

March 26, 2015

Dear colleagues,

It is good to enter the last six weeks of the semester with the successful conclusion of two major searches. In my last newsletter, I shared that **Dr. Michael Licari** will be joining us on July 1 as our new provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Last week, I was pleased to announce that **Dr. Willie Banks** will start his duties on May 15<sup>th</sup> as our new Vice President for Student Affairs. Willie comes to Indiana State from Cleveland State University, where he is interim assistant vice president for student affairs. He has also served Cleveland State as associate dean of students for student life and as interim vice president for student affairs and dean of students. From 1993 to 2010, he held a variety of student affairs positions at the University of Georgia, including associate dean and director of intercultural affairs. Willie has a bachelor of arts in public relations with a minor in business from Mercer University and a master's in student personnel and a Ph.D. in student affairs administration, both from the University of Georgia.

Both of these individuals have significant experience in higher education leadership and administration and will help move our strategic goals forward. I look forward to working with them.

I would like to recognize **Nolan Davis** for his service as our interim vice president since last July. I appreciate all that he has done to keep the Division of Student Affairs moving forward during this period of transition.

In other personnel news, the search for general counsel is now underway, and Search Committee Chair **Diann McKee** anticipates bringing it to conclusion in April. On-campus interviews will take place on April 6, 9 and 10. A campus-wide open session for each candidate will take place at 2 p.m. with the location to be determined. Watch ISU Today for more information on the candidates and location of these sessions.

Our **strategic planning** report-out sessions this week have focused on goal one which deals with improving enrollment and student success. The student success efforts cover a wide range of initiatives including engaging students in co-curricular activities, addressing comprehensive wellness issues, working with parents and families, improving financial literacy, addressing obstacles dealing with common roadblocks such as math proficiency, dealing with special populations such as transfer students, etc. This is only a partial listing of the initiatives which were discussed during these latest sessions. I would like to thank all those who have worked on these important efforts.

One of these student success efforts deals with pre-college students through our **College Challenge** dual-credit program. On Monday, Vigo County School Superintendent **Danny Tanoos** and I announced an **Early College** program that will allow local high school students to complete a four-year college degree in just three years. Participating students will take selected dual credit courses in their junior and senior years of high school and during ISU's summer session and then enter Indiana State as sophomores in the fall after high school graduation. This is an exciting program that was developed by **Jill Blunk**, director of our College Challenge program, and leaders from the **Vigo County School Corporation**. By providing an opportunity to graduate within three years, the Early College program will

significantly reduce the costs of higher education for these students. I would like to thank Danny and his colleagues at the school corporation for helping to build this partnership.

The next reporting session will focus on Goals 5 (Diversify Revenue: Philanthropy, Contracts and Grants) and 6 (Recruit and Retain Great Faculty and Staff). It will take place on Monday, March 30, from noon to 4 p.m. This year's process will conclude with the annual Strategic Planning Conference on April 9 from 11:30 to 4 p.m. RSVPs are necessary for the conference since lunch is being served. Please register by emailing **Rhonda Terstegge** at [rhonda.terstegge@indstate.edu](mailto:rhonda.terstegge@indstate.edu).

The spring banquet season has officially started with Tuesday's **Community Engagement Recognition Banquet**. The annual event recognizes students, faculty, staff and community partners for their assistance in advancing our engagement efforts. It takes a great deal of time, planning and hard work by many people to achieve a number one national ranking in community engagement. This year's program honored ISU Senior **Trinere Bacon** with the President's Award for Civic and Community Leadership; retired teacher and community leader **Linda Lambert** with the Outstanding Service Award; ISU staff member **Karen Buchholz** with the Staff Engagement Award, the **Department of Campus Life** with the Outstanding Service Award, and the **Indiana Blood Center** with the Community Partner Award. **Jodi Moan** was named AmeriCorps Outstanding Site Supervisor of the Year, and **Kelsey Chase** received the AmeriCorps Outstanding Member of the Year award. Dozens of faculty and staff members were also recognized for receiving grants from the center to advance experiential and community engagement opportunities for our students and for serving as chaperones for our growing alternative breaks program. It has been phenomenal to watch our engagement efforts grow and develop, and I would like to applaud the entire staff in the **Center for Community Engagement** for leading this effort.

Other items I would like to share:

- **Angie Lansing** has been elected chair of the **NCAA Division 1 Cross Country, Indoor and Outdoor Track Committee**. This national leadership role holds significant responsibility and is evidence that the NCAA shares our respect and admiration for Angie's administrative and leadership skills.
- **Bev Bitzegaio** from the College of Technology and ISU alumna and Foundation Board member **Mary McGuire**, a retired engineer from Remy International, are leading a statewide effort to encourage Indiana's business leaders to participate in a national women's STEM mentoring program. As co-chairs of Indiana's "Million Women Mentors" program, Bev and Mary were joined by **Lt. Governor Sue Elspermann**, who is serving as honorary chair, for the kickoff of the program on Wednesday in Indianapolis. The program has pledged signing up 5,000 mentors toward the national goal of one million mentors by 2018. The mentors will work to increase the interest and confidence of middle school and high girls and college and early career women to succeed in science, technology, engineering and math. If you are interested in serving as a mentor, contact Bev at [bev.bitzegaio@indstate.edu](mailto:bev.bitzegaio@indstate.edu). It is great to see two Sycamores leading this effort. More information can be found at: <http://www.millionwomenmentors.org/>.
- Faculty, staff and students have a chance to celebrate the arrival of spring and help beautify the campus and surrounding community during the spring **Donaghy Day** on Friday, April 10. Shifts are available from 9 to noon and 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Participants can register on the Community Engagement website at: <http://www.indstate.edu/publicservice/events/springDonaghy.aspx>. The center will provide group assignments for offices or other groups of volunteers who would

like to work at the same site. Please sign up to participate and encourage your colleagues to join you.

