

 ACI Reporter

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Make Plans to Attend the Nov. 2 ACI Fall Conference in Chicago



A co-founder and editor of the online news publication, [Inside Higher Ed](#), is the featured speaker at [ACI's Fall Conference](#), Friday, Nov. 2, in Chicago.

[Doug Lederman](#) will highlight the annual professional development conference, to be held at the [Microsoft Technology Center](#), Aon Building, 200 E. Randolph St. Another featured speaker, Illinois State [Sen. Pat McGuire](#), 43rd District, will discuss the General Assembly's Higher Education Working Group.

The conference sponsor is [BKD CPAs & Advisors](#).

Registration is open through the close of business Oct. 26, said Constance Willoughby, ACI director of conferences and scholarships. Click [here](#) to register.

The ACI Fall Conference is a comprehensive conference, featuring professional development tracks for member college and university staff working in advancement, finance, public relations and marketing, and student engagement. There is no cost for eligible college and university staff to register.

ACI Scholars

**Jacolby Maxwell
Monmouth College**

ACI General Scholarship

"The ACI scholarship made a big difference. It meant a lot."

[Watch Jacolby tell his story!](#)

Jacolby Maxwell is a student athlete. He is a wide receiver on the [Monmouth College](#) football team. And he wants to carry that experience forward after college for a possible career in sports management or coaching.

From Romeoville, Illinois, Maxwell transferred to Monmouth after one year at Ohio Dominican University. He wanted to be closer to home, and Monmouth was attractive. "I wanted to be able to play football and get a good education, and I wanted a school with smaller class sizes," he says. Plus, the kinesiology program at Monmouth College offered the flexibility and classes he wanted.

Maxwell began his senior year this fall. Majoring in wellness administration, he sees many career possibilities, such as coaching or working as an athletic director. "I was a physical education major," Maxwell says. "Wellness administration is a broader field. If I want to coach, I can do that. Or, if I want to be an athletic director, I can do that."



Ideally, Maxwell wants to be a high school coach. "I like sports. I would love to be a high school coach, coaching high school football and basketball. The coaches have a huge impact on players' lives," he says.

Helping Maxwell achieve his career goals is an [ACI General Scholarship](#), awarded to him by Monmouth College. "It was pretty sweet," Maxwell says, explaining that his mother, Vanessa, pays for him to attend college herself, not easy given other family responsibilities. Maxwell is the youngest of three children, plus two younger cousins and his grandmother live with the family. "Almost all of my mother's income goes to getting them food, taking care of them. My mom has three to four people dependent on her," he says.

The ACI scholarship made a big difference, Maxwell says. "It means a lot because that's money she doesn't have to pay," he says. "As soon as she found out, she called me, and she was as joyful as can be. It meant a lot because that's money that can go to something else."

In addition to attending school and playing football at Monmouth College, Maxwell is part of Campus Outreach, an interdenominational organization at the college that leads students in Bible study and fellowship.

Rachel Rowlett Trinity Christian College A. Montgomery Ward Scholarship

"I am definitely thankful for the scholarship. The scholarship helped me keep my head above water and move forward."

[Watch Rachel tell her story!](#)



Rachel Rowlett is focused on a career as a financial planner, someone who can help people out of debt or stay out of debt. Rowlett, the oldest of three sisters from Plainfield, Illinois, is a business finance major at [Trinity Christian College](#). This fall, she began her junior year.

At first, Rowlett thought she might be a psychology major and become a counselor. "I missed math," she says. "I'm good with money." In fact, she learned from her parents at young age how to be smart with money. Rowlett gives 10 percent of her funds to Community Christian Church. She saves roughly 20 percent and uses the rest for routine expenses. This is why she says financial planning comes naturally to her. "I want to help people organize, help budget and help them feel like they're on top of their finances," she says.

