

November 28, 2011

Dear colleagues,

I hope that you enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends. The remaining three weeks until Commencement will pass quickly and are certain to be filled with many tasks.

The past few weeks have been quite busy as well. On November 14 and 15, the ISU Fall Tour continued with presentations to Rotary Clubs in Columbus and Bloomington. The trip also included meetings with business leaders from Cummins, the Bartholomew County School Corporation, area legislators, and area media. These trips are an important way of sharing the good work that all of you are doing with leaders around the state. Our new Career Center Executive Director Tracy Powers joined me for the Columbus meetings as she works to build internships and employment opportunities for our students. Thanks to Joe Smith in Columbus and Charlotte Zietlow in Bloomington for hosting my Rotary visits.

Planning for the spring tours is underway, and I would encourage you to let me know if there are particular companies, school corporations or Rotary Clubs we should visit. You may email suggestions to president@indstate.edu.

The rest of that week was consumed with an intensive two and a half days of reviewing the initiatives connected to the University's strategic plan, "The Pathway to Success." I would like to thank everyone who participated in this important discussion of the strategies being used to advance our goals. The presentations represented a great deal of work on behalf of hundreds of people. Progress is being made. Data collection remains a top priority so that progress can be accurately measured. Thanks to Karl Burgher and his staff for organizing the review and for ensuring that everyone remembers to stay on task (never an easy chore). Fact sheets were developed on each of the initiatives and can be downloaded from the strategic plan website at: <http://irt2.indstate.edu/ir/index.cfm?fuseaction=sp.FSL>.

The weekend prior to Thanksgiving was filled with athletics as the football team concluded another successful season and sophomore running back Shakir Bell was named the Missouri Valley Football Conference's Offensive Player of the Year after leading the nation in rushing. The volleyball team ended its best season in seven years by earning a trip to the MVC tournament, and the men's and women's basketball teams successfully kicked off their seasons. Once again, Indiana State and the LaVern Gibson Championship Cross Country Course hosted the NCAA National Championships. Governor Mitch Daniels joined us for last Monday's race which ran smoothly due to the management of the local organizing committee led by Coach John McNichols who also was aided by dozens of volunteers. In 2012, the championships will move to Louisville but will return to Indiana State and Terre Haute in 2013.

Cheri and I enjoyed spending the Thanksgiving holiday watching the men's basketball team compete in the 2011 Old Spice Classic. The team defeated Texas Tech in the opening game before falling to Minnesota in the second round. On Sunday, the Sycamores downed Fairfield

in the consolation round to improve their season record to 6-1. Sophomore Jake Odum posted the first triple-double since Larry Bird in 1979 with 10 points, 10 rebounds and 12 assists.

Congratulations to the coaches and athletes of our fall sports and best of luck to our winter sports teams. It should be an exciting run.

Other items I would like to share:

- Mary Howard-Hamilton has received the Garcia Senior Exemplary Scholarship Award from the Council on Ethnic Participation which is part of the Association for the Study of Higher Education. The award recognizes exemplary scholarship and research focusing on issues related to underrepresented populations of color. Congratulations, Mary!
- On Thursday and Friday, Indiana State will be hosting the 2011 Indiana Rural Summit, a statewide conference that brings together leaders from rural areas to develop creative ways of strengthening and advancing their communities. Chris Pfaff, Steve Pontius, Brian Hasler, Biff Williams and the Rural Health Innovation Collaborative (RHIC) have been involved in planning the conference which will showcase the efforts of RHIC to drive economic development and neighborhood revitalization while addressing rural health care needs.
- Accolades are also due to Tonya Balch for being named the Exemplary Counselor Educator of the year by the Indiana School Counselor Association (ISCA) at its annual conference earlier this month. The award recognizes excellence in the preparation of school counselors. Tonya is also the current president-elect of the Indiana Counseling Association (ICA) and will assume its presidency in June.
- The University's holiday season is filled with many cultural activities, a few of which are highlighted below. Many of these events represent a semester of work on behalf of our students and faculty. Please consider supporting their efforts by attending as many as you can.
 - The Theater Department's student organization, Sideshow, will present "Loving Insanity," a new musical at 4 and 7 p.m. tomorrow (Nov. 29) in the New Theater. Admission is free. The department will also host readings of new plays on Wednesday (Nov. 30) and Thursday (Dec. 1) at 7 p.m. in the New Theater and on Friday (Dec. 2) at 7 p.m. at the Swope Art Museum. On Friday, December 9, the department will present Theater 101 plays in the New Theater at 7:30 p.m.
 - The Music Department will host its Student Chamber Music Recital at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday (Nov. 29) in the Recital Hall in the Landini Center for Performing and Fine Arts. On Thursday (Dec. 1), the Wind Orchestra Concert, conducted by Roby George, will perform "Soloists of Distinction" at 7:30 p.m. in Tilson Music Hall. The Faculty Chamber Concert will take place at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, in the University Hall Theater, and the annual Madrigal Dinners, conducted by Mark Carlisle, will take place Thursday, Dec. 8, 9 and 10 at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Tickets for dinner and the performance are \$30.

