

# Police and violent crime

## Partnering with CeaseFire to calm homicide spikes

Following a particularly violent weekend in May, Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel and police Superintendent Garry McCarthy wasted no time. They held a news conference on May 29, the day after Memorial Day, and announced a new partnership with CeaseFire Illinois, an anti-violence organization based at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Until that point, the city repeatedly had declined invitations to formally support CeaseFire, which gets most of its funding from the state.

Year after year, City Hall and police officials had preferred traditional approaches to fighting crime. They didn't want nobody nobody sent. They viewed CeaseFire warily.

But those reservations melted after 40 shootings across the city left 10 dead in one weekend. If anything revealed the city's level of depletion and frustration over the highly publicized shootings and homicides, it was Emanuel's decision to partner with CeaseFire — a tacit acknowledgment that police department strategies to reduce violence could use an addendum.

That said, we don't hold the police responsible for Chicago's murder rate.

Officers usually are called to a homicide scene only *after* some assailant has decided to fire a bullet, or wield a knife, or wave a club — and a victim is lying on the ground. Yes, police over time can influence a murder rate.

But they're only one of many influences on the lethal question of who elects to kill whom.

**CeaseFire, by contrast**, works in a pre-emptive way, deploying its staff as "interrupters" to staunch violence before it originates or escalates. Residents call a hotline to report tensions brew-

ing on their blocks. CeaseFire sends staff immediately to broker communication and, we all can hope, to cool tempers.

The city has agreed to fund CeaseFire for one year at \$1.5 million. The money will allow the group to hire 90 employees to monitor Woodlawn, Roseland, Little Village and Lawndale. That's the plan scheduled for implementation July 1, according to CeaseFire Illinois' director, Tio Hardiman.

Will it work?

Like many cities, Chicago has employed dozens of strategies to reduce crime. Earlier curfews. Gun bans. After-school programs.

Surveillance cameras. More police. Targeted police. Police undercover.

Guess what? The strategies have helped to reduce the murder rate and overall crime during recent years. Many violent crimes in Chicago are occurring far less than a generation ago. Murders peaked in 1974 with 970 people killed, but the toll also topped 900 three times in the early 1990s. Last year, Chicago police handled 433 murders, a number that has remained relatively steady since 2004. Medical advances have helped too. Shooting victims are less likely to die in emergency rooms.

That said, the murder rate here remains stubbornly above those of many other cities; this year Chicago's homicide toll is 35 percent higher than last year's. The recent wave of violence that made Chicago the top story on the "CBS Evening News" stands as a reminder that spikes in crime cannot be ignored. Gunfire has turned certain Chicago neighborhoods into war zones. That is a fact.

Here's another fact, and we can't state it too often: The human suffering caused by all this violence reaches well beyond the burning pain of bullets, the efficient extermination of lives. Not

only is one murder or one shooting too many. Each of these incidents also causes so much emotional heartbreak — at least for the family of the victim, and often for the family of the assailant and for eyewitnesses as well.

**This river of suffering**, of loss, has been washing over Chicago with uncommon fury.

CeaseFire's Hardiman, who is African-American, is especially troubled that so many of these deadly encounters involve black men attacking black men — men who can't get along, who don't trust one another, who let minor disputes become matters of life and death.

Too many times, Hardiman says, "It's locked in their thinking, 'I have to get rid of this guy' or 'I have to be a tough guy.'"

Hardiman's group and Chicago police have different strategies but one goal: disrupting antagonism and retaliation before more young people die — and before even younger people tumble into that same culture of violence. The children today who avoid the front porch, whose parents are afraid to take them to the park, who hit the floor during bursts of nightly gunfire? They're at risk of becoming tomorrow's shooters, tomorrow's victims.

Citizens of the neighborhoods most plagued by guns don't see violence in Chicago as a "perception" issue, as McCarthy suggests while citing crime statistics that appear to be moving in the right direction. Neither does CeaseFire, which mediated more than 200 disputes already this year.

