

May 6, 2015

Dear colleagues,

Finals week is here, and everyone is excited about our first Commencement featuring two ceremonies.

The first ceremony will be for graduating students from the **College of Arts and Sciences** and the **Bayh College of Education**. The processional will begin at 9:45 a.m. with the ceremony beginning at 10 a.m. in Hulman Center. Receptions for these colleges will take place from noon to 1:30 p.m. The Arts and Sciences reception will be in the lobby of Stalker Hall while the Bayh College of Education reception will take place in the University Hall atrium.

The afternoon ceremony will include the **Scott College of Business, the College of Nursing, Health and Human Services**, and the **College of Technology**. The processional will take place at 1:45 p.m. with the ceremony at 2 p.m. Receptions for these colleges precede the ceremony from 11 to 12:30 p.m. The locations are Scot College – Magna Carta Room in Federal Hall; Nursing, Health, and Human Services – Sycamore Banquet Center, and Technology – John Myers Technology Center Atrium.

Eli Lilly executive **Christine Hill** will provide the alumni address at both ceremonies. **Daniel Burkett**, a Terre Haute resident who is completing a bachelor's degree in chemistry, will speak at the morning ceremony while **Jonathan Wachala** of Munster, a senior graduating with a bachelor's in marketing, will provide the student address at the afternoon ceremony.

Also, long-time Indiana State supporters and community leaders **Bud and Annie Perry** will receive honorary doctor of humanities degrees during the afternoon ceremony.

The ceremonies will also be streamed on the web. Information is available at:

http://www.indstate.edu/commencement_live/.

It should be a great day of celebration and recognition for the entire Indiana State University family.

Throughout the last several weeks, there have been numerous honors programs, banquets and ceremonies. A new addition to our celebrations this spring was the **University College's** first Recognition and Transition ceremony. At the ceremony, the members of the University College Council were recognized for being good stewards of the new College. University College advisors, faculty and staff, as well as representatives from the Center for Student Success and Sycamore Coaching were also recognized for working tirelessly with our first-year students. A total of 249 faculty and staff were nominated by first-year students for playing a significant role in their academic success. Additionally, 346 faculty were recognized for submitting Academic Updates to Map Works. Over 2,000 first-year students were honored for successfully completing their first year. Those students who were present walked across the stage in Tilson Auditorium, symbolically transitioning from the University College to their Academic Colleges. Thank you to our faculty and staff who inspired and helped to facilitate our freshmen's success and bravo to the class of 2018 for showing tenacity, resiliency and grit over the last year.

In other news, the **Institute for Community Sustainability** and the **Community School of the Arts** are graduating from the Unbounded Possibilities Program and are being incorporated into the Division of University Engagement due to their success in the outreach work they do and the strong connections and partnerships they both have built with community organizations.

On the personnel front, **Willie Banks** will begin his position as vice president for student affairs and dean of students on May 15. I hope you will help welcome him to the ISU family and wish him well during his first few days on campus.

Other items I would like to share:

- The **Center for Community Engagement** has published the ninth issue of the **Journal of Community Engagement and Higher Education**. The on-line, refereed journal explores community engagement and community-based learning perspective, research, and practice. To read the latest issue, go to: <https://discovery.indstate.edu/jcehe/index.php/joce>.
- Congrats to ISU senior **Megan Stone** for being one of 10 student athletes to receive the Missouri Valley Conference Leadership and Service Spring Award. Megan is an outstanding student athlete and is on pace to finish her softball career with 12 career and single season records while leading her team to its first playoff bid since 2009. An exercise science major, she is also a stellar student with a 3.5 grade point average. She is current president of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee and volunteers in numerous locations throughout the community.
- Several ISU staff members won the **Conference Innovation Award** at the recent CampusInsight Conference, hosted by the vendor who provides our customer relations management software known as Talisma. The project involved improving Distance Nursing communications and enrollments. Sharing in the award were **Djanedi Cardwell, Julie Cuffle, Kim Kimbler, Carol Layton, Grace Oliver, and Doug Weatherston**. Congrats to all.
- On Sunday, April 26th, the **Student Government Association** celebrated the past year and inaugurated its new officers. **Vernon Cheeks**, a junior sports management major from Chicago was inducted as president, and **Shannon Anderson**, a junior business administration major from St. Charles, Illinois was inducted as vice president. I look forward to working with them during the coming year. I would also like to thank **Rep. Clyde Kersey** for providing the keynote address for the event. A highlight of the annual ceremony was the recognition of seven faculty and staff academic advisors who were nominated by students and presented with **Advisor of the Year** honors. Those recognized were: **Debra Israel** (College of Arts and Sciences), **Kevin Ward** (College of Arts and Sciences), **Tiandra French** (University College), **Michael Arrington** (College of Arts and Sciences), **Christina Cantrell** (University College), **Matthew Bergbower** (College of Arts and Sciences), and **Travis Behem** (College of Arts and Sciences). Thank you for your commitment to advising our students and providing the personal attention needed for student success.
- Nominations for the inaugural **Collaboration Award** are due June 1. The award recognizes existing collaborations and partnerships between two or more units across campus (Internal Category) or between campus units and off-campus non-profit, corporate or governmental entities (External Category). In addition to recognizing innovative work already being done, the Collaboration Award includes a \$10,000 cash award which must be used by the collaboration to further advance its goals through professional development, consultants, equipment, etc. To apply, go to: https://indstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2tAoMRrpOnkjYmV.