"There's a lot of tension and stress when it comes to finances." She learned about financial planning first-hand this past spring, working as a tax assistant at P&L Accounting and Tax Service, Oak Forest, Illinois. She also has worked in the college's financial aid office and is part of the college's music program, playing French horn in a band and woodwind ensemble. And, Rowlett has been recognized on the college's dean's list.

Rowlett says she was fortunate to be awarded a scholarship by Trinity Christian. Through ACI, the college gave Rowlett the A. Montgomery Ward Scholarship. "I was so thankful that I was able to receive the scholarship and have money taken off my tuition," she says. "It was the end of freshman year I found out I was going to have the scholarship. I had a

big out-of-pocket payment due in the fall, and I said, 'I don't know how I'm going to come up with this.'" A summer job helped but it didn't quite provide enough to pay for tuition and books.

"I am definitely thankful for the scholarship," she says. "The scholarship helped me keep my head above water and move forward. It's a little bit less I have to pay off."

With her math and financial background, Rowlett understands the commitment and costs of a college education. "Coming to college was actually a hard decision for me because it's a big investment," she says. "It's expensive. Do I want to go to a community college the first two years and save some money or do I want to come to a four-year school? I went back and forth. Trinity is very generous, and the ACI scholarship helped me tremendously."

Rowlett says she hasn't regretted her decision to attend Trinity Christian, which has offered her many opportunities. "I feel like I've grown so much in the two years I've been here. Just spiritually and as a person, I'm thankful for how this Trinity community has shaped me as a person."

Meet ACI Members

Quincy University Rises, Emphasizing Academics, Community Connections and Positive Messaging

A regional learning hub for Western Illinois



It's a new day at [Quincy University](#). After facing a severe financial shortfall and uncertainty about its future in the winter of 2016-2017, the university has emerged to become a recognized economic anchor for Quincy and western Illinois, while adapting its academic programs to current societal and workforce trends.

Many things have changed in 18 months. A new president, Phil Conover, left, was appointed. The university's financial picture improved. Faculty, staff and students are optimistic, and express that optimism in the community. The new academic year began with more than 1,100 undergraduate and graduate students, including 349 freshmen and transfer students, an 11 percent increase in new students over the previous year, plus significant increases in graduate students. All are factors as Quincy University moves toward what Conover describes as "long-term sustainability."

[Read the full story.](#)

ACI News

Join us for ACI's HR, and Diversity and Inclusion Leaders Breakfast Nov. 7

ACI will soon host its second annual HR, and Diversity and Inclusion Leaders breakfast event Wednesday, Nov. 7, at the [University Club of Chicago](#), 76 E. Monroe St.

Speakers include Dr. Laurie M. Joyner, president of ACI member [Saint Xavier University](#), Chicago. The program, "Cultural Strengths: Moving Beyond The D&I Workshop," will be presented by Monika Black, left, and Tomer Yogeve, right, co-founders of [TandemSpring](#). The Chicago-based executive coaching firm focuses on strengths-based approaches to leadership development, diversity and inclusion, and strategy optimization for leading organizations. Founded in 2010, notable clients include Teach For America, Gallagher Bassett, Microsoft and the Anti-Defamation League.



"Learn from the minds behind industry-leader TandemSpring how their unique strengths-based diversity and inclusion model allows individuals and teams to leverage character and cultural strengths to make D&I work a more inviting, dynamic and continuously evolving journey for all involved," according to the program description. "Large corporations, startups, universities and nonprofits have all benefited from TandemSpring's Cultural Strengths approach by making D&I transform from just another mandatory workshop to the enlightening and introspective journey it was always meant to be."

Corporate and higher education leaders working in human resources, career services, as well as diversity and inclusion officers, should plan to attend. [Online registration](#) is available through the close of business, Monday, Nov. 5.

ACI to Host Wealth Advisors at Thursday, Dec. 6, Breakfast Meeting in Chicago



ACI will host a breakfast meeting for financial wealth advisors Thursday, Dec. 6, an event focused on investing in ACI's student-development programs.

