

From the Desk of the Chancellor

Thanks for leading

[MORE SHARING SERVICES](#) [SHARE](#)

May 19, 2015

by Charles R. Bantz

Former U.S. President Harry Truman once said, “men (and women) make history, and not the other way around. In periods where there is no leadership, society stands still. Progress occurs when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better.”

When future generations study how IUPUI became one of the leading urban research and life science campuses in the nation, they will encounter accounts of those who made significant contributions at every level.

This spring, we thank four IUPUI leaders for the impact they have made. Borrowing from Truman, I express heartfelt appreciation for a few leaders who seized the opportunity to change things for the better.

William “Bill” Blomquist

Bill Blomquist, dean of the IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI, has announced he's stepping down effective summer 2015 to return to regular faculty duties and to pursue projects at IUPUI that align with his passion for research concerning water resources management and policy.

Bill wants to use his international renown to contribute to the research-informed development of state water policy and planning for Indiana. He led the School of Liberal Arts for seven years through a transformational period -- launching its two Ph.D. programs; welcoming the Department of Journalism and Public Relations; facilitating the creation of the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy; improving support of part-time faculty; and enhancing the scholarly strength of the school.

Pat Rogan

Pat Rogan is the quintessential educator. She served as executive associate dean of the IU School of Education at IUPUI for seven years. She has been a public school teacher, transition coordinator and university faculty member for 30 years. Pat is returning to her role as professor, focusing on special education with interests in secondary education, transition, supported employment and organizational change.

In addition to her broad range of experiences, Pat consults nationally and internationally with schools, adult services and state leaders to promote positive practices and systems change. Her leadership capabilities were recognized beyond this campus as Pat served as a board member and then president of the National Association for Persons in Supported Employment from 1996-2002 and is now a founding member of the National Association for Persons in Supported Employment Emeritus Circle.

Marwan A. Wafa

Marwan A. Wafa will step down as vice chancellor and dean of IUPUC on June 30 to become chancellor of Pennsylvania State University's Worthington Scranton campus.

Since Wafa arrived at IUPUC in 2009, the number of bachelor's and master's degrees conferred has increased over 211 percent -- from 80 in 2010 to 249 in 2014 -- and a new Office of Student Affairs was created, which substantially improved and upgraded the quality of the campus experience.

Michael Weaver

One of the critical roles of academic leadership is when the campus needs an interim dean. Last summer, when nursing dean Marion Broome left for Duke University, we needed a thoughtful, effective leader immediately. Michael Weaver, professor and director of statistical services at the IU School of Nursing Center for Research and Scholarship, served the campus in exemplary fashion as interim dean of the school.

Weaver served as professor in the Science of Nursing Care Department since 2008 and was interim associate dean for research from July 2013 to June 2014. As the School of Nursing celebrated its 100th year, it was critical to have an effective leader in place during the transition and Weaver rose to the occasion. Michael will be moving to the University of Florida College of Nursing to serve as associate dean for research.

These four leaders have made important contributions and done so with tremendous professionalism. I

wish them all the best!

[Read more From the Desk of the Chancellor stories »](#)