Can the organization dull the spikes in violence this summer? Can CeaseFire live up to its name in some of Chicago's most violent communities?

It has one year and \$1.5 million to show us.



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## Longest-serving UIS employee retires today

By CHRIS DETTRO

The State Journal-Register

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Last update Jun 14, 2012 @ 06:47 AM

On June 30, Lynne Price intends to sleep in, get the newspaper and have coffee with her dogs on her patio. Beyond that, she has no plans for her first day of retirement **after nearly 42 years** at the University of Illinois Springfield.

Price, UIS's director of campus health services, joined then-Sangamon State University as its one-and-only staff nurse in September 1970. She is the university's longest-serving employee.

"I must have been interviewed by about 40 people in the Myers Building downtown," she recalled. "Jerry Curl (an SSU administrator) came out of an office and said, 'We'd kind of like you to stay two years. Can you do that?'"

Price agreed.

"It's the best decision I've ever made in my life to come here," she said. "It's been a great ride, let me tell you."

She spent the first two weeks of her career copying and collating papers at the Myers Building offices, then moved to the current campus, where she got a room with supplies and boxes in it. Dr. Douglas Gover already had been hired as the health service physician.

"We were it for a year," she said. "A psychiatrist eventually joined us for three or four years, but the funding for his position was cut. Dr. Gover retired about 20 years ago."

The health service had a bathroom, a reception area with three chairs, a small psychiatrist's room and an all-purpose room.

### Clinic expands

Just after she was hired, Price attended a student meeting at a downtown church. One student stood up and asked why the university needed a nurse.

"The dean of students answered that one for me," she said.

The health service moved about a decade ago to its current location in the Business Services building with a large reception area, offices for Price, a nurse and a nurse practitioner, a lab, and four examination rooms.

"It's really a very nice clinic, but it is getting a little small for us now," she said.

"We have two physicians, Dr. Regina Kovach and Dr. Erik Constance, both of whom are from SIU School of Medicine and still are there," she said. "There is a counseling center on campus with both a psychiatrist and a psychologist, and we have Dr. Brad Western, a sports physician who is part of the health service.

The health service is seeing more students than ever before as both enrollment and the number of students living on campus increase.

Many of those students are international students who present special challenges.

"I think we've adapted quite well," Price said. "We have charts of words in various languages and lots of dictionaries, most of them given to us by students."

"Their cultures are all very different," she said. "Our medicines are strange. And we have had students go home over break to have a procedure done because of the cost is so much less than having it done in this country."

### Will miss students

Interaction with the students is what Price will miss most, she said.

"I'll miss seeing them all the time," she said. "They're always challenging me. They're fun to work with, and they're basically healthy."

"Of course, the medicine has changed tremendously, and now we have to deal with infectious diseases like the avian flu and H1N1," she said. "But each new batch of students is different, too. We had the huggers, who went around hugging each other, the pajama-wearers who went to class in their pajamas, and now we have the technologically active students who are close to their parents."

Price plans to do a lot of camping and traveling this summer, after that first retirement coffee.

"I'll probably work here and there for a day or two if it's convenient," she said. "And I'll work with dogs at the Capitol Canine Training Center and volunteer some places."

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### Reception planned

A retirement reception for Lynne Price, campus health services director at the University of Illinois Springfield, will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. today in the Public Affairs Restaurant.

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FOOTBALL

# University presidents will have options to consider

## Conference commissioners still ironing out the details

CHICAGO (AP) — The conference commissioners who have been working on a four-team playoff to determine college football's national champion plan to present the BCS presidential oversight committee multiple formats from which to choose.

Pac-12 commissioner Larry Scott said the university presidents will "have options — plural" to consider when they meet in two weeks. Scott spoke before leaving Wednesday's meeting with conference commissioners and Notre Dame's athletic director.

What those options are is not clear. This is.

"Status quo is not on the table," BCS executive director Bill Hancock said.

The commissioners have been working on ways since January to hold a four-team major college football playoff, starting in the 2014 season. Among the details that need to be worked out are when and where to play the games, how to incorporate the bowls, and how to select the four teams.

