

To: Members of the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees  
Mike Houston, Chairperson      Lorraine Epperson  
Carolyn Ehlert                      George J. Guzzardo  
Bill Epperly                          Chris Thomas

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

Date: January 31, 2006

Re: January 2006 Strategic Plan Update

This month's *Higher Values in Higher Education* update focuses on:

1. The State's budget planning for Fiscal Year 2007.
2. Western Illinois University's Fiscal Year 2006 Consolidated Reports and Presentations.
3. Western Illinois University-Quad Cities enrollment planning.
4. A master plan update for both Western Illinois University campuses.

#### **State Budget Planning for Fiscal Year 2007**

At the September 2005 Western Illinois University Board of Trustees meeting, you approved Western Illinois University's Fiscal Year 2007 operating and capital requests to the Illinois Board of Higher Education. In December 2005, Trustee Houston, President Goldfarb, Vice President Thompson, University Budget Director DeWees, Institutional Research and Planning Director Gilbert, and I discussed Western Illinois University's budget priorities with Executive Director of the Illinois Board of Higher Education Erwin and staff colleagues. The Illinois Board of Higher Education, in turn, will make budget recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly.

As the next part of the budget development process, the Senate Appropriation Hearings are tentatively scheduled for February 16<sup>th</sup> and House appropriation hearings are tentatively scheduled for February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Again, these sessions are opportunities for governmental officials to learn more about University priorities. President Goldfarb, with staff support from Vice President Thompson, University Budget Director DeWees, Assistant Director of Institutional Research and Planning Kline, and me, will lead Western Illinois University as we seek continued support for our institutional mission and Strategic Plan. Please contact the President's Office if you plan on attending one or both of these sessions.

As the University continues fiscal planning, total all cost increases to new students will be presented at your March 10<sup>th</sup> Western Illinois University Board of Trustees meeting. Specifically, we will present to you recommended increases for new student tuition, fees, room and board rates. Following past practice, student government groups are being consulted in the determination of appropriate increases for fees, room and board rates. Recommended increases will continue to follow Western Illinois University's tradition of high-quality, access, and affordability.

### **Fiscal Year 2006 Consolidated Reports**

Each year the President's Office and each vice presidential division reports to the campus community on annual accomplishments, goals, and objectives in open public presentations. This year's sessions are scheduled for April 19<sup>th</sup> (8:00 – 12:00) and 20<sup>th</sup> (8:00 – 11:00) in the University Union's Capitol Room. You and all members of both Western Illinois University campus communities are invited to attend these public meetings. The information presented at these meetings is the source for many Western Illinois University Board of Trustees and Illinois Board of Higher Education reports, and subsequent institutional planning and budgeting.

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Division</u>
<b>April 19<sup>th</sup></b>		
8:00 – 9:30	Joe Rallo	Academic Affairs
9:30 – 11:00	Garry Johnson	Student Services
11:00 – 12:00	Joe Rives	President's Office
<b>April 20<sup>th</sup></b>		
8:00 – 9:30	Jackie Thompson	Administrative Services
9:30 – 11:00	Dan Hendricks	Advancement and Public Service

To continue to infuse the goals and action items of *Higher Values in Higher Education* throughout all levels of the University, there are four new areas included in the campus presentations. Amongst the materials, all presenters as part of their divisional presentations will address:

- Accomplishments and goals specifically related to the Strategic Plan.
- The Strategic Plan goals reported above will include indication of whether action items are intended to be completed in the short-term (the next 12 months), mid-term (2-4 years), or long-term (5+ years). This new reporting strategy will allow the University to develop, implement, and hold itself publicly accountable to a prioritized action plan for *Higher Values in Higher Education*.
- Technological goals and accomplishments will be reported. Again technological goals will include indication of whether action items reported above are intended to be completed in the short-term, mid-term, or long-term. With each division working collaboratively, Western Illinois University will use the information received to develop, in accordance with the Strategic Plan, "a plan to coordinate the efficient acquisition, utilization, and application of technology."
- Discussion of how departmental and/or divisional reallocations and reorganizations at both Western Illinois University campuses further support Strategic Plan goals and objectives will be included.

