ALL-CAMPUS MEETING  
Friday, August 27, 2010  
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 always look forward to 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 this year’s performer.

(MUSICAL PERFORMANCE – JOHN MAYROSE)

Thank you, John. That was beautiful.

I hope all of you had an enjoyable summer and are ready for the new year.

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

Let’s begin with enrollment.

It looks like the campus will have another record breaking year.

The latest figures show that headcount is approximately 2.8 percent ahead of last year at this time with 8,485 students currently enrolled.

That breaks last year’s all-time record of 8,394.

Credit hours are about 3.5 percent ahead of last year at this time and stand at more than 82,616 which also breaks last year’s record.

The figures won’t be official until after census which is September 4th.

The profile of students is also improving.

Due to some changes in admissions deadlines and requirements, more students are being deferred.
Especially students who would have been conditional admits.

Research showed that the later conditionally admitted students enrolled, the less likely they were to be successful.

As a result, the deadline for conditional admits was rolled back to August 1st and those students were deferred to the following semester.

The deferral allows them to go to Ivy Tech or somewhere to improve their academic skills so they will be better prepared for the rigors of IU South Bend.

Success in retention is critical because of scrutiny by the governor, the state legislature and the Commission for Higher Education.

I want to thank the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management Jeff Jones and his staff 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, advising, and registration process.

I also appreciate the faculty who are taking on heavier workloads to teach the large number of students.

Enrollment success is not possible without all of us working together.

That includes our partnership with the consulting firm Noel-Levitz.

Many of the initiatives in recruitment and retention have been based on research and expertise from Noel-Levitz.

Their consultants have been working with representatives from admissions, student services, financial aid and marketing for more than a year now.

One of the new programs developed to directly impact retention is “Connect 4 Success”.

The program was implemented this summer to help freshmen connect to the campus and prepare for their college experience.

Programs and workshops included time management, note taking, choosing a major, how to communicate with your professor, financial decision-making and even an ice cream social.

Attendance was good and the program will continue to be offered.
I want to thank Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Services Karen White and her staff for their work on this project.

Strong enrollment helps but Indiana University and IU South Bend continue to be affected by the weak economy.

This leads to my next topic… the campus budget.

The last two years have been difficult but because of cost reductions and enrollment growth, IU South Bend has avoided large scale layoffs or major cuts in programs.

I appreciate the sacrifices you made to protect the quality of education our students receive.

There is good news to report.

Last week the IU Board of Trustees approved President McRobbie’s recommendation for a three percent merit raise for faculty and staff effective November 1st.

President McRobbie said the raise would be paid for through savings from budget cuts, strong fall enrollments and using funds that were set aside in this year’s budget.

He added, and I concur, that the faculty and staff have performed remarkably over the past year under difficult circumstances.

As we look toward the next budget cycle, IU South Bend is going to focus on the salary increases associated with promotion of faculty to associate professor and to full professor and the issue of faculty salary compression.

Enrollment increases and improved student retention generated one-time monies for the campus last academic year.

Based on a recommendation by the Academic Senate Budget Committee, faculty and staff were given the opportunity to submit proposals for use of the monies.

The committee received 53 proposals requesting over one-point-five million dollars.

The committee reviewed the proposals and submitted their recommendations to me.

I approved all that were recommended which totaled about 450-thousand dollars.

This funding will have a direct impact on the educational experience at IU South Bend including research, retention, academic programs and student success.

The same process will be followed for an additional $300,000 of one-time monies that will be made available for strategic goal proposals this fall.
I appreciate the work of the budget committee chaired by Becky Torstrick.

I also want to thank everyone who submitted proposals.

Each one addressed an unmet need on campus and had accountable goals and responsibilities.

Additionally, we must continue to use limited resources wisely, re-allocate existing funds to support the strategic and operational plans, and find ways to reduce expenses.

I want to thank Vice Chancellor of Administrative and Fiscal Affairs Bill O’Donnell and his team for their hard work on the campus budget.

The two year operational plans developed from the new campus strategic plan are in effect.

The plans are on the campus website at www.chancellor.iusb.edu.

Co-chairs of the Campus Directions Committee, Linda Fisher and Terry Shepherd have developed a monitoring system for the execution of these plans.

I want to thank Linda and Terry for their leadership and all of the other people who worked on the plans.

I am looking forward to seeing the results of that work.

Today is a busy day at River Crossing student housing.

It is move-in day.

There have been many changes in the student housing operation over the past year as recommendations from the Housing Working Group were implemented to help raise occupancy.

A new director of housing and residence life, Paul Krikau was hired.

He has brought new energy and a new attitude to River Crossing.

Paul is not with us to be introduced because he is helping with move-in day.

At this time, 287 students have signed contracts which is an increase over last year’s total of 269. The occupancy rate at this time is 74.5 percent.

Those numbers could still increase but it is very important that occupancy continues to grow.
Not only are there financial implications but a robust residence life program at IU South Bend improves recruitment, retention and the learning experience.

I encourage you to meet with Paul and work with him to integrate River Crossing into your programs and activities.

The experience the residents have this year will build the foundation for success in the future.

It wouldn’t be an all-campus meeting if I didn’t mention the Education and Arts Building renovation project.

However, I haven’t ever been able to say this… work on the project will begin this year.

The building is being vacated so preliminary demolition work can begin this fall.

The Language Company hopefully will be moved by the end of October.

The facility will then be roped off and set up as a construction site.

Full renovation work will begin this winter.