The BCS commissioners and Notre Dame AD Jack Swarbrick released a statement after the meeting saying they are "approaching consensus on many issues and we recognize there are also several issues that require additional conversations at both the commissioner and university president levels.

"We are determined to build upon our success and create a structure that further grows the sport while protecting the regular season. We also value the bowl tradition and recognize the many benefits it brings to student-athletes. We have more work to do and more discussions to have with our presidents who are the parties that will make the final decision about the future structure of college football's postseason."

The commissioners are scheduled to meet again next week in Chicago, and the presidential oversight committee is set to meet June 26 in Washington.

Scott would not say if the so-called "plus-one," which sets the No. 1 vs. No. 2 title game after the bowls have been played instead of before, is still on the table — as he has suggested previously.

"I think there's a focus on a four-team playoff and trying to find a consensus as to the best way that could work, that our conferences can be

comfortable with, that our presidents can consider," ACC commissioner John Swofford said. "But I don't think you cut off all conversation of the (other) models that can be in play. I think the presidents certainly have every right and opportunity to talk about what they need to talk about."

The commissioners last met in April in Florida.

"The reality is that I felt that we made progress on several issues — several difficult issues — and that we need to go back to our leagues and talk about that, go back to our presidents and talk about that," SEC commissioner Mike Slive said. "I thought that we were quite general when we were in Florida at our annual meetings, and I thought we regained the focus today and last night on specific issues and got a lot of consensus."

How a playoff will work is not so simple to figure out.

The bowls are likely to be involved in some fashion as hosts for the semifinals, possibly on a rotating basis or by using the traditional ties between conferences and bowls. The championship game site is likely to be bid out like the Super Bowl.

Then they also must figure out how the teams will be selected: Polls? Computer ratings? A selection committee? A system that emphasizes conference champions or one that allows conferences to place multiple teams in the playoff? Or a combination of all of the above.

And what about the independents?

"They're discussions about everything from the dates to the sites to the who to how," Hancock said. "It was all talked about today in a very productive way, and it was decided that each commissioner now needs to go talk to his presidents."

Whatever they come up with, it probably needs to be done by the fall, when the BCS opens a new round of television negotiations. Hancock said that's the goal, although it could happen after the season. He also pointed out the networks could balk at the plan. That seems to be an unlikely scenario, but BCS officials have been very careful throughout this process to avoid overpromising anything.

"This won't be resolved until after the package goes to the television market," Hancock said. "The TV people might say, 'We don't want to buy that package.' Then, our guys might say, 'Fine, we'll do something else.' It could be a while before the future of the game is known."

Chicago Tribune  
June 14, 2012

# Thinking beyond the payoff from a playoff

BY WILLIAM E. KIRWAN  
AND R. GERALD TURNER

Major change is on its way to big-time college football after years of debate among fans, sports media, Congress and even President Barack Obama about how the sport crowns its national champion. The conference commissioners, campus leaders and television executives who control the NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision appear to be on track to create a playoff to determine a national champion starting with the 2014 season.

The debate has now turned to the obvious issues: how many games will be played, how teams will be chosen and whether current bowl games will survive the transition from the Bowl Championship Series to the new playoff system.

Far less attention has been paid to a much more significant question. How will revenue from the football playoff be distributed, and can it be used to reclaim some of the integrity lost by college sports in recent years?

The Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics, an independent organization of leaders in higher education and other fields, believes it can.

The playoff will come with a massive new television contract. Experts believe the deal will be worth at least \$500 million annually, more than double the current payout for the five-game BCS. This projected payout adds to the more than \$1 billion in annual media revenues that the five richest conferences will earn for their 62 member institutions.

The Knight Commission has called on college presidents, athletics directors and conference commissioners to use a significant portion of playoff revenue to reward teams that do a better job of educating and graduating their players.

