

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.

*Adjunct Faculty • Advocacy •
Alumnus • Business / Industry •
Certificate of Merit • Equity and
Diversity • Ethical Leadership •
Full-Time Faculty • Honorary
Membership • Lifelong Learning
• Pacesetter • Peace Essay •
President's Award • Professional
Board Staff • Student Essay •
Student Service • Student
Trustee • Trustee Achievement •
25- and 35-Year Trustee Service*



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[@ilcctrustees](https://twitter.com/ilcctrustees)

ICCTA AWARDS BANQUET

*Friday, June 7, 2024
Lombard, Illinois*





THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 CONVENTION SPONSORS

■ Awards Banquet Sponsor ■



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



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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

Gigi Campbell Student Trustee Excellence Scholarship

TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

WELCOME

Maureen Broderick
ICCTA president

INVOCATION

Bishop Wayne Dunning
ICCTA vice president

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Broderick

RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

President Broderick

GREETINGS

Jee Hang Lee
Association of Community College
Trustees president/CEO

PRESENTATION OF 2024 AWARD NOMINEES

Jim Reed, Jr., J.D.
ICCTA executive director

BREAK

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER

President Broderick

REMARKS

Dr. Lazaro Lopez
Illinois Community College Board chair

RECOGNITION OF 2024 AWARD WINNERS

President Broderick

CLOSING REMARKS

President Broderick

Sylvia "Sue" Gorman

Trustee
Highland Community College

Eldon Greenwood

Founding trustee
Lincoln Land Community College

Douglas Hager

Founding trustee
Parkland College

Charles Hanfelder

Trustee
*Lewis and Clark Community
College*

Dr. James M. Howard

President
Lincoln Land Community College
Deputy executive director
Illinois Community College Board

Merlin Karlock

Founding board chair
Kankakee Community College

Bonnie Kelley

Trustee
Parkland College

Vickie Miller

Board chair
Danville Area Community College

Robert Morton

Trustee
Southwestern Illinois College

Kenneth Nelson

Board chair
Rock Valley College

Drinda L. O'Connor

Board chair
Lincoln Land Community College
Executive director
*Illinois Community College
System Foundation*

Ronald Parrish

Trustee
McHenry County College

Hugh Van Voorst

Board chair
Kankakee Community College
Commissioner
*Illinois Student Assistance
Commission*

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.*

TONIGHT'S SPEAKERS

Jee Hang Lee

President and CEO

Association of Community College Trustees

Jee Hang Lee became president and CEO of the Association of Community College Trustees in 2021. In that role, he provides national leadership to over 500 governing boards who oversee the majority of community colleges throughout the United States and internationally. Prior to becoming president and CEO, President Lee led the association's public policy and advocacy efforts for more than 15 years.



Dr. Lazaro Lopez

Chair

Illinois Community College Board

A proud College of DuPage graduate, Dr. Laz Lopez has served as chair of the Illinois Community College Board since March 2015. His priorities have focused on student success, workforce development and institutional effectiveness. Dr. Lopez has been featured in the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Profiles of Change and Achieving Tomorrow Series and recognized as Illinois Principal of the Year for his efforts to ensure economic mobility.



IN MEMORIAM

John Albin

Board chair

Parkland College

Commissioner

Illinois Student Assistance Commission

Leo Barczewski

Trustee

Kaskaskia College

Verle Besant

Founding trustee

Kaskaskia College

ICCTA Honorary Member

William Black

Trustee

Danville Area Community College

State Representative, 104th District

Illinois House of Representatives

Don Brennan

Board chair

Illinois Central College

John Coleman

Board chair

Moraine Valley Community College

Dr. David Coopridger

Trustee

Richland Community College

Randall Crocker

Trustee

Rend Lake College

Dr. Richard G. Erzen

Founding president

College of Lake County

Jim Ellis
Southeastern Illinois College

Pennie Groezinger
Highland Community College

Janet Hood
Highland Community College

William Kelley
William Rainey Harper College

Mandy Little
John A. Logan College

Dave Maguire
Spoon River College

Torrie Newsome
College of Lake County

Dr. Clare M. Ollayos
Elgin Community College

Samantha Raymond
Lincoln Land Community College

Dr. Donna Redmer
Elgin Community College

Julie Shroka
College of Lake County

Tracy Sullivan
Moraine Valley Community College

Laura Wedekemper
Kaskaskia College

Tom Whitt
Heartland Community College

Tina Willson
Waubonsee 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%).

