

October 1, 2010

Dear colleagues,

October is here and the biggest event of the year is just around the corner. Cheri and I are looking forward to participating in many Homecoming activities, especially riding in the parade on Saturday. One of many additions to the jam-packed week is an alumni Sycamore Tricycle Derby. The race will be conducted in between the women's and men's races.

The Distinguished Alumni Awards reception on Friday will honor R. Brent Beeler, a business leader who has recently retired from Berry Plastics in Evansville; David Darling, a Grammy Award-winning cellist; Gerry Dick, president and managing editor of the multi-media company Grow Indiana Media Ventures; and Connia Nelson, senior vice president for human resources at Verizon Telecommunications.

There also will be a 5K Homecoming Race sponsored by Leadership Wabash Valley. It will take place at 8 a.m. Saturday prior to the parade. A Homecoming concert featuring LMFAO and Hyper Crush is planned for Thursday night at Hulman Center, and there will be a fraternity and sorority alumni reunion on Saturday night, also at Hulman Center.

Throw in a week of special student events, the bustling activity at tent city and a football victory, and it is sure to be a great time.

I am also pleased that Aimee Janssen-Robinson, our student wellness educator, and Director of Public Safety Bill Mercier have joined forces to create a SoberRide program. With the help of several campus units and many local businesses, SoberRide will provide free taxi or shuttle rides home during Homecoming to any ISU student who resides within the city limits. The program also provides training to staff members of local bars and educational programs for ISU students. The Designated Walker program started last year will continue with more than 70 students signed up to participate. This program provides training, non-alcoholic beverages and food to students who sign up to refrain from drinking while accompanying their friends on "The Walk."

A schedule of Homecoming Events is available at:

<http://www.indstate.edu/alumni/docs/Homecoming%202010.pdf>.

- In conjunction with Homecoming, five former student-athletes will be inducted into the Indiana State University Athletics Hall of Fame. They are: Jay Barrett (football, 1955 to 1958); Richard Dawson (football, 1981 to 1984); Mitch Hannahs (baseball, 1986 to 1989), Steve Smith (track and field, 1991 to 1994); and Denise Sharps (basketball, 1975 to 1977). Tickets to the reception and dinner are available through Monday by contacting Debbie Nelson, [debbie.nelson@indstate.edu](mailto:debbie.nelson@indstate.edu) or (812) 237-4089. Thanks to Old National Bank for sponsoring the induction banquet.

- On Thursday, the University honored 271 employees and retirees with more than 4,200 years of combined service during the annual Recognition Ceremony. Three staff members received the University Medallion for their exemplary service and dedication to ISU. They are: Tony Campbell, manager of photographic services in the Office of Communications and Marketing; Rex Kendall, director of residential life; and Roxanne Torrence, administrative assistant I in the organizational department of the Scott College of Business. I would like to express my deep appreciation to the faculty and staff and retirees who were honored for all that they do and have done for Indiana State University and its students. Congratulations again to Tony, Rex and Roxanne for this well-deserved recognition. Thanks also to the Human Resources staff and the planning committee for putting this event together.
- Congratulations are also in order for Sister Barbara Battista, Associate Professor and Program Director Heather Mata, Dean Biff Williams and others who helped the new master's degree in physician assistant studies earn provisional accreditation from the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant. The first class of 30 students will begin classes in January.
- The work of two important task forces will soon get underway. Dean Jay Gatrell has agreed to lead the Greek Assessment Task Force. Its members are Trustee Ed Pease, Diann McKee, Nolan Davis, Adam Novotney, Chris Hancock, Will Barrett, Sheila Johnson, students Time Coyle, Ami Malone and Brienne Napier and alumni Alyson White-Hanson and George Officer.
- Dean John Murray will be chairing the task force reviewing our student media. Its members are: John Lentz, Anita Gabbard, Nolan Davis, Darlene Hantzis; John Hawes, Ed Kinley, students Nick Hedrick and Mackenzie Mack and community members B.J. Riley (Tribute-Star), Susan Dinkel (WTHI-TV), Patrick Fazio (WTWO-TV) and Santhana Naidu (Williams Randall). The makeup of this task force was intentionally designed to avoid faculty and staff who might be directly impacted by its outcome. However, broad-based input from across campus will be solicited by both of these task forces. I look forward to receiving their reports.
- An Indiana Commission for Higher Education summary of fall enrollments across the state's public universities shows increases ranging from 0.5 percent for Purdue (system-wide) to Indiana State's 9.1 percent. The increases for the other institutions were: Indiana University (system-wide), 1.8 percent; University of Southern Indiana, 1.8 percent; Ball State University, 3.8 percent; Vincennes University (all locations), 3.6 percent and Ivy Tech Community College(system-wide), 1.7 percent. It is clear that the efforts put into recruitment for the past several years have made a difference. It is now our job to replicate (two-peat) this success. Early indicators are promising. Recruitment for next fall is well underway with approximately 3,000 applications coming in during CollegeGo! Week, and the first Sycamore Preview Day of the season was the largest ever with 195 students. Retaining our current students is also critical, and I encourage you to do all that you can to help our students succeed while earning a quality education.
- The enrollment increase has helped make an increase in compensation possible. Salary pools for the faculty and staff will be increased by the same percentage although there will be some differences between the faculty and staff in how the increases are determined based upon base adjustments,

promotions for faculty and longevity for staff. In addition, both faculty and staff salary schedules will be brought up to 85 percent of market and/or target salaries. More information is available at: [www.indstate.edu/president/salaryinfo](http://www.indstate.edu/president/salaryinfo).

- The efforts to increase funding from grants and contracts are also going well. Recent grant activity of note includes:
  - Rita Worrall -- \$330,700 in federal funding for Student Support Services to serve low-income, first-generation students or students with disabilities during the 2010-11 school year. ISU expects to receive more than \$1.65 million over the next five years to provide services to at least 300 students per year. (Rita has been writing and securing these funds for 23 years on behalf of ISU.)
  - Eric Glendening, Arthur Halpern and C. Russell Stafford – A \$1.5 million grant from the National Science Foundation to renovate and upgrade science research labs.
  - M. Affan Badar, A. Mehran Shahhoseini, Jeff McNabb, Xiaolong Li and Yuetong Lin – An NSF grant of \$487,000 to fund Sycamore Technology Academics & Recruitment Scholarships. The five-year program will award 20 STARS Scholarships to students majoring in computer engineering technology and mechanical engineering technology.
  - Rick Fitch -- Two National Science Foundation grants totaling \$330,000. A \$225,000 grant will support research on a molecule found in the phantasmal poison dart. A \$107,000 grant will be used to buy equipment in support of the undergraduate chemistry curriculum.
- I would encourage all members of the ISU community to attend the second annual Wellness Bash next Wednesday. The health fair will take place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Student Recreation Center. In addition to a blood drive, the fair will feature a flu shot clinic, screenings for blood pressure, glucose and cholesterol and other services. Last year's fair screened more than 600 people.
- Please note that the starting time of our Commencement Ceremony on December 18 has been moved from 2 p.m. to noon. It is likely that both the May and December ceremonies will follow this schedule in the future.
- The Board of Trustees, the ISU Foundation Board and the ISU Alumni Board of Directors will all be meeting separately on campus next week in conjunction with Homecoming. They will come together for lunch on Friday to provide an opportunity for collaboration and networking. Our University has great volunteer leaders who dedicate many hours on behalf of Indiana State.

Indiana State continues to advance toward its strategic goals on multiple fronts. Thank you for helping make that happen. Have a great weekend. GO TREES!

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Bradley  
President