

To: Members of the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees
Cathy Early, Chair Will Gradle
Roger Clawson Todd Lester
Lyneir Cole Steve Nelson
Carolyn Ehlert Fuller Yvonne Savala

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

Date: November 28, 2016

Re: November 2016 Strategic Plan Update

This month's *Strategic Plan Update* provides data from two external sources that show Western Illinois University places high in regional and national collegiate ranking systems. Data from *Washington Monthly* is also used to benchmark institutional progression in achieving the vision of *Higher Values in Higher Education* to become the leading university in quality, opportunity, and affordability.

The September 2016 *Strategic Plan Update* showed that *U.S. News and World Report* named Western Illinois University a "Best Regional University" for the 12th consecutive year. The University advanced to the 9th "Best Public Midwestern Regional Institution," up from 11th place last year.

Top 15 Fall 2016 Midwestern Public Universities
Ranked by U.S. News and World Report

1. Truman State University	9. University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
2. University of Northern Iowa	9. University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
3. Grand Valley State University	9. Western Illinois University
4. University of Wisconsin-La Crosse	12. University of Nebraska-Kearney
5. University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire	13. Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville
6. Eastern Illinois University	13. University of Illinois-Springfield
6. University of Michigan-Dearborn	15. University of Wisconsin-Stout
8. University of Minnesota-Duluth	

Data also published by *Washington Monthly* in September 2016 triangulates earlier *U.S. News and World Report* data. Western placed high in *Washington Monthly's* national and regional rankings for the fourth consecutive year. The University ranked:

- Ninety-first among 634 master's granting institutions from across the nation, placing Western in the top 14% of colleges and universities nationally.
- Thirty-seventh among 376 Midwestern colleges and universities, placing Western in the top 10% of colleges and universities in a 12-state radius.

To benchmark quality, *Washington Monthly* formed an institutional composite score based on three equally weighted measures of social mobility, research, and community service. For the 20 Western Illinois University Benchmark Institutions that were included in the national rankings¹, Western ranked:

¹ *Montclair State, Augustana, Auburn-Montgomery, Indiana-Kokomo, Montana Tech, Texas-Permian Basin* were not included in the national rankings.

- Seventh in its overall composite score.
- Seventh in the social mobility ranking that is based on percentages of first generation and Pell Grant recipients served, net price of attendance for families earning less than \$75,000 annually, graduation rates, loan repayment rates, and median incomes of alumni ten years after initial higher education enrollment.
- Thirteenth in the research ranking that is based on annual research expenditures; the number of science and engineering Ph.D.'s conferred; the number of undergraduate alumni who have gone on to receive a Ph.D. in any discipline, relative to the size of the institution; the number of faculty receiving prestigious awards, relative to the number of full-time faculty; and the number of faculty in the National Academies, also relative to the number of full-time faculty.
- Tenth in the community service ranking that is based on size of ROTC programs divided by the total number of students, and percentages of alumni currently serving in Peace Corps, federal work-study grant money spent on community service projects, and students engaged in community service.

2016 Published Washington Monthly Data Composite Score and Social Mobility Rankings			
	Composite Score		Social Mobility
	<u>Rank</u>		<u>Rank</u>
Truman State	1	James Madison	29
James Madison	6	Eastern Illinois	31
Eastern Illinois	32	Truman State	36
Grand Valley	54	Nebraska-Kearney	51
Northern Iowa	58	Central Washington	60
Southern Illinois-Edwardsville	59	Grand Valley	67
Western Illinois	91	Western Illinois	81
Wisconsin Stevens Point	106	Wisconsin Stevens Point	90
Nebraska-Kearney	115	Illinois-Springfield	92
Illinois-Springfield	143	Pennsylvania State-Harrisburg	157
Central Washington	165	Appalachian State	185
Wisconsin-Lacrosse	185	Wisconsin-Lacrosse	192
Appalachian State	216	Northern Iowa	197
Saint Ambrose	239	Wisconsin-Whitewater	225
Central Missouri	329	Central Missouri	244
Pennsylvania State-Harrisburg	333	William Patterson	266
William Patterson	335	Southern Illinois-Edwardsville	279
Wisconsin-Whitewater	339	Saint Ambrose	408
Louisiana State-Shreveport	533	Louisiana State-Shreveport	484
Indiana-East	538	Indiana-East	535