Featured speaker is Carolyn Leonard, left, CEO and co-founder, [DyMynd](#), Chicago. Leonard was one of the first female independent traders to work at the Chicago Board Options Exchange.

Dr. Troy D. Hammond, president of ACI member [North Central College](#), Naperville, will speak about ACI and investing in liberal arts higher education in Illinois.

The breakfast will be at the [University Club of Chicago](#), 76 East Monroe Street. Registration will open in October.

Work and Life Skills Boot Camps Will Support Students at ACI Colleges and Universities

Students of color, low-income and first-generation students at ACI member institutions soon may benefit from *Skills for Work, Skills for Life Boot Camps*, a new project ACI plans to launch in 2019. The project has been funded through a \$19,050 First Opportunity Partners matching grant from the [Council of Independent Colleges](#) (CIC) with support from the UPS Foundation.



The Saturday morning boot camps, designed to support campus career services programs, will begin in fall 2019 and offer students intensive instruction in resume development, interviewing/presentation skills, workplace technology skills, and financial literacy and career paths in financial services. Each session will conclude with a luncheon introducing students to a key Illinois employer that hires large numbers of alumni from ACI members.

"Students from low-income backgrounds or who are first in their families to graduate college have few role models in their lives who can offer career advice and support for job searches," explains Mick Weltman, ACI executive director. "ACI boot camps can help bridge that gap and give underserved students a better chance at launching satisfying careers after they graduate."

In 2019-20, ACI plans to offer three boot camps: two in the metro Chicago area and one outside Chicago -- all on ACI member campuses. ACI is now actively seeking corporate sponsorship for *Skills for Work, Skills for Life Boot Camps*. A minimum of \$19,050 is required to match the CIC grant and fully fund the program. The matching deadline is March 2019. ACI also will also seek presenters for the programs and recruit host campuses. For more information, contact Executive Director Mick Weltman, 312-263-2391, ext. 0523 or email at mweltman@acifund.org.

Charles Gregory Appointed Interim President at Benedictine University

Charles Gregory is serving as interim president of ACI member [Benedictine University](#). Gregory, right, assumed the role of president after Dr. Michael S. Brophy stepped down from his position as president effective Aug. 10.

Gregory will serve as interim president while a search committee seeks a permanent president for the university. Gregory previously was executive vice president of Benedictine University and was CEO of the university's Mesa Campus in Arizona.

Brophy is taking a year-long sabbatical, devoting his time to research in higher education leadership, according to a university [news release](#). A tenured professor at Benedictine, Brophy is expected to return to teaching in 2019.



Remembering Ivan Frick, Former ACI President



Dr. Ivan E. Frick, the 11th president of ACI member [Elmhurst College](#), passed away Aug. 25 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Frick, 90, was also a former president of ACI, serving a two-year term beginning in 1991.

Frick was Elmhurst College president from 1971 until 1994. He is "remembered for continuing the college's excellent academic reputation, restoring its financial equilibrium, and building a strong sense of campus community," according to an [Elmhurst College news release](#).

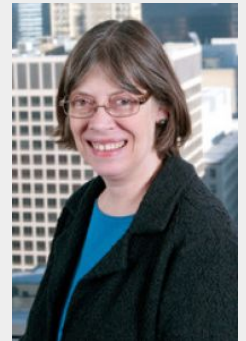
Under Frick's leadership, Elmhurst College achieved 22 years of balanced budgets. When he left office in 1994, the college's endowment was \$35 million, a 46-fold increase, the college reported.

Two memorial services were planned. The first was held Sept. 15 in Lancaster. A second memorial is planned Oct. 13 at St. Peter's United Church of Christ in Elmhurst.

Congratulations ACI Board Member Ellen Babbitt

ACI Board of Trustees member Ellen Babbitt, right, a partner at Husch Blackwell, was named to [Chicago's Notable Women Lawyers 2018](#), by Crain's Chicago Business.