- The **Scott College of Business** will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a gala reception open to the entire campus community. The free event will take place from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Sycamore Banquet Center. Please register at: <http://www.indstate.edu/business/Scott50/>.
- A robust **Women's History Month Colloquium** started on Tuesday and continues through Friday. Tonight's keynote features **Jolynn Kuhlman** and **Millie Lemen** speaking about "Women's Collegiate Athletics before and after Title IX." The address will take begin at 6 p.m. in the events area of Cunningham Memorial Library. Several sessions will also take place on Friday. A full program of events is available at: <http://www.indstate.edu/wmnstudy/Women's%20History%20Month%20Program%202015.pdf>. I would like to thank **Ruth Fairbanks** and her colleagues for putting together this great series.
- On Wednesday, the 2015 recipients of the **Charlotte Zietlow Award** were honored as part of the Colloquium. The award was created by Charlotte to provide funds to pre-tenured female faculty members to support their efforts to obtain tenure. Charlotte served on our Board of Trustees for 16 years, is a current member of my National Advisory Board, and remains an active supporter of our university. This year's honorees are: **Kathryn Berlin, Caitlin Brez, Melanie D'Amico, Darleesa Doss, Katherine Fredlund, Jung Mee Mun, Angela Napier, Haijing Tu, Carolina Valencia, and Dwuena Wyre**. Congratulations!
- The University is currently working to develop a new policy addressing gender-based violence with plans to take it to the Board of Trustees at its June meeting. This is an important issue, and I appreciate the work that **Katie Butwin** and her team, **Aimee Janssen-Robinson, Michele Barrett, Craig Enyeart, Kourtney Barrett, Al Perone** and **Channon Brown**, have done on drafting this policy. It is currently under review by our governance units. Relatedly, the University has joined the national "It's On Us" campaign against sexual violence with a kickoff earlier this week. Go to: <https://youtu.be/IPm78tOBgzU> to watch the ISU video. Faculty, staff and students are also encouraged to take the pledge to help prevent sexual violence by going to [www.itsonus.org](http://www.itsonus.org).
- The **School of Music** will present its Spring Choral Showcase Concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday in the University Hall Theater. The showcase will feature the **Concert Choir** and the **Sycamore Singers**, both under the direction of **Scott Buchanan** with **Angela Scherer** as the accompanist, and the **Women's Choir** conducted by **Colleen Davis** with **Andrea Marlowe** serving as the accompanist. The **Sycamore Singers** are currently preparing for a 12-day concert tour in China in May. The concert is free and open to the public.
- The dedication of our latest piece of public art, "**A Reading Place**," will take place at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, April 8. The multi-piece dolomitic limestone sculptures are designed to be utilized as benches for reading or relaxation. They will be located between the two buildings which comprise Reeve Hall. This project is part of Indiana State's ongoing partnership with **Art Spaces – Wabash Valley Outdoor Sculpture Collection, Inc.** The artist, **Madeline Wiener** of Denver, will be here to participate in the ceremony.
- The **University Speakers Series** will close out the 2014-15 year with boxing legend **Sugar Ray Leonard** discussing "POWER: Prepare, Overcome, and Win Every Round." The April 2<sup>nd</sup> presentation by the Olympic gold medalist, three-time Golden Gloves titlist and six-time world

champion will begin at 7 p.m. in Tirey Hall's Tilson Auditorium. The event is free and open to the public.

- The University was recently notified that senior **Olivia Bohnhoff** has been awarded a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship in Mexico for the coming year. While at Indiana State, Olivia worked in the Math and Writing Center as a writing tutor before leaving to study abroad in Columbia this semester. She has also studied in Chile and speaks both Spanish and Arabic. Congratulations to this outstanding student and all of her mentors and professors, including **Mark Lewandowski, Greg Bierly and Nicole Bailey**.
- I am also pleased to announce that both **Nolan Davis** and **Kandi Hill-Clarke** have been selected for the 2015 class of the Millennium Leadership Initiative. This prestigious leadership development program is designed to help higher education institutions diversify their executive leadership by preparing individuals with the skills, philosophical overview and network of colleagues needed to advance to the highest ranks of higher education. The program is run by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. Congratulations to Nolan and Kandi.
- Goal 6, Initiative 1 of the Strategic Plan (***Enhancing the Quality of Life of Faculty and Staff***) is at a turning point in its progression. The campus has engaged in evaluation and been provided an opportunity to discuss the findings. Based on the findings, this committee is charged with developing campus-wide collegiality and civility initiatives, support models for pre-tenure or early-career faculty, investigating hiring/recruitment practices, and creating social programming. If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact **Lindsey Eberman** ([Lindsey.Eberman@indstate.edu](mailto:Lindsey.Eberman@indstate.edu)).
- The **College of Technology** has been notified by the Federal Aviation Administration that its Certificate of Authorization for both **Muscatatuck Urban Training Center** and the Terre Haute International Airport have been approved for two years. This is a huge boost for the University's **unmanned systems program** and will provide our students with significant research and training opportunities to prepare them for the expanding employment opportunities in this field.

These are only a small portion of the many events, activities and good things happening on our campus. It is a great time to be a Sycamore.

Sincerely,  
Daniel J. Bradley  
President