

April 10, 2012

Dear colleagues,

Provost Jack Maynard and I have completed three public forums on the proposed policy changes that will help address our long-term affordability issues. I would like to thank those who attended one or more of the forums and those who have sent written comments. Jack and I would encourage everyone who has suggestions on ways to improve these recommendations to send them to us within the next week to 10 days. We hope to circulate a second draft of the proposed changes later this month.

In the meantime, there are a number of helpful suggestions contained in the Affordability Task Force reports, especially the subcommittee on books and supplies, that individuals can choose to implement. As you place textbook orders for future classes, there are several ideas to keep in mind that would cut costs to our students, including (when appropriate) the use of e-books, older editions of textbooks, public domain or open-source textbooks and loose-leaf and custom publications. Timely book orders are also extremely important. Avoiding unnecessary “bundles” which combine a textbook and software package and preventing frequent changes in textbooks can also cut costs. The subcommittee’s report (<http://www.indstate.edu/affordability/documents/affordabilitybooksfinalreport.pdf>) contains a great deal of information about these and other tips as well as links to additional resources.

Similarly, the subcommittee on facilities has some ideas that individuals and departments can choose to implement immediately. These include purchasing only Energy Star rated equipment; turning off all personal computers, printers and copiers at night, on weekends and during holiday breaks; programming monitors to revert to the sleep mode after five minutes of inactivity; and programming printers and copiers to revert to the sleep mode after 30 minutes.

This is an issue that has to be attacked from all angles, and every step we take – no matter how small – adds up. On Wednesday, April 11, Provost Maynard will be representing ISU at a meeting with Under Secretary of Education Martha Kanter on the Obama administration’s college affordability proposals. From the White House to the country’s statehouses to the thousands of ivory towers dotting our nation, college affordability is on everyone’s minds.

One effective method of keeping college costs down is to improve student success rates in the areas of retention and graduation. During this academic year, ISU’s Student Success Council has studied ways that ISU would contribute to the state and federal goals of significantly increasing the number of individuals with college degrees. For ISU, this means increasing our success in degree attainment among recent high school graduates.

The Council has recommended the development of an academic unit to better serve the needs of first-year students. After much reflection and deliberation, Provost Maynard and I are proposing a change in administrative structure to establish a University College or college of first-year studies. The College will be responsible for coordinating the development of academic courses, programs, and advising aimed at improving the success rate of first-year students. The

new college will be led by a Dean who will also serve as the director of the Foundational Studies Program and will report to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. This position will be filled through an internal search process. It is hoped that the Dean can be named in the next few months, and that the College will be fully functioning by the Fall of 2013. The Provost and I have communicated this recommendation to the leadership of the Faculty Senate and the Curricular and Academic Affairs Committee in the attached letter, [www.indstate.edu/president/docs/20120405-memoonstructurechange.pdf](http://www.indstate.edu/president/docs/20120405-memoonstructurechange.pdf), requesting their input and recommendations by April 25.

This recommendation, which was first made by the TASKFORCE on the FIRST YEAR (TAFY) in 2006, represents a significant change in the way we operate, one that we hope will better serve our students and increase their rate of success.

The success of the University in meeting its strategic goals will be reviewed on Thursday during our third annual Strategic Planning Stakeholders Conference in Heritage Room of Tiley Hall. The day begins with a continental breakfast at 8:30 a.m. followed by a plenary address by ISU Board of Trustees President Michael Alley at 9 a.m. The complete schedule is available at: <http://irt2.indstate.edu/ir/assets/splan/fy2012/3rdAnnualStakeholdersAgenda4-12-12.pdf>. This is an important time for our University, and I encourage you to attend as much of this day's session as possible.

