

May 10, 2017

Dear colleagues,

The culmination of another academic year will take place on Saturday as we celebrate the achievements of our graduating students with two Commencement ceremonies. The 10 a.m. ceremony will include the **College of Arts and Sciences**, the **Bayh College of Education**, and the **Scott College of Business**. The afternoon ceremony will be at 3 p.m. and includes the **College of Health and Human Services** and the **College of Technology**. The **College of Graduate and Professional Studies** participates in both ceremonies.

The colleges will host brunches for their graduating students and families from noon to 1:30 p.m. while the platform party will convene for brunch at Condit House.

Jessica Robertson, who graduated from Indiana State in 2005 with a bachelor's degree in finance, will serve as our alumni speaker. Jessica is the commissioner of the Department of Administration for the State of Indiana, a role she has held since 2013. She previously served as the State of Tennessee's first chief procurement officer where she created the innovative and strategic Central Procurement Office and identified savings totaling more than \$100 million. She is currently pursuing an MBA from Indiana State through our Plainfield program. Many of you will remember Jessica from her undergraduate days at ISU when she was active in the Student Government Association and served as our student trustee on the Board of Trustees.

Baley Halberstadt of Fairbanks, Ind., will be the student speaker for the morning ceremony. She is completing a bachelor's degree in communication and has been heavily involved with WISU/WZIS. A member of the University Honors Program, she serves as treasurer of Indiana State's chapter of Lambda Pi Eta, a communication honor society. She plans to pursue a career in broadcast radio.

Aaron Schaidle, a President's Scholar, will provide the student address for the afternoon ceremony. Aaron will receive a bachelor's degree in nursing. He has been active in the President's Scholars Association and has served on the Honors Advisory Committee. Aaron plans to become a registered nurse and work on a medical-surgical floor of a hospital. He would eventually like to become a certified registered nurse anesthetist.

I am looking forward to hearing their addresses.

I would like to thank alumnus **Todd Osburn** and his wife, **Caroline Howe**, for their extremely generous \$7.5 million planned gift to Indiana State which was announced on April 28. One of the largest gifts in the University's history, the donation includes \$5 million for scholarships to assist Scott College of Business students and \$2.5 million to create the Caroline C. Howe and Todd A. Osburn Career Professional Readiness Fund.

The scholarships specifically target middle-income students where the widest funding gap often exists. Children from higher-income households can afford to pay for college while low-income students can receive state and federal subsidies to help fund their education. Middle-income students do not qualify for much aid, and their parents don't earn enough to pay for their children's college education. It is those students who will be helped by these scholarships.

The Caroline C. Howe and Todd A. Osburn Career Professional Readiness Fund will provide support for a variety of programs in the ISU Career Center including internships, mentorships, partnerships with industries, corporations, and small businesses, visiting CEO and other leadership programs and an

alumni/industry/small business speakers bureau. These programs will help prepare our students for their future careers and make them attractive candidates to potential employers.

In other fundraising news, a recent \$1.03 million gift from **Lt. Margaret “Peg” Boyce** will support the School of Music’s general fund and an endowed scholarship for choral music students. Peg graduated from Indiana State Teachers College in 1949 with a degree in business administration but took almost all of her electives in music. She was also a member of the College Chorus for four years. Upon graduation, she became an ensign in the U.S. Navy and was a member of the second class of women to be accepted for WAVES Officer Training following World War II. After retiring from the Navy in 1975, she worked as a civilian employee with the Navy and Coast Guard until 1990.

At Friday’s meeting, the Board of Trustees will be voting to name the recital hall and atrium in the Landini Center for Performing and Fine Arts in Peg’s honor. I would like to thank her for her long-standing support of Indiana State and our music programs.

I would also like to recognize **John Heintz** and **Ken Menefee** from our Division of Development for their work with these donors.

On the personnel front, announcements are expected this week on the dean searches for the **College of Health and Human Services** and the **College of Arts and Sciences**. Interviews for the dean of the **Bayh College of Education** will wrap up this week with a dean expected to be announced next week. The search for the interim dean of the **College of Technology** is also taking place and should conclude soon.

A reception honoring **Bob English**, who is retiring as Dean of the College of Technology, will take place from 1 to 2 p.m. Thursday in the atrium of Normal Hall. Please join me in thanking Bob for his longstanding service to Indiana State.

I also would like to encourage students, faculty, staff, alumni and local leaders to participate in the listening sessions scheduled tomorrow to garner input into the qualifications desired for the next president of Indiana State. The schedule is available at:

<http://www2.indstate.edu/news/news.php?newsid=4923>.