The NCAA, conferences and institutions already have made some progress in this area. Most recently, the NCAA adopted a long-held Knight Commission proposal that teams must be on track to graduate at least half their players to be eligible for any postseason game, including football bowl games. But with the increasing complexity of the college sports landscape, a regulatory approach alone will not be sufficient. More can and should be done.

The emphasis on winning and increasing media revenues has created a dangerous cost spiral for our universities. Spending on sports has been growing twice as fast as spending on academics. The current method for distributing postseason football revenues fuels this spiral by rewarding institutions

for their football success and marketplace value, causing other programs to invest funds needed elsewhere on campus to "keep up with the Joneses."

Rather than increasing the million-dollar salaries of football coaches and building more opulent athletics facilities, the Knight Commission's approach aims to use new revenues to reward mission-focused behaviors by rewarding teams that are meeting educational objectives.

For example, revenues might be split such that teams graduating more than 60 or 70 percent of their players earn greater shares of the playoff revenue.

It's important to note that this is not a Robin Hood strategy to transfer money from the "haves" to the "have-nots." Perennial powers like Louisiana State University, Ohio State University and Virginia Tech already exceed these graduation benchmarks.

Instead, this educational initiative would be a powerful incentive for making sure that football teams offer the students who play for them a meaningful educational experience and an arsenal of skills to use when they have left the football field behind.

More broadly, a portion of the abundant financial incentives flowing to this not-for-profit enterprise of college sports will be aligned with its primary educational mission.

Those of us who serve as leaders in higher education and intercollegiate athletics recognize that our responsibilities must be rooted in the educational pursuits of our students. So we must think beyond the payoff from a playoff and the commercial appeal that this new era might bring to the schools playing major college football.

We must consider an incentive structure that strengthens the educational missions of our universities for the long term.

*William E. Kirwan, chancellor of the University System of Maryland, and R. Gerald Turner, president of Southern Methodist University, are co-chairmen of the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics.*

# 3 named to health system board

Preckwinkle boosts effort to direct business contracts

BY HAL DARDICK  
Tribune reporter

Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle continued Wednesday to put her imprint on county government by appointing new members to the board overseeing the county's vast public health system.

Preckwinkle chose not to reappoint Health and Hospitals System Chairman Warren Batts, who has led the system's board since it was created in 2008 to remove politics from the financially troubled system.

She also chose not to reappoint Dr. David Ansell, chief medical officer at Rush University Medical Center. Meanwhile, one-time health system chief Ruth Rothstein did not seek reappointment, and Sister

Sheila Lyne, CEO of Mercy Hospital and Medical Center, is resigning her post a year early.

Batts and Preckwinkle differed last year over whom to appoint as CEO for the health system that accounts for nearly one-third of the county's \$3 billion in yearly spending. Batts and his board allies won out when Dr. Ramanathan Raju, who was an executive at New York City's public health system,

replaced interim CEO Terry Mason, a previous city of Chicago health commissioner backed by Preckwinkle.

Preckwinkle "feels the best path forward is through continued new ideas and diverse opinions, and she wants to make sure the board reflects that," spokeswoman Liane Jackson said, while also praising the service of Batts and Ansell. Batts was unavailable for comment.

To replace the three board members whose terms are ending, Preckwinkle chose Carmen Velasquez, executive director of Alivio Medical Center and a Latino activist; the Rev. Calvin Morris, executive director of the Community Renewal Society, a 130-year-old social and economic justice organization; and Dorene Wiese, president of the American Indian Association of Illinois.

To replace Lyne, she is appointing Edward Michael, executive vice president of diagnostics at Abbott Laboratories. All the appointments require approval of the 17-member County Board.

Preckwinkle on Wednesday also took steps to boost the county's effort to give 24 percent of contracts to minority-owned firms and 10 percent to women-owned firms, something that often did not happen under her predecessors. That, she said, could ensure that \$200 million went to small, minority- and women-owned businesses during the next three to five years.

Standing alongside representatives from nine banks, she said the banks had agreed to work closely with the firms to make sure they had sufficient funding to take on the county contracts. Banks signed on, in part, because Preckwinkle has taken steps to significantly speed county payments to the contractors, she said.

