

**ALL-CAMPUS MEETING**  
**Friday, August 28, 2009**  
**9 a.m. in Northside Main Auditorium**  
**Remarks from Chancellor Reck**

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 get together as a team before the academic year begins.

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

At this time, I would like to invite Dean Marvin Curtis to the stage to introduce the performers.

(MUSICAL PERFORMANCE – EUCLID QUARTET)

Thank you. That was beautiful.

I hope all of you had an enjoyable summer and are rested for our new year together.

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

Enrollment numbers are strong which is very important, especially in a difficult economy.

The latest figures show that headcount is approximately 16 percent ahead of last year at this time with 8,251 students currently enrolled.

That breaks the long-standing record of 7,798 set in 1992.

Last year we had the second highest enrollment ever.

Credit hours are about 13 percent ahead of last year at this time and stand at more than 79,000 which is also a new record.

The previous record of just under 74,000 was set last fall.

The figures won't be official until after census which is September 7.

The percentage increases will likely decrease because of timing issues with last year but the numbers are very strong.

I want to thank the administration and staff in Student Affairs and Enrollment Management for their work in recruiting and processing the large number of students.

I especially thank the faculty and staff advisors for helping in the enrollment and registration process.

I also appreciate the willingness of faculty to increase sections of classes and to accept teaching overloads to accommodate the large number of students.

It is important to remember that we are all enrollment champions.

Our next important job is to retain our students.

Keep up the good work.

As you know we are in tough economic times.

Indiana University and IU South Bend are feeling the impact.

State funding for IU South Bend was cut 6.5 percent in the two year budget recently passed by the General Assembly.

The impact of the reduction is temporarily eased due to the use of federal stimulus money.

To prepare for this cut, IU has decided to take immediate action with the following steps for 2009-2010.

No base salary increases for faculty or staff with the exception of faculty receiving tenure or being promoted.

Travel budgets have been cut in half.

And the budget line for any vacated full-time position in professional or bi-weekly staff will be cut by 50%.

The IU Board of Trustees did approve a tuition increase for IU South Bend and the other regional campuses of 4.4% for 2010 -11 and 4.6 % in 2011-12.

These steps will help prepare the campus for the 6.5% budget cut.

Even with these changes, we need to remain optimistic that the campus will continue to move forward.

I think it essential that we remain focused on enrollment management and student retention during these uncertain economic times.

And, I will continue to keep the campus informed of the budget situation.

The economic situation has put the renovation of the west side of the second floor of the Administration Building in a holding pattern.

Bids were expected to be sent out in September and renovation was to begin in October. That has been delayed because of an issue with the State Budget Committee.

The project was going to be on the agenda of today's meeting of the committee but Senator Luke Kenley, chair of the committee, pulled all capital projects for IU and Purdue off the agenda.

Kenley is concerned that IU and Purdue raised tuition rates and he is using the capital projects as leverage.

Without approval by the committee, none of the projects can move forward.

Discussions with Senator Kenley are taking place but no one is sure what the outcome will be.

This is the second phase of the Administration Building project.

The first phase was completed last year and included renovation of the lobby, the Gateway, several offices on the first floor, along with the stairway, meeting rooms and the School of Business and Economics on the second floor.

Another capital project, which needs approval by the State Budget Committee is the Education and Arts Building renovation project.

The project was not on the agenda for today's state budget committee meeting but hopefully it will be in the future.

I am working with Tom Morrison, vice president of capital projects and facilities at IU, on the process.

The project also needs to be approved by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education.

I am hopeful the funding will be released and the project will get underway this year.

For those of you new to the campus, the Education and Arts building is the red-brick building on Ruskin Street.

Once renovated, it will be a modern classroom facility.

The building will be the new home of the School of Education, the Dental Hygiene program and several programs from the School of the Arts.

Another exciting addition to the campus is Springbrook Trail which is under construction on the South Side of the St. Joseph River near student housing.

The project is funded through the Indiana Department of Transportation.

The trail will run from the intersection of Ironwood and Titan Drive down to the river and west behind the student housing units before turning south to connect to Lincolnway Avenue.

One of the highlights of the construction was the removal of the old furniture building across from Martin's that had become an eyesore.

When completed it will be a beautiful walking trail along the river for students, faculty, staff and community residents.

In addition, the City of South Bend is working with the Department of Natural Resources to complete the walking trail from the boat launch on Northside Drive across our property to Ironwood.

Both trails are expected to be completed this fall.

So there will be plenty of riverfront walking opportunities for all of us walkers.

The Franklin D. Schurz Library continues to enhance its facility and service.

The latest addition is the Dorene Dwyer Hammes Media Commons and Cafe.

Located on the first floor across from the Hammes Information Commons, the media commons features several high-tech and fun places to study.

There is a newly designed circulation hub where students can check out and reserve library material.

Students can meet with classmates and drink coffee and tea in the Café.

There is a digital A-V Nook where students can view videos individually or in small groups.

The centerpiece of the renovation is the Multimedia Production Studio where students can create high quality multimedia presentations including animation, music, video and other graphics.

Parts of the media commons will be open when classes begin on Monday, the remainder will be ready later in September.

A dedication ceremony is scheduled for October 21, 2009.

Congratulations to Dean Michelle Russo and her staff at the Library for helping with this wonderful addition to the campus.

Today is a busy day at River Crossing student housing.

It is move-in day.

This marks the second year of student housing at IU South Bend.

At this time it looks like there will be fewer students in housing than last year.

A thorough analysis of student housing will take place this year to help us reach our goal of higher occupancy next fall.

I encourage everyone to continue to promote student housing to prospects and parents.

The beginning of the academic year means the beginning of flu season is not far away.

