

April 2, 2010

Dear colleagues,

April is upon us, and the end of the semester is just around the corner. In addition to the joy of watching the campus blossom into springtime, I look forward to this time of celebration as we recognize the numerous achievements of our students, faculty and staff at various events culminating with Commencement on May 8.

I am also looking forward to hearing the reports of the strategic planning goal and audit chairs during the 1st Annual Strategic Planning Stakeholders Conference on April 27 in Heritage Ballroom. The plenary address will be given by Chris Murphy, member and past chair of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education. Chris will share the commission's goals and how they relate to Indiana State's strategic plan, "The Pathway to Success." The entire campus is welcome to attend any or all of the day-long conference and help shape the discussion as we continue implementation of the strategic plan. A complete agenda is available at: www.indstate.edu/president/stakeholdersconferenceagenda.pdf. Please let us know if you plan to attend the luncheon by responding to Rita Anderson at extension 4000 or rita.anderson@indstate.edu.

It is also time for performance evaluations for all exempt and non-exempt staff members. This is an opportunity for employees and supervisors to note accomplishments of the past year while also establishing goals for the upcoming year. While I recognize this is a busy time, it is important to complete these evaluations. Non-exempt (support staff) employees should complete their on-line evaluation and submit it to their supervisors by April 15. Exempt (EAP) employees need to submit their evaluations to their immediate supervisors by May 17. Human Resources will be offering training sessions for employees and supervisors. More information is available on the Human Resources website (www.indstate.edu/humres) and will also be distributed through ISU Today.

As our thoughts turn to warmer weather, I am pleased to announce that Indiana State will be offering flexible or reduced hours schedules for its employees again this year. The period for summer schedules has been extended by two weeks and will be in effect from June 7 through August 13. With vice presidential approval, employees may opt to work a four-day schedule by working longer days four days each week. Another option for non-exempt employees is to work a reduced hours schedule. This means the employee works a regular schedule four days a week with up to one day a week off without pay. The reduced schedule does not impact health insurance benefits as long as the employee works at least 30 hours a week. Other benefits, such as accrued vacation and sick leave and contributions to retirement will be adjusted based on hours worked. Where possible, these two options should provide employees with more flexibility for the summer. The specific guidelines are available at: <http://www.indstate.edu/humres/Flexible%20Hours.htm>.

Other items I would to share:

- More than 80 faculty and staff participated in academic advising training sessions last month. These sessions were conducted by Dr. Linda Maule, coordinator of general

education, and Barb Stafford, Jerry Boyd, Holly Hobough and Melissa Froderman. The sessions were designed to inform staff and faculty advisors about the transition from General Education 2000 to Foundational Studies 2010. Quality academic advising is critical to our students' success, and I commend all of the advisors who participated.

- Captain Shane Cordrey, who previously was an instructor in our Air Force ROTC program, has been awarded the prestigious Bronze Star for his efforts while recently deployed in Afghanistan. I would like to extend my deep appreciation to Capt. Cordrey for his bravery in serving our country.
- Dr. Darlene Hantzis, professor of communication, has been invited by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities to serve on the national implementation team for the American Democracy Project (ADP). One of only a few faculty members invited to participate, Darlene has been involved in ISU's American Democracy Project since its founding in 2003. Congratulations to Darlene and to all those across campus who have helped students become more civically engaged.
- Tuesday (April 6) is National Student-Athlete Day, a day of recognition for the accomplishments of student-athletes. These student-athletes work extremely hard to excel in the classroom and in their respective sports. Please show your support for our student-athletes by wearing blue on Tuesday.
- Dr. Tom Sawyer was recently honored by the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD) during its annual convention. Tom was inducted into the AAHPERD Legacy Society and was presented the Pathfinder Award by the American Association for Physical Activity and Recreation, a member association of AAHPERD. The award is presented to a person who has been a member for at least 20 continuous years, has served in various leadership roles and has a distinguished record of scholarship and service within the fields of physical activity and recreation. Congratulations, Tom.
- Teresa Sale, travel account specialist in the Controller's Office, has been named to the advisory board of the Society for Collegiate Travel and Expense Management (SCTEM), a professional development organization for academic administrators who deal with travel-related issues. The advisory board organizes an annual conference and trade show and prepares resource materials for members. SCTEM is based at the University of Southern California.
- I would like to thank Psi Chi and Psych Society, our psychology undergraduate organizations, for their efforts to raise funds for Haiti relief. The two student organizations sold departmental t-shirts and raised \$630 for the American Red Cross Haiti Relief Fund.
- Today is World Autism Awareness Day, and I would like to recognize the Blumberg Center for its efforts to raise awareness about autism. On April 15, the center will host the third in a series of lectures on Autism Spectrum Disorder which began last fall.

Information on the day-long event is available at:
http://www.indstate.edu/blumberg/docs/asd_brochure.pdf.

Have a great weekend.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Bradley
President