

January 21, 2011

Dear colleagues,

The semester is off to an exciting start with increased enrollments over last spring, continued growth in applications and admits for fall 2011, and exciting wins in Hulman Center. The 15 weeks remaining until Commencement are likely to evaporate quickly as I know they will be filled with much hard work along with many fun activities. There is no place quite like a college campus.

Our focus on enrollment continues, and I am pleased with the ongoing progress we are experiencing. Spring enrollments grew by 1,002 students over last year, up more than 10 percent. Applications for this fall are currently running eight percent ahead of the huge numbers we had at this time last year, and admissions are up nine percent despite a 21 percent increase in denials. If these numbers remain on track, the University should expect a similar-sized freshmen class to the historic level we experienced last fall. This won't happen on its own, however, and the Admissions Office continues to need assistance from faculty and staff throughout campus. I would like to thank those who have volunteered to participate in the upcoming interviews for our President's Scholarship competition. Other opportunities that will occur this semester include calling campaigns in late spring and again in the summer to admitted students who have not registered for orientation and/or enrolled in courses for the fall. Contact the Admissions Office if you are interested in helping.

It is also important for the Admissions Office to know about any events your areas have planned for prospective or admitted students. This will help eliminate conflicts and provide opportunities for our admissions staff to share materials and answer questions about admission, financial aid and orientation. The Admissions Office is also willing to help plan these events.

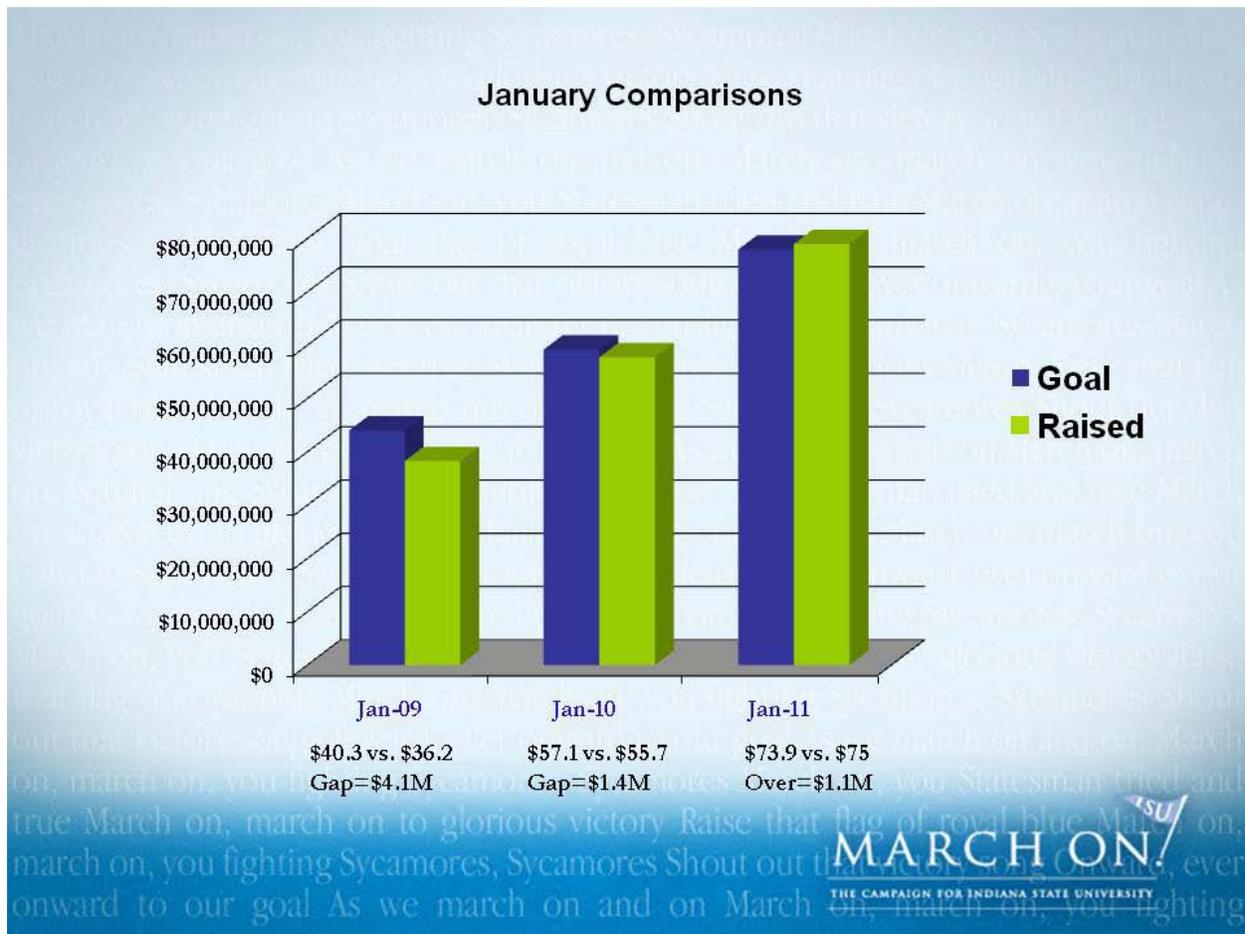
While our enrollments are growing and our retention numbers remain stable, there is more work to do. Statewide leaders are demanding greater levels of success in retaining and graduating students, a goal the University shares. The movement toward performance-based funding holds institutions accountable for continued improvement in these and other areas. I support this effort. As with any process, however, it is far from perfect. This week, Brian Hasler, Diann McKee and I met with Sen. Luke Kenley, chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, to discuss some concerns I have with the implementation of this system and the need to recognize the differences between the missions of our public higher education institutions and the students we serve. Vice President McKee and I had a similar meeting with Commissioner for Higher Education Teresa Lubbers on Thursday.

