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Greetings Colleague,

The Illinois Committee on Black Concerns in Higher Education (ICBCHE) will be hosting two Drive-In Conferences at Eastern Illinois University on Friday, October 20, 2017 and Governors State University on November 3, 2017. The theme for our conference is **A.M.P.D.!: Being Black in the Academy**. AMPD stands for **Access, Mentorship and Professional Development**. After two years of not having a budget, we need to get back to the much needed professional development and we are hoping you can assist us in making this a phenomenal conference.

The Illinois Committee on Black Concerns in Higher Education (ICBCHE) was formed in 1982. The ICBCHE is viewed as a progressive organization pledged to address a multitude of pressing issues confronting Black people on college campuses. ICBCHE is primarily composed of people who are involved in, and concerned with, various facets of post-secondary education.

We realize that in the era of economic constraints in many departments, even with a new budget, the opportunity for professional development for staff may be hard to justify. ICBCHE realizes the importance of growing both professionally and personally, therefore we would like to assist professionals in the field of higher education.

The goal of this conference is focused on African American faculty, staff and administrators being able to learn new trends for programs, students as well as personal growth in higher education. Our intent is to discuss trends under the following areas:

Student Track

- Special Population [First-generation students]
- Leadership – are they ready?
- Mental Health/Behavior

Program Track

- Assessment/Evaluation
- Cultural Competencies
- Retention
- Technology

Professional/Personal Track

- Faculty Tenure
- Publishing
- Making Self Marketable

We realize that October/November is just around the corner but we would love for you to come to Eastern Illinois University and/or Governors State University and present a workshop. If you are available and willing to present on either date, please respond no later than September 1, 2017 for EIU and/or October 1, 2017 for GSU. To submit your proposal, please click on the following link: <http://www.eiu.edu/minoraff/machform/view.php?id=21>