Greetings.

The fall semester is underway and with it comes the energy and excitement of an active and growing college campus. I enjoy seeing students walking across our beautiful campus as they continue their pursuit of an Indiana University degree that will benefit them the rest of their lives. There is a lot of news I want to share with you in this newsletter. So, let’s get started.

Fall Enrollment Sets Records

The number of new undergraduate students enrolled for the fall 2005 semester at Indiana University South Bend is the largest in the history of the campus. Official Indiana University figures show 1,696 new undergraduate students are attending classes at IU South Bend, surpassing the previous record of 1,683 set in 2000. IU South Bend also set records for total credit hours taken, the average number of credits taken per student and the number of full-time students taking classes. IU enrollment figures show 71,368 credit hours taken by students at IU South Bend which is an increase of 1.2 percent over last year’s record of 70,519. It is important to note that IU South Bend has set a record for credit hours for five consecutive years.

Fall 2005 figures also show that IU South Bend set a record for average credit hours taken per student. Students are averaging 9.57 credit hours each, an increase of 1.8 percent over last year’s record. The campus also has the largest number of full-time undergraduate students in its history, with 3,615 students are going to class full-time. This is 62.1 percent of the student body, an increase of 3 percent over last year. Hispanic enrollment increased by 15.1 percent and African-American enrollment increased by 2.1 percent. For the fall semester there are 546 students from other institutions who transferred to IU South Bend, just 3 short of last year’s record of 549. The campus also continues to have a strong contingent of international students with 208 from 71 countries enrolled for fall classes.

New Center in Downtown Elkhart

In 2007, downtown Elkhart will be the new location of the IU South Bend – Elkhart Center. A $2.5 million facility will be built at 125 E. Franklin St. Plans call for construction of a 16,000-square-foot building that will include eight classrooms, a bookstore, a student lounge and offices for faculty and staff. IU South Bend has offered classes in Elkhart since 1977 but has never had a permanent home. A group of Elkhart civic leaders, led by Art Decio and Bob Deputy, has engaged in a private fundraising drive for the facility. I thank them for their leadership and commitment to this project and higher education in the area. IU South Bend is thrilled to be a neighbor in downtown Elkhart.
Indiana University School of Medicine – South Bend

Another wonderful new facility is the IU School of Medicine – South Bend. The two-story structure across the street from the Notre Dame campus is complete and will be officially dedicated on October 25. IU has had a medical program in South Bend for first and second year medical students for more than 30 years but never had its own building. It is a beautiful facility and IU South Bend proudly sends students into the program. IU President Adam Herbert and other dignitaries from IU and Notre Dame will attend the dedication.

Nurses and Faculty Help Hurricane Victims

A group of 13 nursing students and two nursing lecturers from IU South Bend recently returned to campus after spending 10 days in Alexandria, La., helping Hurricane Katrina victims. After an emotional campus departure, they started the 800 mile drive to the Louisiana State University campus at Alexandria to help establish a field hospital. The assignment came from the Louisiana Board of Health, in conjunction with the American Red Cross and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.

Many thanks go to the community businesses whose donations made the trip possible. Royal Excursions donated a bus and two drivers, Gulf Stream Coach, Inc., provided a recreational vehicle for the students to sleep in while they were in Louisiana. Memorial Hospital and St. Joseph Regional Medical Center donated the preventative vaccines for the students. Achievement Forum, 1st Source Bank, Ron’s McKinley Marathon and Teachers Credit Union also made generous contributions for the trip, as did the campus community. Two guest students from the gulf area are attending classes on campus this semester, one in nursing and the other in business.

Extended Learning Services

Continuing Studies and Off-Campus Programs at IU South Bend have been reorganized into the Division of Extended Learning Services. The goal of the new department is to expand its outreach to the community based on specific needs of area businesses and residents. Under the leadership of Jackie Neuman, director of Extended Learning Services, the division will provide classes on campus, in Elkhart, in Plymouth or in the workplace. For more information about extended learning opportunities call 520-4261 or go to www.iusb.edu/~cted

Chancellor’s Mailbag

I recently received an e-mail from Rochelle Owen. Rochelle attended an IU South Bend alumni dinner in Indianapolis recently. She wrote to thank us for the event. “I wanted to write to let you know what a pleasure it was to see you tonight. You’ve always been supportive of me and my aspirations. You and so many others really put a lot of faith in me and helped me find my way. IUSB means a great deal to me and the direction I have been able to take. It’s difficult to say where I’m headed, but I have such a solid foundation thanks to IUSB, I know I can do and be anything. Thanks for believing in me.”

What a wonderful testimonial. As you can see, exciting things are happening at IU South Bend. Please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions as IU South Bend continues its mission as the only public, master’s and bachelor’s degree granting institution of higher education in Michiana.

Sincerely,

Una Mae Reck
Chancellor, Indiana University South Bend

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Indiana University South Bend

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