

CHANCELLOR REMARKS FOR ALL-CAMPUS MEETING

Friday, August 24, 2007

Good morning.

Thank you for being here for the kick-off of the new academic year.

I enjoy this meeting because it is an opportunity for us to come together as a team before the academic year begins.

The campus has started a tradition to begin these meetings with a performance from members of the Ernestine M. Raclin School of the Arts.

The performance this morning is special because it features the newly arrived Euclid String Quartet.

Members have only been on campus for about a month.

This will be their first official campus performance.

I will turn the podium over to Dean Tom Miller for the proper introduction.

(MUSICAL PERFORMANCE)

Thank you. That was beautiful.

As I enter my sixth year as chancellor, I am proud of what we have accomplished together and excited about what the future holds.

I want to spend a few minutes this morning talking about the coming year.

As you know, enrollment numbers are very important.

When I meet with legislators or talk to community leaders they are always interested in growth.

Enrollment growth fuels many things, including the ability to get funding for buildings, programs, faculty and staff.

The latest numbers show that headcount is .53 percent ahead of last year at this time.

Credit hours are 1.09 percent ahead of last year at this time.

More accurate information will be available at the end of next week which is census.

It is important to remember that we are all enrollment champions and I thank you for everything you do to help students register during this busy time.

I want to thank Karen White, who is serving as interim vice chancellor of student affairs and enrollment management, and her staff for their hard work.

When you visit the Gateway to Excellence in the lobby you can see that they are service oriented and make a great impression on students, parents and residents who walk in the door.

Keep up the good work.

Now for a budget update.

In the spring the campus was facing a very tight budget situation.

In order to address this issue, I formed a campus leaders group to look at the budget process and financial projections for the 2007-2009 biennium.

As a result of several meetings during the spring semester a budget adjustment group chaired by David Vollrath was formed to make recommendations for campus budget savings.

The campus leaders group and I will receive a report from them in November.

However, good things have happened since the spring.

IU approved a seven percent increase in tuition for all graduate students and out-of-state undergraduate students and a five percent increase for in-state undergraduate students.

The campus did not incur an expected assessment for People Soft and the President's fund.

These items improved the 2007-08 budget situation.

As a result we were able to fund some items that were in line with the campus focus of "stable enrollment with an emphasis on retention." as stated in my annual letter to budget managers.

They include base funding for the following:

A new position of assistant registrar/degree audit coder,

Peer mentors in student affairs,

75-thousand dollars for new distance education courses,

And one-time funding for a retention pilot initiative directed by Professor Randy Isaacson that focuses on probationary students and revision of U100 Freshman Introduction to College.

The focus on “stable enrollment with an emphasis on retention” will continue for the 2007 - 08 academic year.

In addition, all operating budget requests for 2008-09 are to be submitted in alignment with the campus focus and the IU South Bend strategic plan.

This information was shared in my annual letter to budget managers that was sent on August 1st.

I want to thank Vice Chancellor of Fiscal Affairs and Administration Bill O’Donnell and his staff for their work these important budget issues.

Thoughtful deliberation will continue on budget planning so IU South Bend can continue to provide an open and transparent process that matches resources with initiatives in the strategic plan.

An important event will take place on campus on November 12, 13 and 14.

It is an event we have been preparing for for three years.

A team from the Higher Learning Commission will be here to gather information for re-accreditation of IU South Bend.

IU South Bend received its last accreditation seven years ago.

The centerpiece of re-accreditation is the self study which has been prepared under the leadership of Eileen Bender and Becky Torstrick.

The self study is a thorough examination of the strengths and weaknesses of the university that follows a detailed template.

The self-study provides a window into virtually every campus operation.

The HLC team visits the campus to review the evidence contained in the self-study and to provide their perspective about programming, policies and procedures.

The self-study is available on the IU South Bend web site from a link on the Chancellor’s web page and its own web address which is on the screen.

I think you will find that it is a good read of our campus.

I encourage all of you to read it so you can be informed participants in the re-accreditation process.

In the weeks ahead communications about the self study will be going to the campus including an executive summary, newsletters, posters, and announcements on the electronic bulletin board.

The goal is to have students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members understand the mission and values of the university.

Not only will each of you be a campus ambassador during the HLC visit, you may be engaged in formal or informal discussions with them about IU South Bend.

Re-accreditation not only provides a benchmark of university success, it is an education process in which the campus learns about itself.

The campus slogan for HLC visit is “Be Prepared, Be Committed, Be Present.”

I want to thank Eileen and Becky for their leadership and I look forward to a successful visit by the HLC team.

The HLC team will see a lot of construction when they get here.

Student housing is being built on the property across the pedestrian bridge.

If you don't believe me, just look at “housing cam”.

Here is a look at the new IU South Bend student housing web site that features a view of the construction site from a camera located high on the fifth floor of the library.

You will be able to get to the housing page from the Popular Sites link on the home page.

I want to thank Information Technologies, Marketing and Communications, and Media Services for their help in developing the housing web site.

