

To: Members of the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees  
Cathy Early, Chair                      Bill Epperly  
Andre Ashmore                          Carolyn Ehlert Fuller  
Roger Clawson                          Phil Hare  
Lyneir Cole                                Yvonne Savala

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

Date: October 3, 2013

Re: October 2013 Strategic Plan Update

This month's *Strategic Plan Update* shows many of the agenda items for your October 11, 2013, Western Illinois University Board of Trustees meeting are directly related to the advancement of *Higher Values in Higher Education's* priorities and goals. These agenda items reflect actions of many students, faculty, and staff.

- *Report on Contributions (Report No. 13.10/1)* demonstrates continued success in the *Higher Values in Higher Education Comprehensive Campaign*. Vice President Bainter announced at Founders Day that the Western Illinois University Foundation achieved its \$60 million goal with a generous gift from distinguished alums, longtime friends and loyal supporters Dr. Ken and Lorraine Epperson. The Eppersons made a \$1.5 million gift to the Center for Performing Arts. The more than 5,000-square-foot iconic lobby of the Center will be named in honor of the Eppersons.
- *FY 2015 Appropriated Capital Budget Recommendations (Resolution No. 13.10/5)* supports the highest facilities priorities identified on *Campus Master Plans*. Western Illinois University will aggressively pursue state capital funding on these priorities that include new facilities and permanent improvements.
- *Report on First Year Experience (Report No. 13.10/3)* discusses the program and modifications as the University provides, evaluates, and improves the First Year Experience.
- *Office of Sponsored Projects Annual Report (Report No. 13.10/4)* documents faculty and staff achievements and strong institutional commitments supporting research, scholarly/creative activities, and grants.
- *Distance Learning Change Request to the Higher Learning Commission-North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (Report No. 13.10/5)* reflects the university commitment to strengthening distance education, promoting scheduling flexibility, and improving educational access for place-bound residents.
- *Application to Participate in the Academy on Student Persistence and Completion to the Higher Learning Commission-North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (Report No. 13.10/6)* exemplifies part of a multifaceted institutional approach to increasing student retention and graduation rates.
- *Annual Report on Athletics (Report No. 13.10/7)* illustrates University support to a broad-based National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I and Football Championship Series varsity intercollegiate athletic program, with funding that allows student-athletes to be successful and competitive within our respective conferences and nationally. It also illustrates strict adherence to NCAA

operating principles related to governance and rules compliance, academic integrity, equity, and student-athlete welfare.

- *Long Term Planning Update (Report No. 13.10/8)* builds upon the foundation of *Higher Values in Higher Education* and discusses institutional plans and accomplishments related to long-term (20-year) planning for Western Illinois University.
- *Fiscal Year 2014 Strategic Plan Update (Report No. 13.10/9)* chronicles implementation of all priorities and goals in *Higher Values in Higher Education 2012-2022*.
- *Fiscal Year 2014 Institutional Strategic Plan for Technology Update (Resolution No. 13.10/9)* achieves *Strategic Plan* goals of updating the *Institutional Strategic Plan for Technology* and engaging faculty and staff in technology planning and advisory committees.

Should you have questions about the materials in this *Update*, and/or if you have feedback for the continued successful advancement of *Higher Values in Higher Education*, please contact me.

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|-----|------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| cc: | President Thomas       | CSEC Pres. Mattson             | Associate Provost Neumann         |
|     | Provost Hawkinson      | COAP President Moon            | Associate Provost Parsons         |
|     | Vice President Bainter | Faculty Council Chair Pillutla | Assistant Vice President Williams |
|     | Vice President Biller  | Faculty Senate Chair Rock      | Planning, Budget, and IR Staff    |
|     | Vice President DeWees  | SGA Chair Markey               | President's Office Support Staff  |