While it is still early in the biennial budget process, it appears likely that most institutions will face budget reductions of some level either to fund performance-based funding mechanisms or to provide additional budget relief to cover the state's budget deficit. It is also clear that our enrollment success, coupled with the significant population of first-generation and low-income students we serve, are important factors in addressing the decades-long issue of Indiana State having a higher appropriation per full-time equivalent student than most of our sister institutions. In other words, Indiana State would

be facing much more severe financial consequences if our enrollment had not increased. It is important to understand why enrollment growth remains a top priority.

The level of potential budget cuts is a major concern. Campus leaders, including representatives of each governance unit, are working on budget recommendations for the coming year in a proactive fashion. Planning will continue and adjustments will be made as more is learned about the outcome of this biennial process. I will share updates as available.

The University and the Indiana State University Foundation continue to work diligently to raise private dollars in support of our University. As you can see from the March On! Campaign report below, the university's first comprehensive campaign is currently at \$75 million in cash, pledges, estates and bequests, \$1.1 million ahead of the benchmark for this point in the \$85 million campaign.



Proceeds from the campaign will support four primary areas: student support, program support, faculty support and facility support. At this point, the student and program support areas are having the greatest levels of success. Pledges, cash, bequests and estates in support of programs currently stand at \$31 million while student support has raised \$22.5 million. Support for facilities totals \$19 million and support for faculty is at \$2.5 million including estate gifts to endow a department chair and a

professorship. Expect to hear several upcoming announcements regarding seven-figure gifts in the coming months.

To learn more about the campaign, Indiana State faculty and staff are invited to attend Tuesday's Founders Day Activities which include the second annual Faculty and Staff Campaign kickoff. All faculty and staff making their first gift or an additional gift to the university will be registered to win an Apple iPad and other prizes. The day starts with refreshments and entertainment from 9 to 11 a.m. followed by a lunch from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The formal Founders Day Program will take place from 1 to 2 p.m. followed by the Faculty and Staff Campaign Kickoff Reception from 2 to 4 p.m. Designed to allow faculty and staff to come and go as their schedule permits, all of the events will take place in Heritage Lounge in Tirey Hall.

There will also be a brief ceremony at 11 a.m. outside of Normal Hall to unveil a marker noting the historical significance of this building. I hope you will join us at some point during the day!

Other news I would like to share:

- Congratulations to Professor Richard Schneirov on receiving a Fulbright senior lectureship to teach American history in Germany this summer. The honor brings Dr. Schneirov's career full-circle as he first taught in Germany during the 1985-86 academic year on a Fulbright junior lectureship award.
- Our international efforts continue on other fronts with the establishment of Indiana State's first international alumni club in Thailand. I was pleased to be a part of the kickoff event for this new club in Bangkok on January 8. Thailand is home to many notable Indiana State alumni, and our relationships with Thai universities have grown extensively. Around 80 people from our partner institutions, including 10 university presidents, attended one of the kickoff events. A separate event for Indiana State alumni drew more than 60 people including many ISU alumni who hold prominent positions in that country. I hope the alumni chapter will further our connections to these alumni and institutions while providing new opportunities for our faculty and students.
- I would also like to extend my appreciation to four members of our Office of Public Safety who responded to a call for help on the evening of January 11. Captain Brent Denny, Corporal Dan Parmer, Officer Matt Murray and Officer Ryan Ringo responded to a request for assistance from a resident of Terre Haute that came in through one of our campus Blue Light emergency stations. The officers arrived in time to deliver a healthy baby boy in a snow-covered area outside of University Hall.
- The community's United Way campaign is nearing completion and needs assistance in meeting its goal of \$1.8 million. Indiana State's campus campaign is currently at \$52,795 which is still a few thousand shy of last year's results. On Friday, January 28, Indiana State will join other locations throughout the community in sponsoring the United Day for United Way. ISU volunteers will be staffing a booth in the ISU Commons from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to collect any

pledges or donations. Please consider emptying your change jar to pitch in their coin collection buckets! Or better yet, download the pledge form at http://www.indstate.edu/unitedway/pledge_form.pdf and drop it off at the booth. Gifts of any size are deeply appreciated.

In closing, I would like to congratulate both the men's and women's basketball programs for the exciting wins they have been experiencing. The women's team is looking for its fourth straight win inside Hulman Center tomorrow at 2:05 p.m. against Creighton. The women beat Drake, 77 to 74, in overtime Thursday night to bring their season to 9-8.

The men's squad remains undefeated at home winning the last two games at the buzzer. The team's win over Missouri State on Wednesday night gave the Sycamores a share of the MVC lead while boosting their overall record to 12-7. The team is looking to move their MVC record to 8-1, the best start in conference play since the 1999-00 season, when they travel to Wichita State on Saturday for an 8:05 p.m. tipoff.

Congrats and best of luck to both teams as well as our other Sycamore winter athletes.

GO SYCAMORES!

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Bradley
President