

To: Members of the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees
Bill Epperly, Chairperson Bill Griffin
Blake Antonides George J. Guzzardo
Bob Cook Mike Houston
Carolyn Ehlert Steve Nelson

From: Joe Rives, Assistant to the President, Planning, Budget, and Institutional Research

Date: August 21, 2006

Re: August 2006 Strategic Plan Update

This month's *Strategic Plan Update* provides you with updates on:

1. Preliminary enrollment and continuing recognition from *U.S. News and World Report*;
2. Western Illinois University's master planning;
3. Western Illinois University's technology planning;
4. Planning for the September 8, 2006 Western Illinois University Board of Trustees Meeting; and,
5. Upcoming strategic planning meetings.

Preliminary Enrollment and Continuing Recognition from U.S. News and World Report

Demand for a Western Illinois University-Macomb, Quad Cities, and Extension education remains strong. Preliminary fall 2006 registrations show that, if all factors that influence student enrollment remain constant from previous years, the University will experience planned enrollment increases of 2.0 percent, ranging from over 1.5 percent in Macomb to over 4.0 percent for the Quad Cities and Extension. Official University enrollment will be reported after the tenth day of class (September 1, 2006).

The momentum for a Western Illinois University education should continue to increase. On August 18, 2006, Western Illinois University was, for the fourth consecutive year, ranked in the top tier of Midwest Universities Master's granting institutions, according to *U.S. News and World Report's Annual College Rankings 2007 Edition*. In addition, the University has moved from 61st to 55th in the rankings, which is one measure showing that we are making progress in becoming the leading comprehensive university in the United States.

Only 28 of the 74 institutions (38 percent) in *U.S. and World Report* top tier rankings were public institutions. As a matter of regional perception, Western Illinois University is on the move. Our peer assessment ratings of academic quality rate 34th for the top 74 Midwestern institutions, and only 10 public institutions (including Truman State University, the University of Northern Iowa, and University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point) had higher peer assessment ratings than Western.

Our high rankings in *U.S. News and World Report* are consistent with other national recognitions. Western was selected as one of the nation's "Best Value" institutions and one of the "Best in the Midwest Colleges" by the *Princeton Review*.

Master Planning

Representatives from Goody/Clancy, our campus master planning architectural and engineering firm, will be back on the Macomb campus September 6-8 to present three design alternatives according to the agenda below; all members of the campus and external community will be encouraged to attend these very important master planning events. President Goldfarb and the Vice Presidents will be authorizing the use of release time for University employees to attend master planning events provided that needs of the units are sufficiently covered. The master plan visit of Goody/Clancy is scheduled around 90-minute formal presentation and question-and-answer sessions (charettes). For those who cannot attend one of these sessions or prefer to engage in individual discussions, we have arranged informal “drop-in” sessions with representatives of Goody Clancy. These drop-in sessions will be simultaneously available at the University Union (next to Starbucks) and in the second floor entry of Malpass Library.

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>
Tuesday September 5th	Travel to Macomb (University Union Hotel)	
Wednesday September 6th		
8:00-8:30	Steering Team Breakfast with Goody/Clancy	Capitol Room, University Union
8:30 -10:00	Steering Team Meeting with Goody/Clancy	Capitol Room, University Union
10:00 – 11:45	Drop-in Visits President’s Cabinet meeting with Goody/Clancy	Adjacent to Starbucks, University Union and 2 nd floor entry, Malpass Library Sherman 205
12:00-1:30	Charette #1: Brown Bag Lunch with Goody/Clancy (beverages provided)	Lamoine Room, University Union
2:00 – 3:30	Charette #2: Afternoon Meeting Goody/Clancy	Lamoine Room, University Union
4:00 – 4:50	Drop-in Visits Trustee meetings with Goody/Clancy	Adjacent to Starbucks, University Union and 2 nd floor entry, Malpass Library Trustee Griffin at 4:00, 205 Sherman
5:00 – 7:00	Charette #3: Dinner with Goody Clancy	Tanner Hall Circle
7:00 – 9:00	Charette #4: Evening Conversation with Goody Clancy	West Dining – Special Dining Room
Thursday September 7th		
7:30	Meet Bill Brewer/Joe Rives in hotel lobby	
8:00 – 9:30	Meeting with Community Neighborhood Project	Stipes 501
10:00 – 11:30	Charette #5: Morning Conversation with Goody Clancy	Lamoine Room, University Union
12:00 – 2:00	Charette #6: Brown Bag Lunch with Goody/Clancy (beverages provided)	Lamoine Room, University Union
2:15 – 5:00	Drop-in Visits	Adjacent to Starbucks, University