Other items I would like to share:

- **State Works** is working! There are 99 active participants in the program assisting various offices on campus, and we are excited about what year two holds. Eighty State Works employees have received their Workplace Professional Skills Certificate, 91 have had their résumés critiqued and more than half of our participants no longer have an unpaid balance. Site visits have provided the Career Center staff with great feedback to enhance the program for our new State Works employees beginning in the fall. To prepare for their arrival, the Career Center has created a Student Employment Advisory Board, partnered with the University College to create a UC 110 course, and has begun incorporating NACE’s Career Competencies into all of our student employment postings. Thank you to **Tradara McLaurine**, all of the supervisors of State Works students, **Sarah Wurtz**, Payroll staff, **Beth Farley**, and **Brittney Gilman** for all of their hard work in making the program a success!
- The **Division of University Engagement** is pleased to announce the April Volunteer Hero, **Joy O’Keefe**. Joy was nominated by graduate student Stephanie Pitman who stated: “Dr. O’Keefe has done most of the work organizing the Wabash Valley March for Science. Her involvement has enabled the whole community to come together to support science. Her encouragement towards myself as a student to be involved in science outreach has been amazing.” Stephanie added that Professor O’Keefe is a very supportive and encouraging faculty member who balances her research, teaching, graduate students, and volunteer work in such a way that makes it look effortless. Congratulations, Joy! Nominations are open for the month of May and

can be found at <http://www.indstate.edu/university-engagement/community-engagement/awards-and-funding/volunteer-hero>.

- The **Faculty Center for Teaching Excellence** is accepting faculty to be in the inaugural class for the **Master Teacher Program** which will be coordinated by **Linda Behrendt**. The 18-month program will require 3 to 4 hours per week. The goals of the program include improving the quality of faculty instruction, creating an ever-growing community of teacher-scholars who foster a culture of teaching excellence and classroom professionalism, recognizing and rewarding faculty who continually strive to improve their teaching skills, and creating a cadre of mentors who can work with others as they seek to advance their own abilities. I would encourage faculty to get involved in the program. The deadline for applications is May 24. To apply, go to www.indstate.edu/fcte.
- The FCTE also will be hosting **Mornings in May** again this year May 16-19 and May 22-25. Registration is preferred. Information on the individual sessions which cover a range of topics can be found at www.indstate.edu/fcte.
- **Sonel Shropshire**, president of the Academic Network and a national expert on minority faculty and staff recruitment and retention, will be on campus for a second workshop, "Methods of Minority Faculty/Staff Retention," from 1 to 3 p.m. May 18 in HMSU Dede II. The workshop is sponsored by the ISU Council on Inclusive Excellence. More info is available at: <http://www2.indstate.edu/studentssuccess/pdf/Sonel%20Shropshire%20Workshop%20-%20May%202017.pdf>.
- Department chairs, program coordinators, and faculty leaders involved with academic department student success plan activities and/or learning assessment activities are urged to attend the **Academic Department Student Success Summit**. It is set for May 23 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Library Events Area. This event is closely linked to the broader ISU Strategic Plan activities in the student success arena. More information at this website: <http://www2.indstate.edu/studentssuccess/pdf/Flyer%20for%20Student%20Success%20Summit.pdf>.
- The **Staff Council Annual Meeting** will take place from 10 a.m. to noon on May 18, in the University Hall Auditorium. I would encourage all supervisors to find ways staff members can participate. The event will include light refreshments, speakers and awards. Thanks to the members of the Council for their hard work again this year.
- The **President's Council on Inclusive Excellence** is accepting nominations, including self-nominations, through July 20 for the new **Indiana State Inclusive Excellence Awards**. The awards are designed to reinforce the importance of equity and diversity in the mission and vision of the University and to advance these important core values. There are four awards, two for individuals and two for groups. More information and the nomination form are available at: <http://www.indstate.edu/about/diversity/council/inclusive-excellence-awards>.
- Nominations are being accepted through July 1 for the **Collaboration Award**, designed to recognizing existing collaborative partnerships that have demonstrated measurable results. This recognition is being given in two categories - one for internal collaborations between two or more units, and the second for partnerships between campus units and off-campus non-profit, corporate or governmental entities. The recognition includes a \$10,000 cash award to be used to advance the goals of the collaboration by funding such items as professional development,

purchase of equipment or supplies, hiring of consultants, etc. To submit a nomination, go to: https://indstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2tAoMRrpOnkjYmV.

- A new summary of benefits has been added to the employee services section of the MyISU portal. The summary details contributions to an individual's flexible spending account, the total monthly cost of an employee's health coverage including the split between the employee's contribution and the University's portion, the individuals covered on the employee's ISU health plan, and the University's contribution to the employee's retirement plan. To access the summary, log into the MyISU portal and click on the Employee Self-Service badge, then click on Benefit Summary.

Have a great summer!

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Bradley
President