

To: Members of the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees

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From: Joe Rives, Vice President, Quad Cities and Planning

Date: November 12, 2013

Re: November 2013 Strategic Plan Update

This month's *Strategic Plan Update* exemplifies how the students, faculty, staff, and alumni of Western Illinois University are advancing *Higher Values in Higher Education's* priorities to promote high standards of academic excellence, receive external recognitions, support service learning and international opportunities, host executives in residence, and engage alumni.

Academic Excellence

The Provost's Awards of Excellence, Fulbright, and Illinois Student Laureate award recipients demonstrate high levels of academic achievement. This year's Provost's Award of Excellence winners were announced on November 4th. Congratulations to:

- Dr. James Kenny, Professor, Management and Marketing; Provost's Award for Academic Excellence in Teaching
- Dr. Katrina Daytner, Professor, Educational and Interdisciplinary Studies; Provost's Award for Academic Excellence in University/Community Service
- Dr. In Lee, Professor, Computer Science; Provost's Award for Academic Excellence in Scholarly/Creative/Performative/Professional Activities
- Dr. Alphonso Simpson, Professor, African American Studies; Provost's Award for Academic Excellence in Multicultural Teaching
- Dr. Win Phippen, Professor, Agriculture; Provost's Award for Academic Excellence in Teaching with Technology
- Ms. Cheryl Hutchins, Family and Consumer Sciences; Outstanding Academic Adviser

Data from the *Chronicle of Higher Education* shows that Western Illinois University, Missouri State University, and the University of North Carolina at Wilmington are among the top master's degree granting institutions in the number of Fulbright Scholars named at their institution during 2013. The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government and is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries. Western was only one of nine Master level institutions in the country to earn three awards.

- Dr. Joseph Dobson, Management and Marketing will teach in Romania in Spring 2014.
- Dr. Daniel Malachuk English will teach in Germany in Spring and Summer 2014.
- Dr. Tim Roberts, History, is currently teaching in China and will return in Summer 2014.

Additionally, Joshua Wood, a graduate student in Economics, is teaching English in South Korea on a Fulbright Scholarship during academic year 2013-2014.

The Lincoln Academy of Illinois' Student Laureate Award is presented annually to an outstanding senior of each of Illinois' four-year degree-granting institutions, honoring a student's academic excellence and extracurricular activities. Lindsey Posmanick, a women's studies major, minoring in political science and pre-law and member of the Centennial Honors College is the University's 2013 recipient. Her accomplishments include being named the Women's Studies Department Scholar, a Truman Scholar nominee, and a College of Arts and Sciences Scholar nominee. Additionally, she was named to the Iota Iota Iota Women's Studies Honors Society and served in the President's Institute Office of Social Inequalities. Lindsay spent a "Semester at Sea," studying abroad in Mexico, Japan, China, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Singapore, Myanmar, India, Mauritius, South Africa, Ghana, Morocco and Spain last spring.

External Recognitions

Student, faculty, staff, and alumni achievements demonstrate the expertise at the University. Most recently:

Students from construction management earned second place at the Associated Schools of Construction Estimating Competition held in Downers Grove. Dr. Seongchan Kim coached the students in the contest, which included 12 institutions. Team competitions included problem solving and scheduling, cost estimating and pricing, safety and quality assurance plans, a written proposal, and oral presentations.

Students from Western Illinois University's chapter of Lambda Alpha Epsilon (LAE), a professional fraternity of the American Criminal Justice Association, received third place in a recent crime scene investigation (CSI) contest in Chicago. Team competitions included written examinations and the CSI competition. Dr. Dennis Bowman from Law Enforcement and Justice Administration advises Western's LAE chapter, the largest in a seven state region.

Dr. Steve Rock, Economics, was appointed to a statewide working group that will consider ways to increase the retention and graduation rates for college students receiving assistance through Illinois' Monetary Award Program: Illinois' need based financial aid program, created in 1967, and providing assistance to more than 140,000 students during academic year 2012-2013.

Carrie Toth, a Western Illinois University alumna, was named the Illinois Foreign Language Teacher of the Year. A 1993 graduate with a bachelor's degree in Spanish, she has taught Spanish at Carlyle High School for 12 years, and received her award in October during the annual Illinois Council on Teaching Foreign Languages convention.

Global Experiences and Service Learning

More than 150 members of the Western Illinois University band program will travel to Brazil in March to join in collaborative performances and donate instruments to aspiring musicians in impoverished communities. The March 13-23, 2014, tour will be the latest in a series of cross-cultural engagements coordinated by WIU Director of Bands Mike Fansler and 1976 WIU alumnus Doug Adair. Students from WIU's Marching Leathernecks, Wind Ensemble, and Jazz Studio Orchestra will participate.

Agriculture students constructed 12 Adirondack chairs for a camp and retreat center in Trafalgar, Indiana. The goal of Dr. Andy Baker's Agriculture 368, Agricultural Shop Skills course and its service-learning component is to teach skills and competencies in construction processes, including equipment identification and maintenance, masonry, carpentry, welding, and plumbing.

Executive in Residence and Engage Alumni

WIU alumna Nancy Cardea, senior vice president and compliance officer for the Leo Burnett advertising agency, was named the 2013 Executive in Residence for the College of Business and Technology (CBT). The WIU CBT Executive in Residence program was started in 2005 by two former WIU professors, Jim and Carolyn Tripp. Executives visit WIU to speak about their careers and share insights with students.

Western Illinois University alumnus Patrick Magoon, president and CEO of the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago delivered the 2013 Robert and Mary Ferguson Lecture, "Improving Child & Adolescent Health in the Healthcare Reform Era." Magoon graduated from Western in 1976 with a bachelor's degree in sociology. As leader

of the children's hospital, he led a \$30 million turnaround that increased the number of children served by nearly 50 percent and quadrupled the funding received for research from the National Institutes of Health.

Charles Romani was named the 2013 College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Alumnus. Among his many accomplishments, he was appointed by the Illinois Supreme Court to the Judicial Conference of Illinois Courts, Committee on Criminal Law and Probation Administration, Study Committee on Complex Litigation, and the Special Supreme Court Committee on Capital Cases. He tried 40 first-degree murder cases, eight of which were death penalty cases.

In March, 2009, he started a Veterans Court in Madison County, the third court of its kind in the United States at that time. The court was established to help veterans who were charged with non-violent crimes and who had drug/alcohol problems and/or a mental health issue(s) requiring treatment. The court received the national Paul H. Chapman Award in 2010 for keeping veterans out of criminal court and offering alternative sentencing.

As this *Update* shows, the students, faculty, staff, and alumni of Western Illinois University continue to successfully advance the priorities of *Higher Values in Higher Education*. If you have any questions about the materials presented in this *Update*, and/or feedback for the continued successful implementation of the University's *Strategic Plan*, please contact me.

cc:	President Thomas	CSEC Pres. Mattson	Associate Provost Neumann
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