	Other meetings with Goody/Clancy (all in Sherman 200)	Union and 2 nd floor entry, Malpass Library Provost/Academic Vice President Rallo-2:30, Trustee Epperly-3:00, and Trustees Ehlert and Houston-4:00
5:30 – 7:00	Charette #7: Evening Conversation with Goody Clancy	Community Room, City Hall
7:00 – 8:30	Dinner with Bill Brewer and Joe Rives	Red Ox
Friday September 8th		
7:30 – 9:00	Meeting on Haeger Pottery Live/Work Space	Sherman Hall, 205
9:00 – 12:00	Drop-In Visits Goody/Clancy Work Time	Adjacent to Starbucks, University Union and 2 nd floor entry, Malpass Library DuSable Room, University Union
12:00	Depart Macomb	

Ideas from these design alternatives which are positively received by the campus and external communities will be the basis for a first draft master plan to be presented to the campus and external communities before the conclusion of the fall semester. A second source of information will be information received from the Web. There has been considerable traffic on the new Western Illinois University-Macomb Master Plan Web site launched last month, www.wiustmasterplan.com. As you will recall, the Web site contains a welcoming message from President Goldfarb, the opportunity to review materials presented to the campus and community members, a calendar of past and future master plan events, and a survey to give master plan ideas and feedback.

Implementation of master planning is proceeding quite well on the Quad Cities Campus. PSA/Dewberry is officially on contract with the Illinois Capital Development Board. Master Plan Co-Chair Bill Brewer, Architectural Superintendent Michael Hott, and I will be meeting by the end of this month with the Illinois Capital Development Board and representatives from PSA/Dewberry to overview state and institutional expectations for construction of the new Western Illinois University-Quad Cities Riverfront Campus. The Western Illinois University-Quad Cities Users Group, which is helping to coordinate activities and feedback, will meet with PSA/Dewberry on September 5, 2006.

Using information from the *Western Illinois University-Quad Cities Master Plan* and from the Quad Cities Riverfront Users Group, Bill Brewer and I will begin working with officials from the City of Moline and Renew Moline on the construction of the new Rivertech Boulevard that runs east and west on the south end of the new Riverfront Campus, and on streetscape enhancements for River Drive based on a \$700,000 grant received from the Illinois Department of Transportation. We are also working with Director of Special Projects Mike Dickson and Executive Director of University Computer Support Services Mitch Davidson on the installation of infrastructure to support computing needs for the new campus. Additional details will be provided in future *Strategic Plan Updates*.

Interior planning for Complex 1 at the Western Illinois University-Quad Cities Riverfront Campus continues, as well. On September 15, 2006, three teams from the Western Illinois University-Quad Cities Users Group will attend one of three benchmarking tours.

- Team A will tour colleges of business and other academic facilities at the University of Iowa and Drake University;

- Team B will tour Student Services facilities at Northern Illinois University and the University of Wisconsin-Madison; and,
- Team C will tour a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Gold-Certified facility at the University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign and three upper-division degree completion facilities at the University of Illinois-Springfield.

The idea for a second benchmarking trip was based on successes earlier this summer. As you will recall, a team of 20 faculty and staff toured facilities at Bradley University, Illinois State University, and Heartland Community College. This second trip will provide additional planning information and opportunities for members of the Western Illinois University-Quad Cities Riverfront Users Group and the campus community.

Technology Planning

As you will recall, President Goldfarb charged me this summer to work with the Macomb and Quad Cities campus communities, as *Higher Values in Higher Education* states, to develop and successfully implement a strategic plan that coordinates the efficient acquisition, utilization, and application of technology. During the summer I have been working with the President's Technology Advisory Users Group (a group of 30 faculty and staff representing all divisions, colleges, and departments at the University), the President's Technology Infrastructure Group (staff with administrative responsibilities for technology), and the Vice Presidents to develop an institutional strategic plan for technology. Completed draft copy will be provided to the campus governance groups for review and feedback. I will provide copy of the plan as it develops in subsequent correspondence.