Now everyone will be able to track the progress of the construction and get the latest information about student housing by visiting the web site.

A wonderful groundbreaking ceremony for student housing was held in June and workers have been going strong ever since.

Housing will be available for students for the fall 2008 semester.

Isn't that amazing?

One year from now 400 students will be moving in.

They will have their choice of one, two and four bedroom apartment style units located in eight two-story buildings.

In addition, a community building will be constructed that will serve as the hub of the student housing complex.

The community building will include laundry facilities, mailboxes, computer kiosks, exercise equipment and study areas.

Students will have a beautiful riverfront view and will be able to use recreational fields, walking paths and bicycles trails.

In the months ahead, information sessions will be held with faculty, staff and students to discuss the impact of student housing on the campus.

Guest speakers will also be invited to share their expertise about the implementation of student housing.

There is another exciting project underway that is very important to the campus.

The Indiana General Assembly approved 27 million dollars in funding for renovation of the Associates Building.

You will recognize the building on the screen.

The renovated facility will be called the Education and Arts Building and will house the School of Education, dental hygiene programs from the School of Nursing, some fine arts programs, health and wellness center, counseling center and Information Technologies.

This project will complete the work of many years to make the campus whole from a facilities standpoint.

Meetings about programming for the building are underway.

An architect is expected to be selected in September or October.

On Monday the new IU South Bend Elkhart Center will open for classes.

On Wednesday at 3 p.m. a dedication ceremony will be held featuring IU President Michael McRobbie, members of the IU board of trustees, elected officials, community leaders and the public.

I encourage you to attend if you can.

You are looking at some photographs of the beautiful facility.

The Elkhart Center is a wonderful story.

A group of Elkhart business leaders decided they wanted a university presence in downtown Elkhart and they made it happen.

The success of their fundraising exceeded expectations and the building grew from the original 16-thousand square feet to the current 25-thousand square feet.

Their effort is one of the best examples of a community's commitment to higher education that I have ever seen.

There will be a lot of excitement in Elkhart next week.

I want to thank Vice Chancellor of Information Technologies Pat Ames and her staff for the excellent work they did installing the many computers and other technology at the Elkhart Center.

My thanks also go to Vice Chancellor Bill O'Donnell and his staff in Facilities for the tremendous effort they made to get the Elkhart Center ready for classes.

I don't want you to think that we have forgotten about the Administration Building.

In fact, the scope of the renovation of the Administration Building has increased to a 7 point 7 million dollar project.

The renovation will be done in nine phases as funding becomes available.

A committee of local civic leaders is in the quiet phase of a campaign to raise private donations for the project.

More than one million dollars has already been collected.

Those funds will be put to use this fall when renovation work begins on two of the nine phases.

The Hammes Information Commons is nearly complete at the Schurz Library.

If you haven't seen the Commons yet I encourage you to walk through it when you leave this meeting.

Here are some recent photographs.

Construction was fast and furious this summer to try to finish the work in time for classes.

The Commons will bring together print and electronic resources, technology, and services provided by reference librarians, technology assistants, and multimedia specialists.

Students will be able to research topics, write their papers, tabulate data, design web pages, and develop multimedia presentations all in one location.

The Commons also will have workstations to access the Library's digital collection and the software students need to complete projects.

Many of the spaces for workstations are large enough for students to work together and for faculty to coach them.

I want to thank Michelle Russo and her staff for their patience through the summer construction and congratulate them on a wonderful enhancement to the Library.

The dedication ceremony for the Hammes Information Commons will be held on September 23rd.

Construction is also underway at the South Bend Natatorium which will be an extension of the new home of the Civil Rights Heritage Center.

IU South Bend, the City of South Bend, and the Heritage Foundation are working together on this project.

You are seeing photographs of the construction.

At this time a 15-hundred square foot addition is being built on the back of the building.

The addition will include two large teaching areas, a quiet learning area, and an active learning area which will accommodate lectures, guest speakers, and other educational and community activities.

From the addition visitors will be able to walk into a peace garden.

Once the addition is complete work will begin on the interior of the structure.

Fundraising is underway to support programs, staffing and other needs of the project.

This is an exciting project that will strengthen the connection of IU South Bend to the west side of South Bend.

On September 13, the annual legislative luncheon will be held on campus and there will be two special guests.

Indiana House Speaker Pat Bauer will be here along with IU President Michael McRobbie.

The luncheon is an opportunity to bring legislators to campus and discuss issues for the short session that begins in January.

The legislative luncheon will mark the fourth time President McRobbie has visited the campus since he was appointed in July.

I had the opportunity to meet with him and his executive team at the board of trustees meeting in Indianapolis last week.

I also met with the three new trustees.

President McRobbie continues to impress me with his vision of Indiana University, his commitment to the regional campuses, and the people he has chosen for his administration team.

In January, IU South Bend becomes a tobacco-free campus.

I have received the draft of the tobacco free policy from the committee studying the issue.