"This initiative will eliminate many of the barriers that prevented small businesses in Cook County from having a seat at the table, and that means more opportunity, more jobs and a stronger local economy," Preckwinkle said.

### Campaign reform

I read your June 3 editorial on pension reform. You congratulate the lawmakers for passing Medicaid reforms and admonish them for not doing the same on the pension side. Unfortunately poor people whom Medicaid impacts do not and/or cannot make campaign contributions and are not organized to vote as a bloc. Pension reform affects union members, and unions do make large campaign contributions and are organized to get their members to vote together for their causes. Unfortunately we will only get the best quality of government and the laws that money can buy until we reform our campaign-finance laws. We will never get the government that we deserve until all levels of government get public financing of elections.

— *Ergin Uskup, Chicago*

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June 13, 2012

### U. of Maryland to Count Patents and Commercialization in Tenure Reviews

By Goldie Blumenstyk

The University System of Maryland is about to adopt a new policy to formally give credit in tenure and promotion decisions for faculty work that leads to patents and other intellectual property applied in technology transfer.

The new policy, slated for final Board of Regents approval on June 23, is part of the system's broader push to promote the commercialization of academic research.

Maryland institutions receive a lot of research money but have been "very run of the mill" when it comes to transforming that research into useful products and services, said William E. (Brit) Kirwan, chancellor of the system, in an interview on Wednesday. "The culture of commercializing intellectual property just hasn't existed in Maryland."

In adopting a policy recognizing "activities that result in the generation and application of intellectual property through technology transfer," Maryland follows Texas A&M University and about two dozen other institutions that now formally recognize such activities for tenure.

In December a conference in Washington of university presidents and venture capitalists recommended the adoption of such a policy. Participants at the conference also recommended granting sabbaticals for faculty members to develop inventions into commercial products. Mr. Kirwan said the Maryland system would adopt that idea too. The new Maryland policies were already in the works before the conference, he said, but that event was a "further catalyst."

The Maryland system in 2010 set itself the 10-year goal of creating 325 companies based on academic research or helped along by university economic-development programs. Mr. Kirwan said the university was mindful that such a goal carries risks: In a push to meet the goal, companies could be formed for the sake of creating companies, even if they were not sustainable businesses.

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## Ohio backs creating 2nd land-grant university

June 14, 2012  
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — A proposal to convey the potentially lucrative land-grant status on Central State University has unanimously cleared both chambers of the Ohio Legislature.

The change made Wednesday was first proposed 120 years ago but scuttled by former President Rutherford B. Hayes. It's now up to Congress whether to make the historically black school in Wilberforce the second land-grant college in state history.

Such status avails Central State of millions in federal funding as part of the nation's expanded network of publicly funded land-grant colleges.

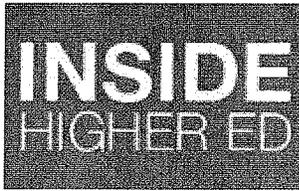
Chancellor Jim Petro, Ohio State University President E. Gordon Gee (gee) — who leads Ohio's only existing land-grant institution — and Central State President John Garland all backed the plan.

The extra funding could help Central State grow and add scholarships and new academic programs.

**The Review**

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## **New Competition in Britain**

Private higher education providers in Britain are to compete directly with public universities for undergraduate places for the first time after the British government announced that it aimed to bring them under the same controls on the number of students accessing public loans, and the same quality assurance regime, as the rest of the sector.

In its long-awaited response to the public consultation on the higher education white paper, the government says it will create a "level-playing field" without primary-legislation. The number of students receiving publicly funded loans to attend private providers will no longer be uncapped, and such institutions will also be brought into the framework operated by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA).

The move has been widely welcomed in the sector because it will limit the uncapped growth of student loan money going to private providers.

The number of students at alternative providers drawing on taxpayer-subsidized loans has risen from 4,300 in 2009-10 and 5,860 in 2010-11 to 9,360 in the first six months of 2011-12.