Technology operations and planning also continue to enhance technology security. These include:

- Implementing a robust firewall and researching intrusion detection systems.
- Advertising for the newly created technology security position.
- Convening institutional task forces to make security-related recommendations to the President's Cabinet by the end of the fall 2006 semester on Social Security number, credit card/debit card, and data transfer/file transfer protocol.
- Preparing and implementing a hub replacement plan for Western Illinois University.
- Analyzing space configurations and procuring sufficient power to centralize servers and to provide off-site redundant server locations at Western Illinois University-Macomb, the current Quad Cities campus, and the newly developing Western Illinois University-Quad Cities Riverfront Campus.
- Reviewing Western Illinois University technology policies and suggesting modifications and/or new policies and procedures, where appropriate, to the President's Cabinet.

Preparation for the September 8, 2006, Western Illinois University Board of Trustees Meeting

Western Illinois University continues to successfully achieve many of the goals, priorities, and actions in *Higher Values in Higher Education* through integrated planning, budgeting, and accountability reporting processes. As many of the reports presented in September's Western Illinois University Board of Trustees meeting will demonstrate, the University's successes are predicated on a multiyear model committed to simultaneously advancing Strategic Plan goals and priorities at the Macomb and Moline campuses.

Previous Year: The *Fiscal Year 2006 Strategic Plan Update*, *Fiscal Year 2006 Performance Report*, and *Budget and Financial Data for the Period Ended June 30, 2006* demonstrate university-wide accomplishments and commitments to allocating resources to the highest institutional priorities. These reports also demonstrate an institutional commitment to assessing three-year trend data, benchmarking institutional best practices, and making adjustments, where appropriate, to facilitate improved performance.

Current Year: These same reports (mentioned above) also demonstrate Western Illinois University's Fiscal Year 2007 plans. The *Fiscal Year 2007 All-Funds Budget* and the *Fiscal Year 2007 Departmental Budget Allocations* show how we will continue to allocate resources to support the *Western Illinois*

University Mission Statement and Higher Values in Higher Education. Fiscal Year 2007 Tuition Benchmarking shows how we are performing in continuing to support student access and affordability.

Future Years: The *Fiscal Year 2008 Operating Recommendations* and the *Fiscal Year 2008 Capital Recommendations* to the Illinois Board of Higher Education demonstrate how Western Illinois University will continue to successfully achieve the goals of *Higher Values in Higher Education* and *The Illinois Commitment*, the statewide strategic plan for higher education. The *Fiscal Year 2006 Strategic Plan Update* also documents Western Illinois University’s long-term commitment to comprehensive planning, budget, and accountability processes.

Immediate university-level planning activities for academic year 2006-2007 are successful completion and implementation of the Western Illinois University-Macomb campus master plan and technology planning for the Macomb and Quad Cities campuses. The development of these plans, as past practices for *Higher Values in Higher Education* and the *Western Illinois University-Quad Cities Riverfront Campus Master Plan* demonstrate, will be inclusive—involving all members of the campus community.

Upcoming Strategic Planning Meetings

In addition to the Goody/Clancy visits scheduled for September 6-8, a sampling of Strategic Plan meetings for the next month includes the following:

Date	Time	Committee	Location
8/23	10:00	Campus Sustainability Committee	Sherman 205
8/23	12:00	Western Illinois University-Macomb Master Planning Steering Team	Sherman 205
8/25	9:00	Western Illinois University-Macomb Campus Action Planning Team	Sherman 205
8/29	10:30	Utility Infrastructure Planning Team	Sherman 200
9/5	1:00	Western Illinois University-Quad Cities Users Group	WIU-QC, Room 231
9/13	9:00-5:00	Renew Moline Meetings	Renew Moline
9/19	3:00	President’s Technology Infrastructure Group	Sherman 205
9/20	4:00	Sports and Wellness Center	Renew Moline
9/22	3:00	President’s Technology Advisory Users Group	Sherman 205

Please contact me if you would like to attend any of these meetings, or if you have feedback on the continued successful implementation of *Higher Values in Higher Education*.

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| cc: | President Goldfarb | CSEC President Williams | Alumni Council Chair Green |
| | Provost Rallo | COAP President Spelman | Associate Provost Clerc |
| | Vice President Hendricks | Faculty Council Chair Solymossy | Planning, Budget, and IR Staff |
| | Vice President Johnson | Faculty Senate Chair Rock | Staff Secretaries Mason and Markert |
| | Vice President Thompson | SGA Presidents Early and Ciasto | Administrative Assistant Kerry Yadgar |