- The University Speakers Series continues this week with educator and author Erin Gruwell speaking at 7 p.m. Wednesday night (Nov. 30) at University Hall Theater. Her efforts to teach her at-risk students to become critical thinkers, aspiring college students and citizens for change were chronicled in the 2007 film, “The Freedom Writers,” starring Hilary Swank. This event is sponsored by various colleges and departments across the University in conjunction with the fall read program. The event is free and open to the public but seating is limited.
- The University Art Gallery will host the BFA/BS Senior Exhibition from December 5 through 16. An opening reception is planned from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, December 9. The Art Department will also host an MFA Thesis Exhibition in the Bare-Montgomery Art Gallery in Fairbanks Hall Dec. 15 through 22. An opening reception will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 16.
- The Performing Arts Series is hosting a production of “A Christmas Carol” by the Nebraska Caravan Theatre Production on Tuesday, Dec. 13. The full-scale Broadway-style production has a cast of 25 and features a live chamber orchestra. For more information, call 877-ISU-TIXS.
- Holiday events aren’t limited to campus. The Downtown community will host the annual Miracle on 7th Street on Friday, December 2, from 5 to 10 p.m. This annual Christmas Bazaar includes special events at local downtown businesses and organizations, children’s activities and an open-air Holiday Market Place. On Saturday, the Terre Haute Symphony will perform its annual holiday concert at 7:30 p.m. in Tilson Music Hall.
- On Saturday, students from Indiana State, Rose-Hulman, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Ivy Tech and Harrison College will be “Wrapping for United Way” at Honey Creek mall. The students will provide free gift wrapping from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for items purchased at the mall. Donations for United Way will be accepted. The wrapping station will be located between JC Penney and West Coast Air Brush. Help support the United Way while getting your wrapping done!
- If you haven’t made a pledge or donation to the campus United Way campaign, you have until the end of the year to do so. With unemployment still running very high, there is a big need that United Way agencies are trying to fill. Please consider a gift of any size. Pledge cards are available at: http://www.indstate.edu/unitedway/pledge_form.pdf. The campus campaign, under the leadership of Alberta Comer and Jay Gatrell, is going well but more participation is needed. Virtually everyone on this campus knows someone who has been assisted by a United Way agency. Cunningham Memorial Library is currently leading the competition in participation with donations from 40 percent of its faculty and staff with the Scott College of Business running second at around 23 percent. It would be great to see the percentage of participation around campus increase. Thanks to everyone who has donated so far.
- A team of six Indiana State University students has won an award for planning a simulated construction project. The construction management majors won third place in the heavy civil construction category of a competition at the recent Associated Schools of

Construction Region III Student Competition and Conference. The ISU team competed against eight other universities in the event which required them to estimate, plan and schedule a \$7.5 million construction project. Congratulations to Captain Matt Wilson, Rochelle Skaggs, Kyle Giesler, Keaton Turner, Zach Tylka and Dayne Goodman! Matt, Kyle and Keaton along with fellow ISU students Colby Boyer, Cam Claussen and Joe Anderson have also been selected to receive scholarships of \$1,000 to \$1,500 from the Asphalt Pavement Association of Indiana. It has been a good semester for our construction management program.

- Indiana State University and the city of Terre Haute will be honored by the Indiana Society of Chicago at its annual dinner on December 3 in Chicago. The recognition of Indiana State kicks off a series of celebratory events connected to the March On! fund-raising campaign which will conclude at the end of December. Terre Haute is being saluted for earning Community of the Year honors from the Indiana Chamber of Commerce last November. More than 200 people from Terre Haute plan to attend the event. The Indiana Society also will be awarding scholarships to several ISU students who will be recognized during the dinner. Congratulations to all involved.
- Congratulations to adviser Laurence Rosenhein and the ISU student chapter of the American Chemical Society for receiving an honorable mention award from the ACS for the group's activities during the 2010-11 academic year.
- Wellness tip: The holidays can play havoc with our diets, and this tip from Student Health Promotion can help keep us on track all year round -- fill half of your plate with vegetables, one fourth for meat or a non-meat protein and one-fourth for grain or starchy vegetable. Using smaller plates helps as well!
- Nearly 200 teachers from around Indiana participated in the Bayh College of Education's annual Sycamore Educators Day earlier this month. A total of 22 concurrent sessions focused on new methods of meeting the needs of all learners. Matthew and Nancy Hobson provided an inspiring keynote address detailing how Matt overcame the obstacles of his severe disabilities to graduate from high school and college. Todd Whitaker provided the afternoon's general session. Sponsors of the event were the Vigo County School Corporation, Rex Coffee, Fifth Third Bank, R.E. Dimond and Associates, Inc., and the ISU Alumni Association.
- A video feature developed by the Office of Communications and Marketing on Laura Bates' Shakespeare in Prison program has received a silver award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District V awards program. Congratulations to Jennifer Sicking and Tracy Ford!
- The Staff Choir will be performing throughout the next few weeks. This group always adds to the holiday cheer on campus. Here is the choir's schedule:
 - Friday, Dec. 2 – Miracle on 7th Street Tree Lighting, 6:15 p.m.
 - Monday, Dec. 5 – Annual Cookies and Punch at the following locations:
 - Myers Technology -- 10 to 10:20 a.m.
 - Stalker Hall -- 10:35 to 10:55 a.m.

- University Hall -- 11:10 to 11:30 a.m.
 - Cunningham Memorial Library -- 11:45 a.m. to 12:05 p.m.
 - Friday, Dec. 9 – Meadows Shopping Center, 5 p.m.
 - Saturday, Dec. 10 – Clabber Girl, time TBA
 - Monday, Dec. 19 – ISU President’s Office, 11 a.m.
- The annual Faculty and Staff Holiday Open House at Condit House will be on Wednesday, Dec. 7, from 3 to 5 p.m. Cheri and I would love to have you stop by to join in some refreshments and good cheer with your colleagues.

As the holiday season continues, I am thankful for the opportunity to serve as Indiana State’s president and for all the work that is being done across campus to help our students succeed. Good luck with the heavy workload the coming weeks will bring.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Bradley
President