**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 2024 nominees:

Aon
and College of Lake County

Birkey's Farm Store
and Parkland College

Bourn & Koch
and Rock Valley College

The Chicago Lighthouse
and Moraine Valley Community College

Dot Foods Inc.
and Oakton College

Innovation DuPage
and College of DuPage

Kensing
and Kankakee Community College

Monken Auto Group
and Kaskaskia College

Roland Machinery Company
and Lincoln Land Community College

SABIC
and Illinois Valley Community College

Suncast Corporation
and Elgin Community College

FACT:

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

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 2024 nominees:

Elgin Community College

Heartland Community College

Joliet Junior College

Rock Valley College

FACT:

In fall 2022, ICCTA adopted one of the nation's first statewide Neurodiversity Inclusion Statements:

<https://tinyurl.com/kuyf7jyr>

2023-2024 ICCTA OFFICERS

Maureen Broderick

President
Joliet Junior College

Bishop Wayne Dunning
Vice president
Richland Community College

Patricia Joan Murphy
Secretary
Moraine Valley Community College

Shawn Boldt
Treasurer
Highland Community College

Dr. Maureen Dunne
Past president
College of DuPage

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 2024 nominees:

Dr. Laurie Borowicz

President
Kishwaukee College

Francis "Fran" Brolley

CEO
Starved Rock Country Community
Foundation
Illinois Valley Community College

FACT:

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

2023 - 2024 ICCTA AWARDS COMMITTEE

Vicki Carr
Chair
Richland 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

ICCTA PRESIDENT'S AWARD

The ICCTA President's Award is the only award given at the sole discretion of the current ICCTA President. This honor celebrates an unsung hero who has selflessly supported the Trustees Association and the Illinois community college system.

TRUSTEE SERVICE AWARDS

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

Congratulations to our 2024 recipient, whose name has been kept confidential until tonight's ceremony.

FACT:

Parkland College is the home of the most ICCTA presidents: James L. Ayers, Tom Bennett, Dick O'Dell, and Linden A. Warfel.

FACT:

Tom Bennett also served as chair of the Association of Community College Trustees.

25-YEAR TRUSTEES

Brenda Culver

Illinois Eastern Community Colleges

David Harby

Danville Area Community College

Dana Trimble

Parkland College

35-YEAR TRUSTEES

James L. Ayers

Parkland College

Anthony DeFilippo

South Suburban College

GANDHI / KING PEACE SCHOLARSHIP

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

The Gandhi/King Peace 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 2024 nominees:

Anastaja Buffington

Heartland Community College

Jordynn Duensing

Kaskaskia College

Taibrianna Foster

College of Lake County

Esther Gonzalez

Morton College

Perla Gonzalez

Kishwaukee College

Alexis Harris

College of DuPage

Diamond Kirk

John A. Logan College

Estela Martinez

Waubensee Community College

Louay Mustafa

Moraine Valley Community College

Anum Naaz

Oakton College

FACT:

The Illinois community college system is the third largest in the United States, educating more than 500,000 credit-enrolled students in fall 2023 and spring 2024.

**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 2024
educational expenses.*

Congratulations to our 2024 nominees:

Daniel Blaine
College of Lake County

Elizabeth Boyles
Illinois Valley Community College

Allison Coon
Highland Community College

Lydia Cruz
Oakton College

Iyeshia Ellis
Joliet Junior College

Perla Gonzalez
Kishwaukee College

Madison Johnson
Kaskaskia College

Ryan Kolbusz
Elgin Community College

Andria Merkle
Heartland Community College

Magnus Noble
John A. Logan College

Juan Noguera
Rock Valley College

Ruju Rai
College of DuPage

Jacqueline Schertz
Lake Land College

Alejandro De Jesus Joleanis Velasquez
Morton 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.*

Mike Sullivan
*Trustee
Lake Land College*

Mike Sullivan's public service career began when he was elected president of Lake Land College's student government in 1968. Elected as a full voting trustee in 1987, he served until February 2024, becoming one of the Illinois community college system's longest-serving board members. In addition to volunteering for or chairing nearly every ICCTA committee, Mr. Sullivan was elected ICCTA president in 1999-2000 and received the Ray Hartstein Trustee Achievement Award in 2017.



**RAY HARTSTEIN
TRUSTEE
ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD**

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

John W. 'Bill' Hawley
*Board chair
Kaskaskia College*

John W. "Bill" Hawley has been a pivotal figure at Kaskaskia College for 38 years, including 20 years as board chair. His leadership has fueled the college's growth, expanding academic programs and campus infrastructure while fostering relationships with regional business and community leaders. Mr. Hawley's steady guidance during Illinois' two-year budget impasse and the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated his effectiveness as a unifying leader.



