From the Desk of the Chancellor

Stepping down in 2015



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by Charles R. Bantz

For everything there's a season.

The past 12 years of my personal and professional life have been as gratifying as anyone can imagine. But the only thing certain is change and after thoughtful consideration and dialogue with family, stepping down as IUPUI chancellor feels like the right thing to do at the right time.

This is a good time for a transition. We have accomplished a tremendous amount in the past 11 years and are well-positioned for success in the future. The time is right to make way for the next leader of this great campus, and as an expert in organizational communication, I am ready to bring my administrative experience to my research and teaching.

In about nine months -- when it becomes official -- I plan to begin a year leave after which I will return to IUPUI to serve as a professor.

It is an honor to serve as chancellor of this dynamic campus. I have been fortunate to work with many, many outstanding individuals who have dedicated themselves to providing a first-rate educational environment for our students and to conducting important research, and I am confident IUPUI is poised to reach even greater heights.



Charles R. Bantz | PHOTO BY LIZ KAYE, IU COMMUNICATIONS

After being absorbed in "Jaguar Life" 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, for over a decade, there will undoubtedly be a period of adjustment. I will miss it.

But for the next nine months we have much to do! After that, I look forward to reading books again and the discipline of writing articles and a book -- not memos! With the help of my wonderful wife, family and friends, I'm sure I'll manage.

I thank everyone in the IUPUI family for this opportunity as I've chosen to heed the admonition in Mark Twain's timely quote:

"Twenty years from now, you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the one's you did. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."

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