

June 20, 2011

Dear colleagues,

Summer is moving swiftly, and progress continues to be made toward meeting the goals of “The Pathway to Success,” the University’s five-year strategic plan.

Last Friday, the members of our Board of Trustees were updated on several important initiatives related to the strategic plan. The first seminar addressed the co-curricular data project designed to capture information about our students’ activities outside of the classroom. This data will be made available to the students through a co-curricular report that they will be able to utilize when applying for jobs, graduate school and other opportunities. The information is also very important to the University in the analysis of how co-curricular activities impact retention and graduation. In the future, it will also help our Alumni Association in keeping our graduates connected to our University. **Nolan Davis, Mike Snyder, Karl Burgher** and **Carmen Tillery** have been leading this project which I think students, parents and prospective employers will find exciting.

Provost Jack Maynard and several colleagues updated the trustees on four charges the Board had given the University last fall in order to advance the strategic plan – revision of promotion and tenure guidelines to incorporate experiential learning and community engagement activities; inclusion of significant experiential learning experiences in all degree programs; removal of barriers to graduation to improve student success in reaching their educational goals and utilizing assessment to evaluate effectiveness of academic programs and determine adjustments that might be needed. **Bob English, Nancy Rogers, Jennifer Schriver, Ruth Cain, Marcia Miller** and **DeVere Woods** provided updates on these initiatives. While it was clear to the trustees and everyone in attendance that significant progress has been made, it is also clear that this work must continue. The members of the board asked that another update be provided in June 2012.

It is exciting to see the various ways the University community is engaged in advancing our institution and helping our students succeed. Dozens, even hundreds, of individuals are involved, and I appreciate their willingness, enthusiasm and determination to make to a difference. This work will help transform our University and enhances the experiences our students receive.

The Board also approved the operating budget for 2011-2012 and a 3.5 percent increase in tuition and fees, the smallest increase in 12 years. ISU’s tuition remains very competitive and is still the lowest among Indiana’s public research universities. The budget for the 2012 fiscal year is \$143.55 million which represents a decline of 0.5 percent or \$660,000 and includes \$2.3 million in internal reallocations.

Maintaining affordability and quality are our prime considerations in developing a budget. Consequently, the 2011-2012 budget does include a 3 percent pool for compensation increases as part of our strategic goal to attract and retain great employees. However, it is important to remember that compensation increases are contingent upon meeting our enrollment goals this fall, and decisions on pay raises will not be made until after enrollment is determined. Everyone has a role to play in helping recruit and retain our students.

In connection with this goal and the work being done by the Barriers to Graduation Taskforce, I announced a contest in my last newsletter. The deadline to let me know your perceptions of the various roadblocks that interfere with students enrolling at ISU and staying until they graduate is June 30. If you have ideas on how the University can streamline its bureaucratic processes or make other improvements that would impact student success, please send them to me at president@indstate.edu. There will be cash prizes for the top three ideas.

Other updates I would like to provide:

- The contest to rename the Student Services Building has ended. While many individuals submitted some version of Sycamore Wellness Center, there were two people who added the aspect of applied medicine to the wellness concept to reflect the expanded areas to be located in the building. The recommendation I will make to the Board of Trustees is the **Sycamore Center for Wellness and Applied Medicine**. The closest versions of this name were submitted by **Michelle Landis** and **Leamor Kahanov**. Both will receive \$75 gift cards to Barnes and Noble. Thanks to everyone who contributed their ideas.

- Eleven programs have been selected to submit full proposals as part of the **Unbounded Possibilities** initiative to help advance the distinctive programs goal of the Strategic Plan. The following programs were selected:
 - Center for Unmanned Systems
 - Center for Health and Life Enrichment
 - Rural/Urban Entrepreneurship Institute
 - Hamilton Center for Global Engagement
 - Center for Genomic Advocacy
 - Academic Servant Leadership Institute for University Honors Students
 - Institute for Community Sustainability
 - Community Center for the Arts
 - REGAIN – Reaching Goals and Achieving Independence
 - Center for Environmental, Mathematical and Evolutional Epidemiology
 - Sycamore Ventures

In addition to these 11 programs, four projects that had received a program of distinction designation in the past were invited to submit full proposals:

- Teacher education
- Financial services
- Aviation
- The Center for the Study of Health, Religion and Spirituality

Three programs (Advancement by Degrees: A Degree Completion Initiative, Leadership Consortium and Distance Learning Laboratories) were invited to develop their ideas for support through the Strategic Plan but outside of the framework of the Unbounded Possibilities initiative. Thanks to everyone who helped develop the 31 concept papers that

were submitted as well as those involved in reviewing the proposals. I look forward to seeing the full proposals this fall.