Joe Flynn
Business
*Moraine Valley Community
College*

Dean Graves
Automotive technology
Danville Area Community College

Dr. Heather Hampson
Nursing
John A. Logan College

Megan Kasigy
Radiologic technology
Kishwaukee College

Matt Landrus
English
Lake Land College

Dr. Tara Leszczwicz
Biology
College of DuPage

Dr. Stephen Miko
Criminal justice
Sauk Valley Community College

Dr. Mathew Oakes
English composition/Literature
Rock Valley College

Lou Pierozzi
Art and design
Oakton College

Amber Robertson
Nursing
Illinois Valley Community College

Antigone Sharris
Engineering technology
Triton College

Matthew Shaver
Integrated media design
Lincoln Land Community College

Bradley Sleeth
Physical science
Morton College

Clay Sterling
Electrical engineering technology
Kankakee Community College

Kelly Taylor
Graphic arts design and
technology
William Rainey Harper College

Umberto Tinajero
Industrial manufacturing
technology
Elgin Community College

Phil Vandiver
Digital media communication
Heartland Community College

Dr. Sheela Vemu
Biology
Waubonsee Community College

Rhonda White
Physical therapist assistant
Prairie State College

Jay Wiltshire
Student success
College of Lake County

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
\$500 stipend to the
student who best
describes "How My
Community College
Has Changed My Life."*

Congratulations to our 2024 nominees:

Batool Alnsour
Moraine Valley Community College

Herbert Berko
Black Hawk College

Jacob Engel
Oakton College

Lauren Frost
Illinois Valley Community College

Daniel Golladay
Heartland Community College

Pedro Hall
Kishwaukee College

Lesli Herrera
Waubonsee Community College

Eli Mackey
Southeastern Illinois College

Chioma Peculiar-Onyekere
Morton College

Imani Portee
Triton College

Allison Powell
Lake Land College

Zohaib Syed Quadri
College of DuPage

Michael Rigdon
John A. Logan College

Victoria Ruiz
Elgin Community College

Diana Taborda
College of Lake County

Miranda Sanders
Lincoln Land Community College

Jacqueline Witteborg
Kaskaskia College

Rylie Yates
Illinois Central College

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

**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 \$500 stipend for fall 2024 educational expenses.

Congratulations to our 2024 nominees:

Madilyn Brummer
Lake Land College

Lynn Keyt
Illinois Valley Community College

Parker Newton
Heartland Community College

Paola Santoyo
Morton 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.

**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 2024 nominees:

Stacy Bainter
Nursing
Carl Sandburg College

JoElla Basler
Psychology
Shawnee Community College

Meghan Becraft
Dental assisting
Lewis and Clark Community College

Dr. Jeff Bradford
Technical education
Joliet Junior College

Amanda Briggs
Aviation
Parkland College

Dan Cross
Film
Southwestern Illinois College

Paul Cummins
Humanities
Southeastern Illinois College

Brian Dalpiaz
Mathematics
Spoon River College

Jeff Fairbanks
Culinary arts
Rend Lake College

Dr. Magdalena Farc
Psychology
McHenry County College

Thomas Louvier
Philosophy
Lewis and Clark Community College

Nancy Marquez
Graphic arts
William Rainey Harper College

Anne Meny
French
McHenry County College

Jill Myers
Criminal justice
Spoon River College

Doreen O'Leary-Nakaerts
Nursing
Kishwaukee College

Lincoln Pinto
Business
Morton College

Nancy Sheeber
Digital media and design
College of Lake County

Fred Visel
History
Carl Sandburg College

David Williams
Business and economics
Oakton College

FACT:
Illinois community college graduates with an associate degree have an employment rate of 85% after five years – and this number increases to 92% ten 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.

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 2024 recipients:

Dr. Bettsey Barhorst
Trustee
Illinois Central College

Dr. Brian Caputo
President
College of DuPage

Dr. Maria Coons
Vice president of strategic alliances and innovation / Board liaison
William Rainey Harper College

Jerald Hoekstra
Trustee
Kankakee Community College

Bruce Lauerman
Trustee
Carl Sandburg College

Dr. Jonah Rice
President
Southeastern Illinois College

Dr. David Sam, Esq.
President
Elgin Community College

FACT:
America's first public community college was established in Joliet, Illinois, in 1901. Today there are 48 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. David Sam, Esq.
Chair
*Illinois Council of
Community College Presidents*

Dr. David Sam has served in dual leadership roles this year: as the president of Elgin Community College and as chair of the Illinois Council of Community College Presidents. Under his leadership, the Council has expanded its systemwide marketing and transformative manufacturing initiatives, tackled emerging issues such as artificial intelligence, and broadened its connections with chief academic officers and student service officers.