The H1-N1 flu outbreak last year was a stark reminder that pandemics do occur and the campus needs to be prepared.

Campus Police Chief Marty Gersey and Director of the Health and Wellness Center Laura Hieronymus have been leading the pandemic planning for IU South Bend for two years now.

The planning helped us deal with the H1-N1 outbreak last spring and will continue to guide the campus.

IU South Bend has applied to the St. Joseph County Health Department to be an H1-N1 flu vaccine distribution center.

If approved, the campus would receive an allotment of the vaccine to be given to students, faculty and employees who want to be inoculated.

The vaccine isn't expected to be ready until October.

The last outbreak did not affect academic operations on campus but the next one could.

In order to be ready for that possibility, faculty will be receiving a letter from Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Alfred Guillaume requesting the discussion of contingency plans in the event of significant absenteeism or interruption of classes.

Issues to consider are instructional methods, grading, attendance, research and creative activity.

Early and flexible planning now is the key to minimizing the impact to academic programs.

In the meantime, here is a quick reminder of what you can do to help fight the spread of the flu:

Check with your doctor on whether you should get the regular seasonal flu shot.

Wash your hands frequently.

If you begin feeling the symptoms of the flu – stay home.

If the symptoms persist see your primary care provider.

Let's start now to keep the campus as healthy as possible.

The campus strategic plan for 2010 through 2015 is in its final stages.

The plan has been a team effort between environmental scanning teams, the Campus Directions Committee and the Strategic Planning Advisory Committee.

Under the leadership of Becky Torstrick and Linda Fisher on the C-D-C and with the support of Director of Institutional Research John Novak, a draft of the plan has been completed.

The draft includes a vision for the campus, mission statement, and goals for the future.

The C-D-C is developing a process for sharing the draft with campus representatives and groups.

Hopefully, the plan will be presented to the Academic Senate by December.

I appreciate the dedication shown by many people on this very important project.

The Reaching Higher report by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education will be impacting IU South Bend this year and for many years to come.

Many of you are familiar with the report but I want to touch on two of the recommendations to underline their significance.

The report calls for the restructuring of state appropriations to institutions of higher education to reward degree completion rather than enrollment.

The report also recommends that Indiana's public four-year colleges and universities substantially eliminate all remedial courses.

The campus has already taken steps to address these issues.

Retention was a major focus last year and will continue to be.

Campus representatives are in discussions with Ivy Tech North Central on accommodating students who need remedial courses.

And the Enrollment Management Advisory Committee is examining current admissions policies and procedures.

To help address these issues IU South Bend will be using the expertise and resources of the consulting firm Noel-Levitz.

Noel-Levitz specializes in higher education enrollment management and student success.

The firm has worked with more than two-thousand campuses in North America including public and private, four year and two year institutions.

Beginning in September, consultants will be visiting our campus to gather information.

They will be working closely with the Enrollment Management Advisory Committee and others.

Among the areas that will be examined are admissions, financial aid, recruitment, marketing, retention and graduate education.

I look forward to working with them over the next several years to help shape the future of IU South Bend.

In the coming year, graduate education will be another area of focus.

On September 2, I will convene a meeting of faculty, staff and academic administrators to begin the process of analyzing and improving graduate programs at IU South Bend.

Overall enrollment in graduate programs has declined in the past five years.

A decline in graduate program enrollment will diminish IU South Bend's reputation as a comprehensive institution of higher learning which could result in the campus becoming known as an undergraduate university.

I will keep the campus informed of the progress in this area.

I am pleased to announce that a Bachelor of Music Education degree will be offered this semester through the Ernestine M. Raclin School of the Arts.

The degree allows IU South Bend to prepare teachers to be choral, band, and orchestra directors in public schools.

I want to thank Dean Marvin Curtis, David Barton, and Jorge Muniz from the School of the Arts and Dean Michael Horvath and Karen Clark from the School of Education for their work on this degree program.

Congratulations to the Titan's women's basketball team for being recognized as a N-A-I-A Scholar Team.

The team earned a 3.42 grade point average during the 2008-09 academic year.

The team G-P-A includes all varsity athletes certified as eligible.

I want to thank Coach Steve Bruce for his leadership in helping these scholar-athletes.

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

They have served us well.

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

I want to conclude by reading from an email that was given to me by the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Science Lynn Williams.

A student wrote the email to Peter Bushnell, professor of biological sciences.

*Dr. Bushnell,*

*I know students come and go.*

*Semesters blur into years and physiology courses might long be forgotten unless something triggers a memory of special professors that really do something well.*

*I'm now in my 3rd year of naturopathic medical school in Arizona and I still thank my lucky stars that I not only took a course in Anatomy & Physiology before embarking on this journey but that I took an exceptional course in Anatomy & Physiology--in short, one of the best kick-butt classes anywhere!*

*I know that your course stands head and shoulders above many such courses.*

*I routinely draw on the knowledge of the stuff you taught us!*

*In February, I took (and rocked) my basic science board exams and of course, physiology questions turned up on the biochemistry section, the path section, the microbiology section, and even the anatomy section.*

*Most of the physics questions I could think my way through because I understood the foundational material (in large part) from taking your course!*

*I was delighted to score in the 93% on the physics section itself.*

*I just wanted to say thanks, thanks, and thanks again. You rock!!*

*I decided that I should be sharing physiology fun with the class behind me so I'm their Teaching Assistant to prep them for their board exams next cycle.*

*I'll thank you for them!*

*Jenn Botham*

What a wonderful testimonial.

Congratulations to Peter and the Department of Biological Sciences.

Letters like that are inspirational for all of us, especially as we get ready to start a new academic year.

Thank you for taking time to be here this morning.

I deeply appreciate your dedication to IU South Bend.

Let's have a wonderful year together.

Thank you.