

Indiana State University Board of Trustees
President's Report
May 7, 2010
Comments by President Daniel J. Bradley

Good afternoon.

STAKEHOLDERS CONFERENCE

This is the end of a challenging and rewarding academic year. Despite the financial challenges brought on by the national and state economies, this was a year of significant progress for Indiana State. Much of that progress was detailed during last week's inaugural Strategic Planning Stakeholders Conference. During this day-long event, more than 150 campus and community leaders heard a plenary address by Chris Murphy, member and former chair of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education. Commissioner Murphy detailed the goals of the commission and indicated that "The Pathway to Success" is in direct alignment with the state's vision for higher education.

The day continued with reports from each goal and audit chair. There are more than 200 people involved in implementing the strategic plan and several more dozen involved in auditing and evaluating progress made. The work is well underway but this is only the first cycle of the five-year plan. I hope the enthusiasm and energy displayed last week will continue well into the future. I would like to thank everyone involved in developing, implementing and assessing the strategic plan, and I look forward to continuing our work in the coming year. By doing so, we will control our university's future rather than having it determined for us.

I would like to thank Trustees Ron Carpenter, Bob Baesler and Matt Huckleby for participating in the conference.

ENROLLMENT

As you are aware, increasing enrollment and student success is the top priority of our strategic plan. At this point we have a number of positive indicators that cause us to remain hopeful that the University will experience another enrollment increase this fall. One of our best indicators is the number of reservations for June orientation. To date, we have received 1,215 reservations, which is head of last year by more than 400. The Office of Admissions and volunteers from across campus will be participating

in the Dial-a-Student program next week to check in on admitted students who have not yet confirmed their fall enrollment plans.

THE FUND FOR HOOSIER EXCELLENCE

In support of our enrollment and student success goals, Indiana State has agreed to become a partner in the **Fund for Hoosier Excellence**, a non-profit organization established by U.S. Senator Dick Lugar to encourage outstanding minority students to excel in school and remain in Indiana as leaders. The program recognizes ten Lugar Scholars with renewable scholarships, two at \$5,000 per year, eight at \$1,000 per year. As a partner institution, Indiana State has agreed to meet the unmet financial need of any Lugar Scholar who attends our University. We will also have access to the students nominated for the program so that we might recruit them individually.

STUDENT HONOREES

One of my favorite things about this time of year is the opportunity to recognize outstanding students, faculty and staff at a variety of events.

I am pleased to have a number of our top honorees with us today. Please stand up to be recognized when I call your name:

Kaelynn Hayes, a history major and Spanish minor from Danville, Indiana, is the recipient of the President's Medal for Leadership, Scholarship, and Service.

Regina Atkins, a public relations major and marketing minor from Indianapolis, is the recipient of both the 2010 John Moore Award given to the top presidential scholar and the Alan C. Rankin Outstanding Senior Award.

Other recipients of the Alan C. Rankin Award are: **Andrew Beaven**, a chemical physics major and chemistry and math minor from Marshall, Illinois; **Michael Scott**, a political science and social studies education major from Gary and someone whom you know quite well; and **Paige Williams**, an insurance and risk management major from Terre Haute.

Please join me in recognizing these students. We congratulate your efforts and look forward to celebrating your graduation with you and your families tomorrow.

RECOGNITION OF DEAN TOM SAUER

I would now like to turn it over to Provost Jack Maynard for special recognition.

[Comments from Provost Maynard]

[Comments from Dean Sauer]

FACULTY RECOGNITION

On the faculty side, several of our top honorees are present, and I would like to ask them to stand when I call their names:

Receiving the University's highest award for faculty, the President's Medal for Exemplary Teaching and Scholarship were: **Sister Alma Mary Anderson**, professor of art, and **Max E. Douglas**, professor of management.

Professor of Music **Brian Kilp** was recognized with the Lloyd W. Benjamin III Medal for Distinguished International Service for his work in advancing international education and partnerships.

Caleb Mills Distinguished Teaching Award recipients are: **Kimberly Bodey**, associate professor of sport management; **Arthur Feinsod**, professor of theater; **Beth Whitaker**, professor of elementary, early and special education; and **Stephen Wolf**, professor of chemistry.

Three faculty members were honored with the 2010 Theodore Dreiser Distinguished Research and Creativity Award. They are **Arthur Halpern**, professor of chemistry; **Charles Roberts**, professor of mathematics and computer science; and **Tom Sawyer**, professor of recreation and sport management.

David Malooley, associate professor of electronics, computer and mechanical engineering technology, and **John Conant**, professor of economics, received the Faculty Distinguished Service Award representing service outside the classroom.

Rusty Gonser, associate professor of biology, received the university's Community-Based Learning and Scholarship Award, which recognizes faculty who have made serving the community an integral part of their academic goals and activities.

Please join in congratulating these faculty members and thanking them for their service to our students, our university and literally, our world.

OSHER ENDOWMENT

I am pleased to report that Indiana State University has received a one million dollar endowment from the Bernard Osher Foundation to support the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. The institute provides an array of educational offerings tailored for Wabash Valley residents 50 and older. I have asked **Linda Crossett**, director of community and professional programs, to share a few highlights of the OLLI program and what the Osher support means.

[Comments from Linda Crossett]

Thank you, Linda and congratulations to you, Program Administrator Michelle Bennett and the extensive network of volunteers involved with OLLI. I look forward to seeing this program continue to grow.

COMMENCEMENT

I am looking forward to tomorrow's Commencement ceremony. First, I would like to extend congratulations to Trustee **Randy Minas** on his son's graduation tomorrow with an MBA. I know that it will be one proud papa who will have the unique opportunity of awarding **Randall Jr.** with his degree on stage tomorrow. Randy will be going to Indiana University this fall to begin his doctoral studies.

I am also looking forward to our speakers. Alumnus **Connia Nelson**, senior vice president for human resources with Verizon Telecom, will deliver the alumni address. Some of you heard Connia speak at the kickoff of the March On campaign last fall. Her success story is a great one to share with our graduates.

The life story of our student speaker is also quite inspiring and is capturing national attention. There was a period in **Shanel Poole's** life when she slept in her car rather than return to her volatile home. She became involved in drugs, had run-ins with the police and eventually ended up in juvenile detention. Tomorrow, at age 27, she will not only receive her degree but will recount her story of turning her life around.

C-SPAN is sending a television crew to record Shanel's speech as part of their annual compilation of top commencement addresses across the country. This story demonstrates how the work done by our faculty and staff can help transform lives. This is what we are all about and why we must continue our work to ensure that all of our students can achieve their educational goals.

That concludes my report.