PROFESSIONAL BOARD STAFF MEMBER AWARD

The Professional Board Staff Member Award recognizes exemplary performance in support of an Illinois community college board of trustees.

Diane Kerruish
Senior executive assistant to the president
Elgin Community College

Diane Kerruish's in-depth knowledge and expertise of all things ECC extends back more than 16 years. Trustees look to her for monthly meeting materials, community event schedules, and day-to-day awareness of what is happening on campus. An Elgin Community College graduate, she was spotlighted as one of the school's "Sensational 75" alumni during its 75th anniversary celebration this year.



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 2024 nominees:

Daniel Brock
Culinary arts
Rend Lake College

Deborah Burch
Counselor
Illinois Valley Community College

Evelyn Cassano
Adult education
Waubensee Community College

Jennifer Clark
English
Elgin Community College

Laura Coughlin
Anatomy and physiology
Heartland Community College

Marina Demos
Behavioral science / psychology
Triton College

Sherry Dimmig
Adult education
Sauk Valley Community College

Charlotte Garrabrant
Emergency medical services
Joliet Junior College

Randy Gerdes
Emergency medical services
Kankakee Community College

Aisling Lockhart
Accountancy
College of DuPage

Brice Huddleston
Retired colonel
U.S. Air Force
Lincoln Land Community College

Benjamin Jeffreys
Managing partner
Mid America Insurance
Heartland Community College

Steve Kenneke
Vice president of
Central Zone air operations
UPS
Highland Community College

Jason Knade
Creative director
Behold
Moraine Valley Community College

Whitney Kampwerth Luebers
Family practice attorney
Kaskaskia College

Dr. Scott Mertes
Provost
Mid Michigan College
Waubensee Community College

Nathan Norman
Re-entry director
IL Department of Human Services
Oakton College

Dr. Jennifer Nudo
Chiropractor
Southeastern Illinois College

Brooke Oliver
Director of surgical technology
Richland Community College
Richland Community College

Rev. Tiffany Peppers
Senior pastor
Jesus Name Apostolic Church
College of Lake County

Eric Peterson
CEO and founder
Project Headspace and Timing
Kankakee Community College

Dr. John Schibrowsky
Professor of marketing and
international business
University of Nevada Las Vegas
Illinois Valley Community College

Katrina Thompson
Mayor
Village of Broadview
Triton College

Jamal Ward
Operations director
Thompson Child and Family Focus
Carl Sandburg 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 2024 nominees:

Robert Brucker
Heartland Community College

Allison Cole
Kishwaukee College

Yusef Issa
Moraine Valley Community College

Marlo Maher
Danville Area Community College

Gregory Williams
Illinois Valley Community College

[Click here for a listing
of ICCTA's previous award recipients:](#)



FACT:

Morton College alum Jim Peterik performed his Grammy Award-winning hit "Eye of the Tiger" at ICCTA's 2019 awards banquet.

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, 2013.

Congratulations to our 2024 nominees:

Frances Blankenship

Physical therapist assistant
Athletico Physical Therapy Center
Morton College

Cameron DeSilva

Graduate student in earth science
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Waubensee Community College

Kiersten Edgar

Agriculture teacher
Athens High School
Lake Land College

Martha Kerestes

Contributing editor
Graze magazine
Illinois Valley Community College

Jacques LaCour

Cybersecurity/incident response analyst
United Airlines
College of DuPage

Nicole Pedigo

Family/community engagement liaison
Springfield School District 186
Lincoln Land Community College

Dr. Stephanie Saey

First-year resident in internal medicine
Mayo Clinic
Carl Sandburg College

Michael Taylor

Assistant professor of nursing
Joliet Junior College
Joliet Junior 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 2024 nominees:

Jim Belushi

Actor / Cannabis entrepreneur
College of DuPage

Craig Bradley

Electronics/computer science/
astronomy instructor
Shawnee Community College
Shawnee Community College

The Hon. Cristina Castro

Majority Caucus Whip
State Senator, 22nd District
Illinois Senate
Elgin Community College

Tonya Hill

Executive director
Danville Area Community College
Foundation
Danville Area Community College

Nichole Holmes

Realtor / Host
Netflix's "Marriage or Mortgage"
John A. Logan College

Jen Howard

President and CEO
Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce
and Industry
Joliet Junior College

Adam and Jessica Honiotes

Battalion chief
Sycamore Fire Department
Registered nurse
Northwestern Medicine Delnor Hospital
Kishwaukee College