Other items I would to share:

- On Friday, the Indiana State University Foundation Board announced that it had accepted the resignation of Foundation President Gene Crume, Jr. Foundation Board President **Brent Beeler** will serve as interim president. The Foundation plays a critical role in advancing Indiana State University, and I am confident that Brent, the Foundation Board and staff will keep things moving forward during this period of transition and beyond. The ISU Foundation made many advances during Gene's tenure including the successful completion of March On!, the university's first comprehensive fundraising campaign. This campaign included 19 separate gifts of \$1 million or more. Gene was a visible and valuable member of the ISU community and was involved in advancing several of our strategic initiatives including Leadership ISU, a professional development program for ISU's faculty and staff. I will continue to work with the Foundation volunteer leadership and staff to ensure that the forward momentum created by the March On! campaign continues to build private support for the University.
- Part of maintaining that momentum involves recognizing our donors. Several individuals and one organization will be honored by the ISU Foundation and the University during the March On! Awards program Saturday night. Recipients of the 2012 March On! awards are **Robert and Joan Shenberger, Todd and Beth Whitaker** and the **Bernard Osher Foundation**. These awards recognize the highest level of philanthropy to the University. **Ruby Rusk** will receive the John P. Newton Spirit of ISU award, and new members of the Book and Torch Society and the 1865 Society will be inducted. More information on all of the Foundation's giving societies can be found at: <http://www.indstatefoundation.org/GivingRecognition.aspx>.

- The new **Sycamore Banquet Center** officially opened on Monday to great reviews. This partnership between Sodexo and ISU provides a great new venue for events with banquet seating for up to 450 people. The space can be divided so that separate events can take place simultaneously. During the day, one section of the new Center will be utilized by Generations Restaurant with the remaining spaces available for rent. After Generations is closed for the day, the entire space will be reservable. For more information on fees and procedures for the Sycamore Banquet Center, contact the Office of Event Services at 237-3817.
- **Jay Gatrell** has been selected to be a 2012-13 American Council on Education fellow. The ACE Fellows Program, established in 1965, is designed to strengthen institutions and leadership in American higher education by identifying and preparing promising senior faculty and administrators for responsible positions in college and university administration. Gatrell is among 57 fellows, nominated by the presidents or chancellors of their institutions, who were selected for the 2012-13 academic year following a rigorous application process. Of the more than 1,700 participants in the first 47 years of the program, more than 300 have become chief executive officers and more than 1,100 have become provosts, vice presidents, or deans. Congratulations, Jay!
- **Biff Williams** has been named interim director of the Rural Health Innovation Collaborative ([www.therhic.org](http://www.therhic.org)) in addition to his responsibilities as Dean of ISU's College of Nursing, Health and Human Services. RHIC is a partnership between ISU, IU School of Medicine, Union Hospital and its Richard G. Lugar Center for Rural Health, Ivy Tech Community College of Wabash Valley, Hamilton Center, Terre Haute Economic Development Corporation, and the City of Terre Haute. Supporting partners are the Indiana Rural Health Association, the Vermillion-Parke Community Health Center and Indiana Area Health Education Centers. RHIC's partners work to align the resources and strategic direction of several community institutions in Terre Haute to improve and expand health care in our community. The search for a new director has been initiated.
- The search for the new Dean of the Scott College of Business is progressing with a growing pool of candidates. The search committee, chaired by **Dean Brad Balch**, will be screening the candidates in the next three to four weeks with the first round of interviews occurring by mid-May. Finalists should be on campus for interviews prior to the end of May.
- Of the 39 tenure-track faculty searches underway, 10 have been completed successfully so far. This includes one hire through the diversifying the faculty initiative.
- A heartwarming message from ISU alumnus **Sheila Grosheart** was forwarded to me on Monday. Sheila is a resident of Henryville, the southern Indiana town devastated by a tornado on March 2. She wrote **Lisa Stein** in admissions to say how proud she is to be an alumnus of Indiana State after speaking with the Henryville school counselor, **Renee Eckart**. Renee indicated that ISU was the only college to contact her offering assistance following the tornado. Another trip is planned to help the Henryville community on

Friday and Saturday. If you would like to participate, contact the Center for Community Engagement or go to: [https://indstate.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_2nluqzyxb6fdMxK](https://indstate.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_2nluqzyxb6fdMxK).