But groups including the University and College Union and Million+, which represents many new higher education institutions, said many public universities could lose out because they would be in direct competition for places with private providers.

Aldwyn Cooper, chief executive of the private, not-for-profit Regent's College, said that new universities were "already finding competition quite difficult" and risked having their places taken away by private competitors.

David Willetts, minister for universities and science, stressed to Times Higher Education that private providers currently accounted for "less than 1 percent" of the student loans pot. "I don't think existing providers will lose out," he said.

The decision is unexpected because the government has shelved immediate plans for a higher education bill that would have brought all providers under the same regulatory system.

The coalition said it will consult later this year on how to make the changes to student number controls without legislation. Willetts said the government could designate which courses are eligible for student

loans to ensure that private providers are brought under number controls. The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills could be "much more active in the use of the designation power," he said.

The government must also decide how it will get private institutions to sign up to QAA inspection. While he stressed that this had not yet been decided, Willetts said one option would be to strengthen checks on validation arrangements, whereby degree-awarding institutions that are already inspected by the QAA give their stamp of approval to courses offered by private providers.

Asked whether private institutions would be able to access student loans of up to £9,000 (\$14,000) rather than their current limit of £6,000 (\$9,300), he said: "We're not proposing any change on that."

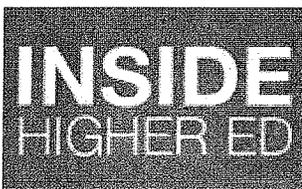
As predicted by Times Higher Education last month, the response also confirms that institutions with 1,000 higher education students, as opposed to the present threshold of 4,000, will be able to take the title of university.

Liam Burns, president of the National Union of Students, said the decision to proceed with many of the White Paper's aims without primary legislation showed that the government was "terrified by public or parliamentary scrutiny."

But Willetts said the decisions were "publicly accountable" and that his department did not "measure [its] performance by the number of laws we pass." However, he admitted that original plans to grant degree-awarding powers to non-teaching organizations, such as education giant Pearson, still "probably required primary legislation."

Read more: <http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2012/06/14/british-government-moves-public-private-competition-higher-education#ixzz1xm1ZDkDm>

Inside Higher Ed



## Friendless in America

Part of the ideal of recruiting foreign students to American campuses is that the friendships formed across international lines will leave those from many countries (including the United States) with new perspectives and personal connections in many nations. For many foreign students in the United States, that's just not happening, according to a new study.

The research -- which appears today in the *Journal of International and Intercultural Communication* -- finds that nearly 40 percent of international students report having no close American friends and say that they wish they had more meaningful interaction with those born in the United States.

The study found variation by region, with students reporting different results if they are from different parts of the world and if they are studying in different parts of the United States.

International students in the South had more American friends, and were more satisfied with their friendships than those in other parts of the country. Those in the Northeast who were outside of metropolitan areas were second in these rankings. Lowest friendship levels were reported by those studying in the New York City area.

Communication issues appear to be one factor in friendship levels. International students from English-speaking countries were most likely to report that they had three or more close American friends. Students from East Asia were most likely to report having no American friends.

Nearly half of the foreign students cited some "internal factor" -- such as limited language proficiency or being shy -- as a reason they find it difficult to make friends with Americans. Among East Asian students, nearly 80 percent cited an internal factor. But foreign students also cited American factors, such as superficiality or lack of interest in other cultures.

The study was conducted by Elisabeth Gareis, associate professor of communication studies at Baruch College of the City University of New York. In a statement, she said that these results relate not only to the international students' happiness but to their chances at academic success. "A central predictor of overall sojourn satisfaction is international students' contact with the hosting country's nationals, in particular, the meaningful contact found in friendships," she said. "Through friendships, international students have stronger language skills, better academic performance, lower levels of stress and better overall adjustment to a new culture."

Read more: <http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2012/06/14/new-study-finds-many-foreign-students-lack-american-friends#ixzz1xm14B9Y0>

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