

July 10, 2010

Dear colleagues,

The past month has been an extremely busy time for many people involved with summer orientation. The exhaustion they must feel is warranted as 2,372 students attended the 16 sessions offered to date. That is an incredible 44 percent increase or 728 more students than the number attending last year's program.

More than 200 students attended the honors program orientation session, and a record 1,357 have qualified for the laptop scholarship by earning at least a 3.0 grade point average in high school.

These numbers are very encouraging and bode well for fall enrollments. I want to express my deep appreciation to everyone who participated in any portion of the recruitment and/or orientation process. Many individuals have spent a great deal of time on these efforts. Thank you for taking our number one priority of increasing enrollment and enhancing student success seriously. Congratulations to Vice President John Beacon, Rich Toomey, Melissa Hughes, and Joe Thomas (who coordinated the orientation program), and all the faculty, staff and students who helped.

Our work is far from over, of course. Our colleagues in Residential Life are gearing up for capacity crowds. There are three more one-day orientation programs scheduled in August. And then, the real work begins. I am pleased with the progress reported in many areas that are designed to help us achieve the benchmarks of goal one (Increase Enrollment and Student Success) of the strategic plan. The Sycamore Express One-Stop Shops are ready to be launched in both physical and virtual forms, and a number of programs to identify and help at-risk students have been developed and refined. This work is critical to our institution's future.

A number of Indiana State faculty, staff and students will be promoting Indiana State University during next week's Black Expo events in Indianapolis. Each year, Indiana State personnel meet a number of prospective students and parents and greet countless alumni who visit the ISU booth, which is coordinated by Hodari Glinsey in the Admissions Office. In addition, several employees, including Vice President Carmen Tillery and University Diversity Officer Mary Ferguson, will be participating in the IBE Statewide Education Conference. Kevin Barr, director of purchasing, will serve as a panelist discussing doing business with universities on large public works projects and will participate in a meeting for minority and women-owned business members during the Black Business Conference that is part of the Black Expo week-long itinerary. Thanks to all who have volunteered to help out with our presence at this important event.

In addition to the quality educational experiences Indiana State provides, our University is proud of its role in supporting the arts and providing cultural opportunities to residents of west-central Indiana and east-central Illinois and beyond. Here are just a few recent examples:

- The Crossroads Repertory Theatre season is well underway, and our summer theater program is once again entertaining individuals from throughout the Wabash Valley and beyond. This year, CRT Artistic Director Arthur Feinsod has put together an array of shows, including the Neil Simon classic, “The Sunshine Boys,” the Midwest premiere of Edmund White’s “Terre Haute,” “Pixies, Kings, and Magical Things: Three Tales by Hans Christian Andersen,” and the Mary Shelley classic, “Frankenstein.” The production of “Terre Haute” has been scheduled for three performances at the Indiana Repertory Theatre in Indianapolis following its run here. The children’s production of Hans Christian Andersen stories will be performed in several sites throughout our community in addition to its on-campus performances. If you have not already made plans to see as many of these shows as possible, I encourage you to do so.
- Congratulations to Dr. Aaron Morales for having his book, “Drowning Tucson,” selected as one of the summer’s five best debut novels from independent publishers. The July/August issue of Poets and Writers singled out Aaron’s work for its innovative quality. An Indiana State alumnus, Aaron has been on the university’s faculty since 2005.
- The Wabash Valley Visions & Voices Digital Memory Project (WV3), led by Cinda May in Cunningham Memorial Library, is currently featured on the Indiana Humanities Council website (www.indianahumanities.org). Established in 2004, WV3 has 24 partners across five counties. The project is dedicated to the documentation and preservation of the history and cultural heritage of the Wabash Valley and includes fully searchable documents, artifacts, administrative and personal papers, manuscripts, photographs, texts, yearbooks, maps, oral histories and audio/visual files. The collection can be accessed at: <http://visions.indstate.edu>.
- Last month, two members of the Indiana State University community were honored by Arts Illiana for their contributions to the arts during the 2010 BRAVO! The Arts! Awards. Ramon Meyer, professor emeritus of music and retired music director of the Terre Haute Symphony Orchestra, received the Lifetime Achievement Bravo Award. Kevin Runion, associate vice president for facilities management, received the Bravo Award for arts advocacy.
- Next week, Assistant Professor of Art Ray Chen will be leading a delegation going to Taiwan to conduct workshops at the Taiwan Yiggin International Museum, one of the largest ceramics museums in the world, and the Taipei National University for the Arts. Faculty members from Indiana State, University of Southern Indiana, DePauw University and Ivy Tech Community College as well as an Indiana State graduate student will also participate. Ray has also been invited to speak at the FuLe Ceramics Museum in China this fall.

Other updates I would like to provide:

- Two new deans have joined us as of July 1. Dr. John D. Murray is the new dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Prior to coming to Indiana State, John was professor and

chair of the psychology department at Georgia Southern University. Dr. Kenneth Brauchle is the new dean of extended learning. He was previously the associate dean of extended studies and director of the Center for Professional Development at Boise State University. Welcome, John and Ken!

- Officers have been elected for the newly configured Staff Council. The new officers are: Chair – Roxanne Torrence; Vice Chair – Leslie Krockenberger; Secretary – Nancy Hall; and Treasurer – Rebecca Stinnett. I am pleased that the administrative and professional staff members now have a shared governance unit, and I look forward to meeting with the full council and its executive committee. Thanks to everyone who helped develop this new Staff Council.
- Two Indiana State staff members have received certifications of special note. Theresa Ortega, who works in recreational sports, has received a Spanish for Police Officers Certified Instructor certification. Theresa has taught Spanish to ISU's Public Safety Officers. Marlene Lu, a member of the staff in the Blumberg Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Special Education, is the first resident of Indiana to earn the designation of Certified Government Meeting Professional. The certification is designed for event professionals who work in or with government entities to plan meetings and special events. Congratulations, Theresa and Marlene.
- Indiana State and Ivy Tech Community College have received a grant totaling nearly \$89,000 from the Military Family Research Institute at Purdue to expand efforts to help student service members and veterans. Operation Diploma, now in its second year, will allow ISU and Ivy Tech of the Wabash Valley to work more closely with one another and with other colleges to help student veterans complete their degrees.

I hope you enjoy the remaining weeks of summer. It promises to be an exciting fall.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Bradley
President