The State of the College
2004

Inessa Levi, Dean
College of Arts & Sciences
Western Illinois University
College of Arts and Sciences

• intellectual core of the university
• home of the creation, preservation and communication of fundamental knowledge in the humanities, social and natural sciences
• heart of the academic, scientific and industrial community.
College of Arts and Sciences in the leading comprehensive university

Align institutional, unit, and individual faculty goals for continuous improvement of all matters affecting the College

If you do not know where are you going….

Focus on students

Link resource allocation to strategic goals:
- Strategic Plan – Higher Values for Higher Education
- CAS Academic Master Plan
- Departmental Academic Master Plans
- Variable Career Emphasis
Linking resource allocation to strategic goals:

• Focused administrative and faculty searches to support strategic goals
  • Support for Undergraduate Research
  • Support initiatives related to the Institute for Environmental Studies – director, conference
  • Support for the Survey Research Center – October 2004
• Increasing advising support: New Science Advisor – Kay Tsai, Geography, Geology, Chemistry, Physics
  • Support of Liberal Arts Lecture
  • Support for research and scholarship related travel
• Support for faculty and administrators to travel to a workshop on grant writing
  • Support for the Mathematics Computer Lab
College of Arts and Sciences – students

Focus on students – success, achievement, citizenship, quality experience

Our values: academic excellence, educational opportunity, personal growth, social responsibility

Our students will have an opportunity to:

• Get a wide and deep education in the chosen field to help become successful and productive members of our society
  • Develop close mentor relationships with our faculty
• Attain knowledge about our society, other societies, and social and political interactions to help in creating a sound foundation for becoming engaged and aware citizens
  • Learn compassion, humanity
• Learn to use technology to advance humanity, and not lose humanity to become servants to technology
Liberal Arts Education

2004 Liberal Arts Lecture – Charles Helm

2003 – Liberal Arts Education Discussion Group

Liberal Arts Lecture
Inaugural Speaker - John Hallwas

The Annual
John Hallwas Liberal Arts Lecture

To express their support to the liberal arts education & to the lecture series, John and Garnette Hallwas established an endowment fund in support of The Annual Liberal Arts Lecture
Academic Excellence

- Research and Scholarship
- Undergraduate research activities
- Teaching

Service-department, college, university, community
Undergraduate Research - Life-Long Learning

Helps the students to experience the intellectual excitement of discovery that is hard to duplicate by other means

Establishes an environment that facilitates long term mentoring relationship between students and faculty to increase student success and retention

Guides students to understand the inherently interdisciplinary nature of research in relation to the breadth of their liberal arts education

Provides unique experience to undergraduates in taking a problem, analyzing it, collecting necessary information, solving the problem: these are exactly the skills employers want
Undergraduate Research

- Undergraduate Research Committee
- College allocated $15,000 to support Undergraduate Research Activities
- University-wide Undergraduate Research Day – April 22 (?)

Data from the National Survey on Student Engagement: undergraduate research; presentations in class; practicum, internship or co-op experience; foreign language coursework; culminating senior experience (capstone course, project, comprehensive exam, thesis)
Academic Excellence – Scholarship and Professional Activity

To provide an intellectually stimulating environment to help our students become life long learners, it is crucial that we stay **professionally current and active**. Those who follow us tend to do what we do, not what we say.

Publications, presentations, grants, undergraduate and graduate research
Software to record activities
Number of Publications in the last three years (self-reported)
Funding - Awards

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Academic Year</th>
<th>Awards</th>
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<tr>
<td>AY 2000-01</td>
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Colleague Recognition

• Promoted to Associate Professor
• Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor, 2003-04
• Promoted to Full Professor, 2003-04
• New Chairs
• New Faculty
Promoted to
Associate Professor

Prof. Robert Mann, Mathematics
Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor

Prof. Safoura Boukari, African American Studies
Prof. Heather McIlvaine-Newsad, Sociology and Anthropology
Prof. Scott Palmer, History
Prof. Gordon Pettit, Philosophy and Religious Studies
Prof. S’thembile West, Women’s Studies
Promoted to Full Professor, 2003-04

Prof. Laura Barden-Gabbei, Biological Sciences
Prof. Marko Kranjc, Mathematics
Prof. Susan Martinelli, Philosophy and Religious
Prof. David Stevenson, English and Journalism
Prof. Patricia Young, English and Journalism
New Chairs

Professor Abdul-Rasheed Na’Allah, Department of African-American Studies
replaces Michael Cooke (left Western to accept the post of Dean of Arts and Sciences at West Alabama University)

Professor Virginia Diehl, Department of Psychology
served as interim chair for a year, replaces Jim Ackil (retired)

Professor Frank Fulkerson (acting), Department of Physics,
replaces Hal Hart (retired)
New Faculty 2004-05

Prof. Mark Butzow, English and Journalism
Prof. Elgin Mannion, Sociology and Anthropology
Prof. Boris Petracovici, Mathematics
Prof. Lia Petracovici, Mathematics
Prof. Timothy Spier, Biological Sciences
Prof. K.N. Thimmaiah, Chemistry
Prof. Lora Ebert Wallace, Sociology and Anthropology
New Directions

Women Studies – from Program to Department
Survey Research Center – October 2004
TLTC – new focus
Future Directions

• Academic Excellence: education, undergraduate and graduate research and mentorship, faculty research and scholarship
• First Year Experience
• Joint research and community involvement ventures: Institute for Environmental Studies, Geographic Information System Center, Survey Research Center, Psychology Clinic…
• Linking resource allocation to the Strategic Goals
• Progress and Progression: The Future Is Looking Bright.