Constitution requires that the number of votes to pass a budget on or after June 1 increases from a simple majority to a three-fifths (3/5) majority, which then requires Republican votes.

The Illinois Community College Trustees Association will provide periodic updates as the session nears final adjournment.