2016 Published Washington Monthly Data Composite Score and Social Mobility Rankings -continued-			
	Research		Community Service
	<u>Rank</u>		<u>Rank</u>
Truman State	7	James Madison	17
Southern Illinois-Edwardsville	63	Southern Illinois-Edwardsville	20
James Madison	66	Saint Ambrose	23
Northern Iowa	73	Northern Iowa	40
Indiana-East	93	Indiana-East	75
Wisconsin-Stevens Point	100	Grand Valley	81
Nebraska-Kearney	101	Illinois-Springfield	90
Eastern Illinois	134	Truman State	99
Wisconsin-Lacrosse	137	Eastern Illinois	113
Grand Valley	146	Western Illinois	152
Appalachian State	151	Wisconsin-Lacrosse	294
Central Missouri	277	Wisconsin-Stevens Point	299
Western Illinois	294	William Patterson	302
Wisconsin-Whitewater	329	Central Washington	333
Central Washington	350	Appalachian State	349
Illinois-Springfield	353	Central Missouri	391
Louisiana State-Shreveport	431	Wisconsin-Whitewater	443
William Patterson	472	Nebraska-Kearney	476
Pennsylvania State-Harrisburg	477	Pennsylvania State-Harrisburg	533
Saint Ambrose	479	Louisiana State-Shreveport	543

To benchmark opportunity, *Washington Monthly* calculated difference scores between the actual and estimated number of Pell Grant recipients and first-generation students served. These comparisons were made by region. For Western's 15 Midwestern Benchmark Institutions, the University ranked ninth in Pell Grant enrollment and sixth in first generation enrollment.

2016 Published Washington Monthly Data Pell Grant Enrollment and First Generation Enrollment Rankings			
	Pell Grant Enrollment		First Generation
	<u>Rank</u>		<u>Rank</u>
Truman State	26	Grand Valley	56
Wisconsin-Lacrosse	36	Southern Illinois-Edwardsville	103
Grand Valley	46	Illinois-Springfield	139
Saint Ambrose	85	Truman State	142
Eastern Illinois	87	Wisconsin-Stevens Point	160
Wisconsin-Stevens Point	93	Western Illinois	202
Augustana	109	Eastern Illinois	208
Wisconsin-Whitewater	117	Central Missouri	216
Western Illinois	141	Wisconsin-Lacrosse	242
Northern Iowa	154	Wisconsin-Whitewater	255
Central Missouri	178	Saint Ambrose	280
Southern Illinois-Edwardsville	187	Northern Iowa	309
Illinois-Springfield	235	Augustana	309
Indiana-Kokomo	331	Indiana-East	358
Indiana-East	349	Indiana-Kokomo	360

To benchmark affordability, *Washington Monthly* published the net price for students with families earning less than \$75,000 in national comparisons and the net price for all students in regional comparisons. Western Illinois University had the third highest net price in national and Midwestern comparisons.

2016 Published Washington Monthly Rankings Net Price Rankings			
	Net Price: Families Earning < \$75,000 <u>Annually</u>		Net Price: All <u>Students</u>
Louisiana State-Shreveport	\$6,960	Indiana-East	\$7,975
Indiana-East	\$7,589	Indiana-Kokomo	\$8,633
Illinois-Springfield	\$9,015	Illinois-Springfield	\$9,049
Appalachian State	\$9,330	Wisconsin-Stevens Point	\$11,561
Truman State	\$9,973	Wisconsin-Whitewater	\$11,575
Wisconsin-Whitewater	\$10,592	Truman State	\$12,041
Wisconsin-Stevens Point	\$11,522	Wisconsin-LaCrosse	\$12,745
Central Washington	\$11,736	Central Missouri	\$13,606
Nebraska-Kearney	\$12,484	Northern Iowa	\$14,026
Wisconsin-LaCrosse	\$12,527	Southern Illinois-Edwardsville	\$15,784
William Paterson	\$12,565	Eastern Illinois	\$16,326
Northern Iowa	\$12,967	Grand Valley	\$16,370
James Madison	\$12,988	Western Illinois	\$16,829
Central Missouri	\$13,152	Saint Ambrose	\$24,409
Grand Valley	\$13,353	Augustana	\$24,651
Southern Illinois-Edwardsville	\$14,056		
Eastern Illinois	\$14,468		
Western Illinois	\$15,805		
Pennsylvania State-Harrisburg	\$17,773		
Saint Ambrose	\$21,390		

The materials presented in this month's *Strategic Plan Update* show that Western Illinois University placed high in national and regional comparisons made by *U.S. News and World Report* and *Washington Monthly*. The data also show the importance of strategic plan priorities. For example, recent actions to add a need-based component to the Western Commitment Scholarship program and being the only Illinois public university and one of the few in the nation to lower tuition and hold fees constant supports affordability and should improve the University's performance in future net price comparisons.

The data presented in this month's *Strategic Plan Update* will be updated annually to document institutional progress on stated goals and priorities. Please contact me if you have any questions on the materials presented in this *Update*, and/or feedback for the continued successful implementation of *Higher Values in Higher Education*.

cc: President Thomas
Interim Provost Neumann
Vice President Bainter
Interim Vice President Williams
Interim Vice President Bierman

CSEC President Dorethy
COAP President Koltzenburg
Faculty Council Ch. Pillutla
Faculty Senate Chair Pynes
SGA President Svirupskaitė

SGA President Frank
Associate Provost Parsons
Associate Provost Morgan
Planning, Budget, and IR Staff
President's Office