The committee will be meeting with campus groups to get feedback on how the policy is structured and how it will be implemented.

The final version of the policy will be submitted to the President's Office on October 1st.

The policy is a result of a request by former IU President Adam Herbert to make all IU campuses smoke free or tobacco free by January 1st 2008.

I have received the report of the ad hoc campus safety committee.

The committee was formed in January to examine the current safety policies and procedures of the campus in preparation for student housing.

The committee has made numerous recommendations which will be reviewed by the Chancellor's Cabinet and other appropriate groups.

The committee was asked to look at policies and procedures for reporting crimes on campus,

To develop an awareness and education plan for the campus,

To examine current safety and security information presented at student orientation sessions and recommend any needed changes,

And to identify locations on campus that need security enhancements.

The report and recommendations will be made available to the campus once they are finalized.

I want to thank the committee members for the hard work they put in last semester and over the summer.

I am pleased to announce that two new degrees are in line for the School of Nursing and Health Professions.

A Bachelor's Degree in Dental Hygiene is being offered this fall.

Hopefully, in fall 2008, the long-awaited Master's Degree in Nursing will be offered.

The MSN needs final approval by the Commission on Higher Education which will be meeting on September 14 here at IU South Bend.

Thanks go to Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs Alfred Guillaume, Dean Mary Jo Regan-Kubinski, and nursing and dental hygiene faculty on these important additions to IU South Bend's degree programs.

I also want to congratulate Vice Chancellor for Public Affairs and University Advancement Ilene Sheffer at this time.

In the 2005-06 academic year, the development office set a record when it raised more than one million dollars for the university in a twelve month period.

In the 2006-07 academic year another record was set when the level of fundraising was doubled.

And this does not include the money raised for the Elkhart Center.

You saw the student housing web site earlier, now it is time to unveil the future look of the IU South Bend web site.

Because of the integrated image campaign and the need to enhance and update the website a new design has been created.

This is a work in progress and won't be ready for implementation until January but I wanted to give you a preview today.

The Offices of Marketing and Communications and Information Technologies have been working on the design and functionality of three levels of the web site.

You are looking at an example of what the home page will look like.

It will feature flash components, video, rotating photographs and enhancements to usability and navigation.

The web site is a valuable recruiting, marketing and communication tool for the campus.

You will be hearing more about the launch of the new web site and what you will be able to do with your department web pages in the coming months.

Several searches will get underway during the fall semester to fill important positions on campus including Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, Director of Affirmative Action, Director of Student Life, and Director of Student Housing.

You will be notified of opportunities to meet with the candidates and provide input.

I am pleased to announce that IU South Bend is participating in the Mentoring Dream Team program at the South Bend School Corporation.

Mentors from IU South Bend will be recruited to work with students at John Adams High School right across the street.

Volunteers will receive training and then meet with their assigned student one hour a week at the high school.

This is a wonderful opportunity for the campus to help students at Adams High School and I encourage you to participate.

More information will be made available shortly.

I want to remind you of our campus parameters of engagement – communication, teamwork, integrity, civility and commitment.

They have served us well over the past five years.

IU South Bend will continue to operate under those guidelines to identify debate and resolve issues on campus.

In closing, I want to spend a few minutes talking about the next five years.

As chancellor, I will be channeling by efforts into three broad areas.

The campus vision and how it is aligned with strategic planning and budget transparency,
Strengthening the academic mission and communication with faculty,

And continuing to enhance internal communication with faculty and staff.

I will be meeting with faculty, staff and students this academic year to listen and gather information with regard to these topics.

The timing is good for these discussions.

The Higher Learning Commission re-accreditation process has set the stage for the campus to understand its strengths and address its weaknesses.

After the informational meetings have taken place and the HLC review has been completed, the campus will be ready to begin the process of developing a new strategic plan and formalizing a future vision.

And, at that time, as chancellor, I will have a better idea of what needs to be done over the next five years to accomplish our goals.

I look forward to this important process.

Thank you for taking time to be here this morning.

I deeply appreciate your dedication to IU South Bend.

Students and the community are fortunate to have a group of people like you who are dedicated to teaching, learning and improving the world in which we live.

Let's have a wonderful year together.

Thank you.

At this time I would like to introduce the members of the Chancellor's Cabinet. Please stand when your name is called.

Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Alfred Guillaume.

Vice Chancellor for Administration and Fiscal Affairs, Bill O'Donnell.

Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, Karen White

Vice Chancellor for Public Affairs and University Advancement, Ilene Sheffer.

Vice Chancellor for Information Technologies, Pat Ames.

The cabinet has some more information to share with you, so I will now invite Dr. Guillaume to the podium.

CABINET PRESENTATIONS

I now invite academic senate president Rosanne Cordell to come to the podium.

ROSANNE CORDELL - ACADEMIC SENATE PRESIDENT

JANE POMEROY – PROFESSIONAL STAFF CO-PRESIDENT

JOSEPHINE JOHNSON – BI-WEEKLY STAFF PRESIDENT

ADJOURNMENT