

November 14, 2008

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to you at the conclusion of a wonderful week celebrating Indiana State's commitment to community engagement in conjunction with my formal installation as president. While we still have a few events to go, I want everyone to know how much my family and I have enjoyed this week's activities and how appreciative we are to everyone who has been involved. I was especially pleased to see so many students, faculty and staff engaged in helping our community through a variety of efforts. In addition, thank you for the warm welcome you gave to my family and friends who traveled many miles to be with us. They thoroughly enjoyed getting acquainted with our campus and the people who make it so special.

I would like to extend my appreciation to everyone who attended the banquet, thereby supporting the United Way. We were pleased to raise \$10,000 at this dinner which will be a nice boost to our campus campaign. However, we still have a way to go to meet our goal of \$75,000. Current pledges stand at \$46,151 with 295 individuals contributing. Please consider making a pledge at whatever level you can. Pledge forms are available at: http://www1.indstate.edu/unitedway/pledge_form.pdf.

In the midst of all of this activity, Cheri and I have moved into Condit House. While we still have a lot of unpacking to do, it is great to be so centrally located to everything happening on campus. Once we have settled in, we are looking forward to hosting a holiday open house so that we can share this historic treasure with the campus.

There are a number of other updates I would like to share with you:

- Next week, I will be making the University's Budget Presentation to the State Budget Committee. The Commission for Higher Education released its budget recommendations this morning. They are recommending a nearly \$3 million cut in Indiana State's appropriation over the next biennium. They also are not recommending any capital project funding for ISU. It is important for all of us to understand that the Commission is moving away from inflationary increases to a performance-based funding formula that rewards increases in enrollment, retention and graduation. Let me also emphasize that this recommendation is the first step in a long process. While everyone knows this will be a challenging budget session, my staff and I will be working hard at advocating for the University and the resources ISU needs.
- Our strategic planning process is moving forward, and I hope that you will consider being a part of the plenary session on December 2 at 1 p.m. More details will be available next week. We have selected STRATUS, a division of Heery International, to assist with our overall strategic planning. We also have chosen Ratio Architects, a firm that has significant experience with the implementation of our 1986 master plan, to conduct the land use and facilities planning study. I cannot overemphasize the importance of having university-wide involvement in these planning efforts, and I look forward to working with you throughout this process.
- Work on the implementation of the non-smoking policy adopted by the Board of Trustees this past summer continues. In the coming weeks, there should be more information available about smoking cessation programs available to faculty, staff and students. We will soon be finalizing other aspects of

implementing this policy, including the possibility of having designated smoking islands on the perimeter of campus.

- Congratulations to ISU volleyball player Kelli Whitaker for receiving the Missouri Valley Conference Good Neighbor Award. Kelli is one of ten Missouri Valley student-athletes recognized this fall. An exceptional student with a 4.0 cumulative grade point average, Kelli's community service work has included the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, the Just Read literacy program, working as a volunteer at the Terre Haute Children's Museum and assisting the Shriners with an annual picnic for hospitalized children. Kelli has also received numerous awards for her academic achievements.
- In other athletic news, I was pleased to see the women's soccer team advance to the championship game of the Missouri Valley Conference Tournament. The team defeated Drake and Illinois State to become the first number six seed to make it to the final game of the tourney. While they made a great run for the MVC title, they fell to the University of Evansville, the top seed. Congratulations to the team members and coaches.
- I would also like to recognize the College of Education for receiving full accreditation by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. I know that Dean Brad Balch, Associate Dean Susan Powers, the faculty and others worked very hard to achieve this.
- ISU's chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, a national history honor society, has been named among the best in the country. The Upsilon-Iota Chapter received the Best Chapter Award for Division IV in recognition of the variety of activities the group has developed to engage students. A biography project researching the careers of several emeriti professors who were helped shape ISU is one such effort. Slated for publication in *The History Teacher*, a journal produced by the Society for History Education, the project can be viewed at: <http://baby.indstate.edu/phialphatheta/project.htm>. Congratulations to the students and Assistant Professor Steven Stofferahn, who serves as the faculty advisor.

Thanks again for a wonderful week. I hope to see you at some of our weekend events and at the Take Back the Night rally on Monday evening. Have a great weekend.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Bradley
President