Babbitt, who joined as a member of the ACI corporate board in 2016, was recognized for nearly three decades of leadership in higher education law. Babbitt "has advised and consulted with boards, presidents and trade groups on issues such as sexual harassment, admissions, campus safety and free-speech issues. In the last year her work has spanned regulatory issues in connection with the effects of #MeToo on institutions of higher education," the magazine reported. "In building her practice, she's been a trailblazer for aspiring female leaders in the legal industry."



Take Advantage of Everything The Back Office Cooperative Has to Offer Saving more means doing more for your students, staff and community



[The Back Office Cooperative](#) (BOC) was founded in 2008 by a group of Chicago nonprofits who understood the power of creating scale in purchasing. As a social enterprise, BOC seeks to maximize member organizations' impact by promoting financial sustainability through expense reduction. Today, BOC provides flexible solutions for nonprofits and educational institutions of any size across the country, delivering millions of dollars annually back to the nonprofit sector.

BOC saves clients time and money through its complimentary expense management analysis and strategic planning. Cost reduction is achieved by joining group purchase programs, including *new* offerings: Health Care Insurance, and Accounting and Bookkeeping. Along with Group Programs, BOC offers Procurement Services expertise in over 30 administrative expense areas. BOC members have expert procurement staff whenever and wherever they are needed, freeing up staff time to focus on your core jobs.



Ask BOC about its complementary expense reduction analysis, which provides expense management strategy and planning to maximize the value of supplier relationships supporting the delivery of your mission. BOC's proven process reduces expenses by increasing buying power, streamlining vendors, and reducing procurement and supplier management costs.

As a member of Associated Colleges of Illinois, becoming a BOC member is easy -- simply send an email to Linda Zager at linda.zager@thebackofficecoop.org.

Please Save These Dates for Upcoming 2019 ACI Events!

- **Friday, April 12, 2019:** ACI Annual Benefit Reception, University Club of Chicago, 76 E. Monroe St., Chicago.
- **Friday, Oct. 4, 2019:** ACI Career and Internship Fair, North Central College, 30 N. Brainard St., Naperville.

Visit ACI's Website to Take Advantage of Job and Internship Listings, Plus Micro-Internships



Looking to build your talent pool? Let ACI help!

ACI posts jobs and internships on the ACI website. Many of 70,000 students ACI serves at 25 member colleges and universities will see your job posting. It's easy to post a job or internship. Visit ACI's [website](#), complete the form we've provided for employers, send us your company logo, and we'll post the announcement for free.

In addition, ACI has partnered with [Parker Dewey](#) to provide [paid micro-internships](#) for college students and recent grads. Micro-internships are a great way to gain professional experience through short-term, paid assignments.

Questions about ACI's Jobs and Internships webpage should be directed to ACI Executive Director Mick Weltman at mweltman@acifund.org or by calling 312-263-2391, ext. 0523.

Did You Know?

Navigating Higher Education From Michael Best, an ACI corporate partner

Higher education institutions require experienced legal counsel to assist them in navigating their ever-increasing challenges and extraordinary opportunities.



[Michael Best's](#) Higher Education Group provides a full range of legal services, ranging from the everyday to the extraordinary, which assist colleges and universities in growing and thriving without compromising their missions.

Read more about Michael Best's Higher Education experience and expertise [here](#).

Support ACI Programs with Tax-Deductible Gifts

Financial gifts to ACI can help provide scholarships to underserved students or provide support for peer mentoring for low-income, first-generation college students at ACI-affiliated colleges and universities. Financial gifts are tax deductible as provided by law.

To provide gifts for ACI scholarship and Peer Mentoring Programs, please visit the ACI [website](#) or contact Mick Weltman, ACI executive director, at 312-263-2391, ext. 0523 or write to mweltman@acifund.org.



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