- **Crossroads Repertory Theater**, ISU's professional theater company, opened its season this weekend with a wonderful production of *Godspell* featuring ISU alum **Jason Bowen** as Jesus. Cheri and I attended Saturday night's sold-out performance and thoroughly enjoyed the wonderful music and inspirational messages. Other shows this summer include *Bad Dates* (a one-woman show featuring **Julie Dixon**), *Crimes of the Heart* and an adaptation of *1,0001 Arabian Nights* which will tour around Terre Haute including a stop at the new Children's Museum. For tickets, go to www.crossroadsrep.com/tickets.html or call the ticket office at 237-3333.
- Congratulations to **Andrew Carboneau**, an ISU senior majoring in professional aviation, for being named the Indiana Air National Guard's Airman of the Year for 2010. A native of Warsaw, Carboneau received the award last month during a ceremony in Indianapolis.
- Volunteers are needed to help with ISU's presence at the **Indiana Black Expo** during the 41st Summer Celebration in Indianapolis July 15-17. This event provides a great opportunity for ISU to connect with prospective students, parents, alumni and state leaders. The planning committee is looking for enthusiastic representatives from departments, colleges and organizations to attend one training/information session and work at the booth during Expo weekend. If interested, contact **Regina Atkins** in the Office of Admissions at regina.atkins@indstate.edu or 237-4967 by June 29.
- Indiana State's head men's track and field **Coach John McNichols** topped off a tremendous year by being selected as the head coach of the Team USA men's track and field team going to the 2011 Pan Am Junior Championships. The team will compete in Florida next month. Good luck to John and his team!
- Cheri and I would like to thank everyone who helped make the **2011 Indiana Special Olympics Summer Games** a huge success. More than 100 of our student-athletes volunteered during the weekend along with many other campus and community members. The involvement of our student athletes is part of a new partnership between Special Olympics and the Missouri Valley Conference. Each MVC institution will be involved in a variety of outreach activities with the Special Olympians ranging from clinics to fundraising. I have received many comments from appreciative participants and parents thanking ISU for the warm reception they received throughout the weekend.
- The Indiana Commission for Higher Education has approved ISU's **Master of Science in occupational therapy**. The occupational therapy program is the latest in a series of health-care degrees that ISU's College of Nursing, Health and Human Services has developed to address the state's critical shortage of health-care workers. The program's first class will enter in fall 2012.

- **The Rural Health Innovation Collaborative** conducted an open house last week to gather public comment on a draft plan for future improvements in the neighborhood between our campus and Union Hospital. Copies of the plan are available for review at ISU's Cunningham Memorial Library, the Vigo County Public Library, Terre Haute City Hall, the Landsbaum Center and online at www.communitycollaborate.com. These plans could lead to transformative change in this blighted area, and boost downtown redevelopment.

- ISU's SENCER (Science Education for New Civic Engagements and Responsibilities) team has been selected to attend the annual SENCER Summer Institute to be hosted by Butler University next month. Members of the team are: **Jim Speer, Susan Berta, Feg-Qi Lai, Kathy Bauserman, Ross Alexander, Julie Whitaker, Adri Lehman, Peter Rosene** and **Carolyn Wallace**.

- I would like to provide two reminders regarding changes to the University's cell phone policies and procedures. Beginning July 1, the University will no longer support Blackberry phones, and the Blackberry server will no longer be available. Also, the University will no longer be providing stipends for cell phones for most individuals. Most individuals own cell phones and can make an occasional business call with no increase in cost. Only those individuals who can demonstrate a need for a high-minute plan for business purposes or a data plan for access to University email while out of the office will qualify for a stipend. Employees who had received the stipend in the past should consult with their supervisor to determine if they meet the new criteria. As in the past, an authorization form must be filed each year to obtain the stipend. The revised policy is available at: <http://www.indstate.edu/adminaff/policyindex.htm> under the Business and Finance Section (Policy 645).

- **Ron Prettyman** has been named Under Armour AD of the Year for the Central Region by the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA). He received the award on Saturday at NACDA's annual convention in Florida. The award recognizes Prettyman's efforts in leading the ISU athletics department to one of its most successful years in recent history. Congrats, Ron!

Have a great summer!

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Bradley
President