- ISU will once again host the **Color Run**, an event which drew more than 4,000 participants and raised \$8,000 for the Ryves Neighborhood partnership. This year's event will take place on Saturday, August 22. Registration information is available at: <http://thecolorrun.com/terre-haute/>. Individuals who would like to volunteer can also sign up at this site by clicking on the volunteer link.
- **Kand McQueen** has received the **National Association of Social Workers 2015 Region 6 Community Partner of the Year** award for his efforts to improve the lives of transgender people and build awareness of issues related to transgenderism and gender identity. Congratulations to Kand for this well-deserved recognition.
- **Sgt. Brenda Edington** was recently awarded the **Medal of Valor** by the Indiana State University Police Department for her role in peacefully ending a standoff with an armed man last November. Brenda was recognized during the department's eighth biennial Recognition and Commendation Dinner. **Tonia Tucker, Josh Clifford and Jeff Bucklin** received **Honorable Service Awards** for their roles in the incident. **Office David Barber** received the **Exceptional Service Award** for his efforts in investigating the September 17th posting of a school shooting threat on the anonymous social media site Yik Yak which led to the arrest of a student. **Lt. David Smith and Cpls. Craig Wright, Tamara Watts and Andrew Piske** received Police Star Awards for their roles in this case. Seventeen department members received **Police Star Awards** for their efforts that led to an arrest within 24 hours of the shooting and wounding of one student by another last fall. Those recognized were: **Officers Barber, Andrew Piske, Jeff Bucklin, Austin Wolfe, Craig Wright, Chris Heleine, Jeff Stinson, Josh Clifford, and Mike Colson; Sgts. Edington, Jacque Smith, and Wendel McCullough; Cpl. Tamara Watts; Dispatchers Tonia Tucker, Gloria Ighile and Sara Loundermilk, and retired Officer Dave Glick.** Others receiving **Police Star Awards** for separate incidents were **Capt. Iam Loomis; Lt. David Smith; Sgt. Brent Denny; Cpls. Tamara Watts and Dan Parmer; Officers Andrew Piske, Mike Eldred, Jeff Stinson, Jordan Gentry, Chris McKillop, and Chris Heleine and Communications Officers Danielle Hoepfner, David Neal, and Andrew Gonthier. Joe Newport** presented **Chief of Police Awards** to administrative assistant **Tammy Hurst; Cpl. Watts, and First Financial Bank.** The bank is a long-running sponsor of the awards program. **Civilian awards** were given to **Jeremiah Turner and Michael Seeling.**
- It's a three-peat for our campus as Indiana State has once again been selected as one of the most environmentally responsible colleges in the nation by **The Princeton Review.** Hats off to the **Institute for Community Sustainability** and its numerous campus and community partners for earning this designation three years in a row.
- The **Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity** at Indiana State was one of 10 out of 5,500 chapters in the country to earn the **Chapter Award of Distinction** from the **North-American Interfraternity Conference.** The award recognizes highly functioning chapters who represent the benefits of a values-based fraternity experience by excelling in academics, leadership roles, philanthropy, and community service. The Pike members, advisors and alumni should be very proud of this prestigious award.
- The **Richard Jensen Easton Mathematics Education Classroom** was dedicated last week in recognition of a gift to the Indiana State University Foundation by Richard and his wife, Linda. Richard retired in 2006 after a 40-year teaching career which included serving as chair of the department of mathematics and computer science and as chair of the Faculty Senate. The classroom is located in Root Hall.

- Indiana State students from the **Indiana Statesman** and **The Sycamore yearbook** won 17 awards in the annual **Indiana Collegiate Press Association** competition. Congrats to the students and to **Martha Milner**, director of student publications!
- The **Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice** has created the **Randy Steidl Excellence in Justice Award** in honor of Randy's efforts to advance justice through education, activism, and civic engagement. The inaugural recipient of the award, Randy spent 17 years in prison for a crime he did not commit, including 12 years on death row. Since being released in 2004, he has advocated to end the death penalty in states around the country.
- The **Staff Council** will conduct its annual meeting from 10 a.m. to noon on May 13th in Sycamore Banquet Center. Lunch and door prizes will be included, and all staff are encouraged to attend.

Thanks for another great year. Have a fantastic summer!

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Bradley
President