Declining financial support drives students away

Cutting taxes in order to spur economic develop- ment is an idea still making its way across the political landscape. It doesn’t seem to matter how many times the politicians say it has been debunked not only by economists, but also by history, it has become larger, yet. It is still a part of that ideology that is considered as gospel by many politicians.

Of course the idea has one superficial appeal and one superficial appeal only. It presents the idea of less taxes which translates into decreased productivity and increased impoverishment. Because of significant cuts in financial sup- port for higher education in some states, public colleges and universities have been forced to increase the number of fees. Because of this, students from these states are facing higher costs. Although there have always been students who go out of their home states to attend private colleges, it has been far more rare for students to attend out-of-state pub- lic institutions because of the lack of government funding in their home states. For the most part, public colleges and universities serve a less priv- ileged population.

IMRF is one of the most compelling ex- amples of how cuts to higher education can create massive migration to other states. The Land of Lincoln is one of the states that imports far more students than it imports from other states. In fact, for exam- ple, Missouri's state report indicates that 14,350 students from Missouri institutions. During the same year only 13,379 students from Illinois institutions returned from Illinois. University of Illinois at Chicago has a 44 percent increase in enrollment. The additional enrollment has come closer to shutting down the public government-run classrooms.

But the numbers only tell half the story. Many of the students who move to other states never come back. They often times find jobs in the state where they went to college, but they don’t want to bring their family to the state where they went to college. They may also never come back to their native state. Because the budget cuts in these states may have caused fewer opportunities for them. Further, less tax revenue means that those universities have a greater problem recruiting and retaining faculty as a result of the closing of colleges and universities. If you want to look for an example of how trick- le-down economics can ruin a state, just take a look at Kansas. For six years after the massive cuts of 2014 went into effect Kansas had only 300 more students than the prior year. But worse than that, the loss of tax revenue decimated the state budget, creating a federal crisis necessitating drastic cuts including in higher education. By 2018, Kansas was $420 million short of the revenue it had the year its tax cuts first went into effect. Now the people who are actually paying the price are Kansans who have worked hard for this, the people whose tax money is helping to pay for the higher education and the higher education became rampant and now we are looking at Kansas. As the American theorem James Freeman Clarke said, “A politician thinks of the next election.”

As Dr. Aldemaro Romero Jr. is a writer and editor pro- fessor with leadership experience in higher education. He can be contacted through his website at: http://www.armorerojr.net

For the Intelligencer

Regional Art Fair features artists

The Edwardsville Art Fair 2016 is scheduled Sept. 23 to 25 in City Park.

The Intelligencer will regularly feature artists who are entering the fair. For more information on the fair, visit http://edwardsville-art-fair.com. Visitors can find a full list of artists participating in the fair on the fair’s website. For more information on the Edwardsville Art Fair 2016, visit the fair’s website at www.edwardsville-art-fair.com. See page 3 for more information.

Pictured are works, from left, by Marianne Eier, Leea Becker and Patricia Mayhew-Hamm.

Artist Statement: I have been working with glass for over 15 years. It is a challenging and rewarding medium. A glass craft master still has to have expertise in compati- bilities, temperature control, as well as slumping and manipulation. These skills are necessary to the integrity of the piece.

In 2004, I opened my studio to the public. We are the glass gazing and education center in our county. The studio offers a professional level of instruction from glass artists on staff as well as a host internationally known glass artist.

Artist Patricia Mayhew-Hamm

Artists on staff:

The Edwardsville Art Fair 2016 is a celebration of local and international artists. The fair features glass, metals, photography, mixed media and fiber artists.

The fair, which will be held at City Park, is organized by the Effingham County Arts Council.

The fair is a project of the Effingham County Arts Council. The fair is a project of the Effingham County Arts Council. The fair is a project of the Effingham County Arts Council. The fair is a project of the Effingham County Arts Council. The fair is a project of the Effingham County Arts Council.

Effingham County Arts Council

Arts Council President

Clarke said, “A politician thinks of the next elec-
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