College of Arts and Sciences

State of the College, October 8, 2008
Inessa Levi, Dean

"Success is never final, failure is never fatal – It is courage that counts." — Rob Gilbert

50th Anniversary of the College of Arts and Sciences

"The secret of success is constancy to purpose." — Benjamin Disraeli

• More than 24,000 alumni
• Some of our alumni include:
  – Many of our faculty and staff
  – Gary Baise, Washington, DC attorney
  – Chris Begley, CEO Hospira, a global specialty pharmaceutical company
  – John Hallwas, WIU Distinguished Professor Emeritus of English
  – Bruce Gebhardt, former Deputy Director of the FBI and current VP-Global Security for MGM Mirage Corporation
  – Patrick Magoon, CEO Children’s Memorial Hospital
  – John Mahoney, Actor
  – Mary Matalin, American political strategist and consultant
  – Zack Stamp, Springfield attorney
  – Norman Teeter, substance abuse treatment pioneer
  – Dan Webb, nationally known attorney

Courage to be our best

• Focus on students and student success
• Align institutional, unit, and individual faculty goals for continuous improvement of all matters affecting the College
• Link resource allocation to strategic goals:
  – Higher Values in Higher Education
  – College and departmental plans (CRBR)

CAS: Student recruitment

Participated in 120 individual student recruitment activities including, but not limited to:
• Discover Western, Welcome to Western
• On-campus activities by departments including Journalism Day, Biology Day, Math Competition, Geology Museum programming, Creative Writing Festival
• Summer programs for gifted and talented high school students (Girls Plus Math, EarthWatch at Kibbe)
• NEW: Increased CAS recruitment grants from $300 per department to $500 per program

CAS: Student recruitment (continued)

Events designed to connect with regional educators at feeder institutions:
• Conferences e.g. WIU History Conference, ICTM Mathematics Teacher’s Conference, ISMAA Mathematics Conference
• Collaboration with community colleges regarding the undergraduate LAS degree and other programs
• Foreign Language Action Group Meetings
• Scholarships
  – Second Annual Homecoming Scholarship Fund Raising Dinner on October 17, 2008

Attractive in-demand programs

New Programs in 2007-2008

• Bachelor of Science in Nursing, four-year degree*
• Nursing degree completion program
• Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Sciences
• Master of Liberal Arts and Sciences
• Religious Studies Major
• Anthropology*
• Environmental GIS post-baccalaureate certificate
• Five-year integrated BS and MS in Physics
• Minors: Survey Research, Function Morphology and Structural Anatomy, and Film

* Subject to approval by the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE)
First year successes
- The undergraduate Liberal Arts and Sciences degree program enrolled 21 students
  - 7 on the Macomb campus
  - 14 on the Quad Cities campus
- The nursing completion program enrolled 6 students
- Religious Studies enrolled 7 students
- Tenure track positions replaced three FYE positions (Anthropology, Biological Sciences, Religious Studies)

Quality student experiences: real world research, creative activities, experiential learning
- Undergraduate research support, mentoring programs
- Western SCAI (Scholarly and Creative Activity Institute)
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Center
- Western Survey Research Center
- Psychology Clinic
- Institute for Environmental Studies
- Alice L. Kilbe Life Science Station
  - Rodney and Bertha Fink Environmental Studies Field Laboratory and Conservancy
  - Ira and Reatha T. Post Wildlife Sanctuary (Vishnu Springs)
  - Other faculty-supported engagements

CAS: Undergraduate research - life-long learning

CAS Participation in Undergraduate Research Day

CAS: Quality student experiences
- Citizenship
  - American Democracy Project
  - John Hallwas Liberal Arts Lecture with Constitutional Scholar Rick Hardy
- Mock elections
  - More than 3,000 students and 70 faculty from across the university: follow-up surveys
- Panels providing political analysis
- Election night party
- NEW: Student Professional Development Support Grants

Selected conferences and lectures, 2008
- Morrow Lecture by Bernd Heinrich, University of Vermont (02/06/08)
- 54th Annual WIU Mathematics Teachers Conference (03/28/08)
- 39th Annual Illinois Student Research Conference (04/28/08)
- Inaugural Dinosaur, Fossil, and Vertebrate Conference (04/03/08)
- 34th annual African Literature Association Conference held on Macomb campus (04/22-27/08)
- 33rd Annual History Conference (04/26/08)
- Inaugural Upper Mississippi River Conference (08/21-23/08)
- Sixth annual John Hallwas Liberal Arts Lecture given by CAS Political Science Chair Rick Hardy on the Macomb (09/15/08) and Quad Cities campuses (09/16/08)
- Annual Mary Olive Woods Lecture in Philosophy and Religious Studies by Michael Ruse (09/25/08)
Select diversity initiatives

African American Studies (AAS) continues to develop programs in the Quad Cities and has partnered with organizations including the WIU-QC Black Students Association and Positive Brothers and Sisters, Inc. to present MLK Day and other events in the Quad Cities.