The renovated building will be the new home of the School of Education, programs from the Ernestine M. Raclin School of the Arts and the dental hygiene program.

A fundraising campaign is underway to equip the dental hygiene wing of the building.

One million dollars is needed to provide the equipment and technology for the 10-thousand square foot wing.

The current equipment being used by the program in Riverside Hall is 15 years old.

The latest equipment and technology is needed for the 70 students in the program each semester and for the people served through its low-cost preventive dental care clinics.

The campaign has already raised $55,000.

This summer the Ernestine M. Raclin School of the Arts was awarded a $150,000 matching grant from the Community Foundation of St. Joseph County.

The grant is to help pay for renovations to Recital Hall and the Upstage Theatre in Northside Hall.

The grant was written by Anne McGraw, major gifts manager and Lee Streby, grants writer.
The project is estimated to cost more than $500,000 in total.

Once again, the campus is soliciting private donations to meet the match and to cover the cost of the entire project.

At this time, $100,000 of the needed matching funds has been donated.

I want to thank Vice Chancellor of Public Affairs and University Advancement Ilene Sheffer, her staff, and the involved faculty for their work on this project, the dental hygiene wing, the Administration Building renovation and all the other fundraising projects.

The success the campus has seen in philanthropy in a tough economy speaks well of Ilene’s team and the reputation of IU South Bend in the community.

To reinforce the effort to bring outside money to the campus, the position of Grants Writer was created.

The position has dual responsibility to Academic Affairs and Public Affairs and University Advancement.

Lee Streby, who did excellent work for the campus as a part-time grants writer, was hired for the full-time position.

He will be introduced later in the program.

There are two new renovated areas here in Northside Hall.

Check them out as you enjoy the breakfast buffet after this meeting.

The student lounge on the east side of the auditorium has been renovated to provide a pleasant atmosphere for studying and social gatherings.

And the café to the west of the auditorium is being renovated and should be completed later this fall.

The two new areas will enhance the environment for students, faculty, staff and the community as they come to Northside Hall for classes and performances.

My thanks go to Director of Facilities Mike Prater and his team who did the work on both these areas.

Wiekamp Hall is also having some work done.
Walls have been painted, new carpet has been ordered, new chair rails will be installed soon and the air conditioning and heating units will be upgraded over the next 18 months.

In an effort to promote health on campus I am pleased to report that the monthly membership fee for faculty and staff at the Student Activities Center will remain at $10 per month.

There will be membership periods for $40.

The periods are September through December, January through April and May through August.

You can pay for the entire year or a shorter membership period.

I understand checks are preferred.

There is no longer a payroll deduction option due to the cost of processing.

I hope you will take advantage of this low-cost opportunity to use a wonderful exercise facility right here on campus.

Another reason to go to the SAC is to check out the beautiful new basketball court.

The court was sanded this summer and re-painted with a new design featuring the Titan mascot.

It looks great.

Another important project for the campus that will take place this semester is the implementation of a content management system for the website.

A team from the Office of Communications and Marketing and Information Technologies has been working on the CMS system for nearly six months.

The chancellor’s cabinet recently approved the plan to move forward with the system.

You will be receiving details about CMS, the re-design of the website templates and the training that is necessary shortly.

The content management system is the next important step in improving the IU South Bend website.

An accurate, efficient, and attractive website is very important for recruitment and retention.
This fall I will be initiating discussions about the technology needs for IU South Bend for the next three to five years.

The study group will include the Campus Directions Committee, the Academic Senate Budget Committee, Information Technologies and other faculty and administration leaders.

Their task will be to identify and prioritize the technology the campus will need in the future, so plans and budgets can be developed to meet those needs.

I want to thank Vice Chancellor of Information Technologies Pat Ames and her team for the work they have done in enhancing the current technology on campus.

There are two new Dean’s with us today.

Dr. Guillaume will do the official introductions in a few minutes but I also wanted to recognize them and welcome them to campus.

Elizabeth Dunn is the new Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Welcome, Elizabeth.

Vicki Bloom is the new Dean of the Franklin D. Schurz Library and Media Services.

Welcome Vicki.

Shortly after commencement in May many of us attended the dedication of the Engman Natatorium on West Washington Street in South Bend.

More than 400 people gathered to celebrate this historic event.

The natatorium is now being used as the community outreach home of the IU South Bend Civil Rights Heritage Center.

Because the natatorium was not open to African-Americans until 1936 and remained segregated until 1950, it is a powerful symbol of the civil rights movement in South Bend.

I want to thank Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs Alfred Guillaume and others in this room for your work on the natatorium project.

The dedication was a wonderful event and a shining example of IU South Bend’s role in the community.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of what is now the Ernestine M. Raclin School of the Arts at IU South Bend.
There will be many events to recognize the occasion.

Dean Marvin Curtis will keep us informed of them but there is one that I wanted to highlight.

The world premiere of *Requiem for the Innocent* will be on October 2nd at the Morris Civic Auditorium.

The piece was written by faculty member and Coordinator of Music at IU South Bend Jorge Muniz.

It will be performed by the South Bend Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Tsung Yeh as the opening concert of the season.

This is another great example of the quality of the faculty and programs in the School of the Arts.

Congratulations to Dean Curtis and Dr. Muniz on this wonderful accomplishment.

As many of you know, we lost a beloved colleague several weeks ago.

Professor Emerita Eileen Bender passed away after a long and distinguished career at IU South Bend.

She was a special person who touched the lives of many of us.

Plans are being made for a memorial service for her on campus on October 15.

In closing, 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.

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.