### **Western Illinois University-Quad Cities Enrollment Planning**

Last month's *Strategic Plan Update* discussed the role of using a national consultant to help give Western Illinois University-Quad Cities an action plan for increasing student enrollment from current levels to 3,000 students. Recommendations from Ms. Carol Aslanian will be one piece of enrollment planning. Her report is due to the University at the end of April, and it will be shared once the final report is received.

Enrollment planning will also involve institutional self-study and action. The Book of Professional Standards for Higher Education, 2003, produced by the Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education, provides recommended standards for a number of student services, noncredit programming, and distance learning areas. Using those standards, the Quad Cities Self-Study Team, which consists of a broad-based representation of Quad Cities students, faculty and staff, is currently focusing on an examination of the admissions, advising and commuter student program components. The self-study is targeted for completion by May 2005. The committee meets every other Thursday at 11 in the Quad Cities. The next meetings are February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> if you are interested in attending.

Information gained from the consultant visit and the institutional self-study will be presented as an action plan for growing enrollment at Western Illinois University-Quad Cities. All recommendations will be made to the President's Quad Cities Advisory Council. Membership of the Advisory Council consists of the President, Vice

President and Provost, Vice President for Student Services, Associate Provost for Western Illinois University–Quad Cities and School of Extended Studies, Director of Admissions, Director of Student Services and Financial Aid, Director of University Marketing, and me.

A final component to enrollment planning, as recognized in the Strategic Plan, is undergraduate and graduate programs of academic excellence. New and expanded degree programs are called for in annual Academic Master Plans (that are presented as part of annual consolidated reports) and established through the University’s curricular approval process. As related to Western Illinois University-Quad Cities, new baccalaureate programs in Liberal Arts and Sciences and Business are currently being developed and working through the curricular approval process.

**Western Illinois University Master Planning**

On February 21, three firms will be interviewing with the Western Illinois University-Macomb Master Planning Steering Team. The Master Planning Steering Team will then select one firm to assist the campus community as we continue preparing a campus master plan for your approval. The firms that are interviewing are Goody Clancy based in Boston, the Sizemore Group based in Atlanta, and JJR based in Ann Arbor and Chicago. Each firm has extensive experience in helping colleges and universities prepare for the future physical development of facilities, grounds, technology, and infrastructure. Please contact me if you are interested in attending these interview sessions. We will begin at 8:30 on the 21<sup>st</sup> and conclude by 5:00.

In January 2006, we celebrated the Governor’s release of the \$2.4 million in planning for the existing building at the new Western Illinois University-Quad Cities Riverfront Campus. Next month’s update will focus on how those funds will be used. Release of the planning monies is exciting and reinforces the need to complete our campus master planning so all campus development is consistent with the standards and expectations designed by the Quad Cities students, faculty, and staff and approved by the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees.

On February 3<sup>rd</sup>, our Western Illinois University-Quad Cities master planning consultant will present a first draft of the campus master plan at 4:00. He will then present a revised draft, based on campus feedback, on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, again at 4:00. Please contact me if you are interested in attending either or both of these meetings.

Finally, a critical part of master planning, implementation, and fiscal planning is the issues associated with energy management and utility infrastructure. A working committee chaired by the Director of the Physical Plant had its first meeting January 25<sup>th</sup>. Membership of the committee includes the Vice President for Administrative Services, the Associate Vice President for Student Services, the Director of the University Budget Office, the Assistant Director of Residential Facilities, and me. We will be consulting with the Provost and Academic Vice President to gain additional membership from Academic Affairs.

Our committee work, as stated in the Strategic Plan, will focus on: 1) identifying critical utility and infrastructure needs and ensuring integration with the newly developing campus master plans; 2) keeping informed of utility budget and usage projections and trends that affect campus consumption and cost; and 3) identifying opportunities for engaging in utility/infrastructure cost savings and/or avoidance activities for the University; 4) benchmarking energy consumption, costs, and best practices at Illinois public universities and determining their applicability to Western Illinois University. If there are issues that you would like this committee to address, or if you would like to attend these meetings, please contact me.

cc:        President Goldfarb                    CSEC Chair Skien                            Alumni Council Chair Green  
              Provost Rallo                            COAP Chair Maxwell                        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 Chairs Early and Wickard             Administrative Assistant Kerry Yadgar