AAS continues its work with the Macomb "Building the Black Community" project through a mentorship between senior students and faculty who serve as role models for young children and youth.

Biological Sciences hosts PREM.E. at the Kibbe Life Sciences Station, which supports summer programs for disadvantaged youth in the region.

- Mathematics hosts the annual Girls' Plus Math summer camp.
- First WIU Minority Dissertation Fellow (Political Science)

Focus on faculty - Faculty Excellence Awards

Teaching: Amy Carr, Philosophy and Religious Studies
CAS & Provost's Research/Scholarly Activity: Efrain Ferrer, Physics
Service: Matt Blankenship, Psychology
Undergraduate Research-Recent: Lee Brier, History
Undergraduate Research-Career: Mike Romano, Biology
Teaching with Technology: Heather McIlvaine-Newsad, Sociology and Anthropology
- Internationalizing the Campus: Vir Auger, Political Science
- Multicultural Teaching: Marjorie Allison, English & Journalism
- Provost's Outstanding Adviser Award: Ellen Poulter, English & Journalism

Accomplishments: Support and enhance faculty excellence; publications and presentations

- Increased match for travel support to $500
- CAS Provided more than $50,000 in support of faculty travel to professional conferences during FY 2007-2008.

Extramural funding 2005-2008 Submissions

- Increased matching funds for travel support per faculty

CAS Goal: Enhance faculty excellence

- External funding received
  - Twenty-two grants were successfully funded in FY08, which totaled $865,212; this compares to 16 grants funded for $773,126 in FY07.

Faculty Mentoring
- Fall 2007
  - Yongxin Deng, Geography
  - Richard Filipink, History
- Spring 2008
  - Matt Blankenship, Psychology
  - Virginia Jalota, History
- Research grant brown bag symposia
- Humanities research and reading group

Funds generated by the GIS Center and Western Survey Research Center

The GIS Center generated $231,800 in fee-based revenue for FY08, compared to $97,000 in FY07.
The Western Survey Research Center generated $61,846 in grants and contracts in FY08, as compared to $310 in FY06 and $459 in FY07.
Extramural funding: Congratulations to award 2007-08 recipients

Recipients of grants totaling more than $50,000 during FY08
- Chad Sperry: $193,080
- Rick Anderson: $144,114
- Leslie Melim: $72,553
- Vivian Incera, $60,000 (Efrain Ferer, Co-PI)
- David Rohall: $60,646

Other grant recipients
- Larry Balsamo
- Ginny Boynton
- Jack Huang with Co-PI Lisa Wen
- Sean Jenkins with Co-PIs: Rick Anderson, Ken McCravy, Susan Meiers, Mike Romano, Timothy Spier
- Susan Meiers
- Abdul-Rasheed Na’Allah
- Timothy Spier

Internationalization
- WISE Mexico
- WISE Spain
- Exchange program with Bilkent University; Ankara, Turkey
- International grants, collaborations
- Exploring development of global partnerships Thailand and Korea

CAS 2007-2008 Budget $19,093,007

- Undergraduate research, all departments
- Technology/Equipment
- Renovations
- Travel
- Grant matches
- Start-ups
- Conferences and Speakers

Budget support for existing programs: Faculty recruitment and support

- 15 successful tenure/tenure track searches in 8 departments
- College contributed over $40,000 in support for searches
- New computers to all new tenure/tenure track faculty
- CAS Provided $175,000 in start-up funds to new faculty in:
  - African American Studies, Biological Sciences, Institute for Environmental Studies, Chemistry, Geology, Physics, Psychology
- Faculty travel matches, faculty mentor program, URC support — over $70,000
Budget support for existing programs: Equipment purchases - over $315,000

- 85 computers: For new faculty and current faculty
- Improved electronic classrooms in 12 departments (African American Studies, Biological Sciences, English and Journalism, Foreign Languages and Literatures, Geography, Geology, History, Mathematics, Philosophy and Religious Studies, Psychology, Sociology, and Women’s Studies) through the purchase of projectors, computers, digital presenters, or white boards.
  - Scientific equipment or supplies for Biology, Chemistry, and Geography
  - Safety equipment for Chemistry