- Senior Katie Davis, a Human Development and Family Studies major, has been chosen by the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) to receive recognition as an outstanding honors student. NCFR is the professional organization for the multidisciplinary understanding of families. Katie was chosen for this award based on her outstanding contributions to the field of family science in the areas of scholarship, leadership, and community service. As a Human Development and Family Studies major, Katie has earned a 4.0 grade point average at ISU while serving in numerous volunteer and leadership roles. Katie has received a stole which she will wear for graduation, along with a certificate of recognition from NCFR. In addition, she will be recognized at the annual conference which will be conducted in Phoenix in October. Congratulations, Katie!
- The ISU baseball team is off to its best start in conference play in 14 years. The team, now 26-7 overall and 6-3 in the Missouri Valley Conference, has won two out of three games in each of its first three Missouri Valley Conference series, the first time that ISU has picked up three wins to start the league season since winning five straight back in 1998.
- Several ISU track and field team members have also posted great performances in recent meets.
  - Indiana State junior **Brandon Pounds** broke a 19-year-old Indiana State record in the men's hammer throw as he won the event on the first day of the Auburn Tiger Classic Invitational. He threw a personal best distance of 214-feet-4-inches (65.34 meters) to win the event and break the former record of 209-feet-2-inches (63.76 meters) in 1993. The distance is currently the sixth best throw in the nation and moves Pounds to the top spot in the Valley.
  - The women also performed well at the Auburn Tiger Track Classic. Junior **Felisha Johnson** led a 1-2-3 sweep by the Sycamores in the women's shot put while junior **Richelle Kimble** won the women's pole vault and junior **Leeann Michl** won the women's 800 meter run. Johnson had a winning throw of 52-feet-5¼-inches (15.98 meters) on her second attempt to win the shot put with teammate **Mary Theisen** posting a career best throw of 50-feet-11-inches (15.52 meters) for second and **Tara Perigo** finishing third with a throw of 45-feet-7¼-inches (13.90 meters).
  - Kimble cleared a personal best height of 12-feet-11½-inches (3.95 meters) to win the women's pole vault which moves her to third on the ISU all-time list.
  - Michl came very close to breaking the school record in the 800 meters as she won by almost two seconds with a time of 2:06.67. The time is just a half-second off the school record set in 2000 by current ISU women's head coach **Angie Bruecker Martin** of 2:06.05.

- The track team will be hosting the Pacesetter Quadrangular track meet this Friday and Saturday. The Sycamore Athletic Foundation is hosting an Alumni Track and Field Tent on Wolf Field at Saturday's events from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Come out and watch our Sycamore athletes compete and see the concept drawings for the new Track and Field Riverfront Complex.
- To ensure that campus events are in compliance with the University's hospitality policy, a new process has been established requiring an approved Hospitality Request Form when entering into a catering contract with Sodexo. Details about this process are available at: <http://www.indstate.edu/controller/docs/finance/Hospitality%20Approval%20Process.pdf>.
- Cheri and I had a great time at the Eunice K. Shriver Indianapolis Day of Service coordinated by the Center for Community Engagement. By collaborating with Special Olympics athletes and friends, the group was able to clean, mulch, and paint most of Garfield Park. The day included 78 volunteers, 5 ½ hours of dedicated work time (not including to and from Terre Haute), 100 cubic yards of mulch, 25 shovels and rakes, 100 garbage bags, and 3 gallons of paint!(No data is available on the number of blisters the volunteers received.) Thanks to everyone who helped.
- The University will again offer a flexible hours program this summer for areas approved by their respective vice presidents. This program is being offered to recognize and reward employees for the extra effort put forth during the regular academic year and allow them more time through the summer with their families. Summer hours begin the second full week of May on Monday, May 14 and end Friday August 3, 2012. For details on the flexible hours summer program, go <http://www.indstate.edu/humres/FlexibleHours.htm>.

Have a great week!

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Bradley  
President