Renovations - over $170,000

- Complete remodel of the Department of African American Studies main office complex
- Two single offices for faculty sharing office space in Morgan Hall
- Geography computer laboratory in obsolete laboratory space
- Second Nursing laboratory
  - The Political and Historic Memorabilia Museum (in progress)

CAS Advancement

50th Anniversary of the College of Arts and Sciences

The CAS Advancement Board has met twice:
- Zack Stamp, Cathy Early, Pam Hoffman, Tom Dunstan, Lorraine Epperson, John Halbwas, Yan Lwin, Norman Teeter, Patrick Magoon

CAS Case Statement of support for the capital campaign completed

Visited alumni, friends, and donor prospects in the region, as well as in Chicago, Boston, San Diego, Saint Louis, Las Vegas, Kingman, AZ

- Second annual scholarship fund raising dinner
- Dan and Laura Webb Scholarship and Endowed Professorship in Political Science
- Rodney and Berth Fink Field Laboratory and Conservancy
- Bertha Greishaber Fink Nursing Scholarship

College of Arts and Sciences

Colleague recognition, 2007-2008

Faculty granted tenure
- Rumen Dimitrov, Mathematics
- Jenq “Jack” Huang, Chemistry
- Shazia Rahman, English and Journalism
- Jack Thomas, English and Journalism
- Laura Ebert Wallace, Sociology and Anthropology

Faculty promoted to associate professor
- Patricia Anderson, Sociology and Anthropology
- Janna Deitz, Political Science
- Rumen Dimitrov, Mathematics
- David Lane, Psychology
- Lia Petracovic, Mathematics
- Bonnie Sonnek, English and Journalism
- Lora Ebert Wallace, Sociology and Anthropology

Faculty promoted to full professor
- Keith Boeckelman, Political Science
- Tracy Cruise, Psychology
- Scott Holt, Biological Sciences
- Jenq “Jack” Huang, Chemistry
- Bill Knight, English and Journalism
- Kim McClure, Psychology
  - Jim Olson, Mathematics
New faculty

Presented in alphabetical order by department

Sue Hum-Musser
Biological Sciences
PhD
University of Arkansas

Neil Baird
English and Journalism
PhD
University of Nevada-Reno

Everett Hamner
English and Journalism
PhD
University of Iowa

Timothy Helwig
English and Journalism
PhD
University of Maryland

Peggy Otto
English and Journalism
University of Louisville
(will defend 10/26)
Marisol Garrido
Foreign Languages and Literatures
PhD
University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign

Fuyaun Liang
Geography
PhD
University of Georgia

Tim Roberts
History
PhD
University of Oxford

Ute Chamberlain
History
PhD
Arizona State University

Betsy Perabo
Philosophy and Religious Studies
PhD
Yale University

P.K. Babu
Physics
PhD
India Institute of Science (Bangalore)
Reginald Adkisson
Psychology
PhD
Wichita State University

Sandra Nash
Nursing
MSN
University of Wisconsin (pursuing PhD)

Davison Bideshi
Sociology and Anthropology
PhD
University of California, Riverside

Nancy Schaefer
Sociology and Anthropology
PhD
University of Aberdeen, Scotland

Jess White
Sociology and Anthropology
PhD
University of Iowa

New staff of the Office of the Dean
Colleges of Arts and Sciences

Future directions

“He who stops striving to be better stops being good.”
- Paraphrasing Oliver Cromwell, Statesman (1599 – 1658)

Future directions - Academic Excellence: Focus on Students

- Develop/review/support attractive in-demand programs
  - Assessment: NCA, NCATE
- Identify, promote, and extend opportunities for:
  - Student/faculty research
  - Experiential/service learning
  - Appreciation of diversity
  - Internationalization
  - Citizenship: American Democracy project, election night coverage, mock elections follow-up
- First Year Experience
- Liberal education
- Enhance learning environment
- Student recruitment – programs, grants, scholarships

Future directions - New Academic Programs

- Nursing BSN program
- Anthropology BA
- Quad Cities and Macomb
  - Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Sciences
  - Master of Liberal Arts and Sciences
  - Environmental GIS post-baccalaureate certificate
- Integrated Masters and baccalaureate programs
- Needs assessment for Environmental PhD

Future directions - Academic Excellence: Focus on Faculty

- Faculty research, scholarship, professional development (continual support)
- Service, outreach, and community involvement
- Interdisciplinary developments
- Diversity
- Enhance work environment
- Linking resource allocation of the strategic goals
- New science building
- Advancement
Direction: Excellence

Excellence can be obtained if you:
...care more than others think is wise;
...risk more than others think is safe;
...dream more than others think is practical;
...expect more than others think is possible.

Unknown

College of Arts and Sciences
State of the College
October 2, 2008

Thank you