

IUPUI continues fulfilling the promise

Looking back on my 2014 IUPUI State of the Campus address, the sustaining theme was: celebrate progress and keep improving! Our faculty, staff, and students work tremendously hard to discover, innovate, and create. But at IUPUI, we are not satisfied for long. We pursue continuous improvement.

The address began by revisiting 2002—the year before I became Chancellor of this great urban research campus. We embrace the past to honor those who blazed the path that we follow; to mark the baseline for measuring progress; and to highlight how far we must go to achieve our goals.

For example, I emphasized our baseline for baccalaureate degrees is only 2,212 granted in academic year 2001–02. In academic year 2013–14, we awarded 3,670. This 66% increase represents more than 1,400 additional graduates in one year—1,400 more individuals who hold bachelor's degrees! Each person's life changed by completing a degree, enabling each to contribute to Indianapolis, the state, the nation and beyond.

We have made tremendous progress in research, philanthropy, facilities, and community engagement. In 2002, IUPUI total externally funded research was \$202 million; in 2014 it was \$325 million. In 2004 we completed our first comprehensive fundraising campaign at \$1.039 billion; in 2013 we completed the IUPUI IMPACT campaign at \$1.39 billion—\$350 million more than the previous campaign!



IUPUI Chancellor Charles R. Bantz revisited 2002 for benchmarks to gauge campus progress and to delineate future imperatives. The 2014 State of the Campus address can be seen in its entirety at broadcast.iu.edu.

In 2003, we had fewer than 350 students living on campus—most in Ball Hall. Today, we have more than 2,000 living in Ball, Riverwalk apartments, University Tower, and Park Place. And our next housing, North Hall, is being designed to serve 700 students beginning in the fall of 2016! After North Hall is completed, we will have almost 10% of IUPUI students living on campus. Our data confirms that housing contributes to student success and graduation.

IUPUI programs, faculty, and location have attracted increasingly talented students to the campus. We enrolled nine valedictorians and salutatorians on this campus in the entering class of 2002. We significantly increased that to a record 60 this fall. We refer students to Ivy Tech who are not prepared to succeed at IUPUI where they can hone student skills, then enroll with many credits transferred. Today, Ivy Tech is our largest source of transfer students.

One of IUPUI's greatest achievements is a fundamental commitment to community engagement. Our engagement is accomplished in many ways—from one-time volunteer service to years of service by faculty, staff, and students to organizations, such as "ReadUP," the United Way of Central Indiana, Dress for Success, and hundreds more. We measure our students' commitment by the number of students registered for service-learning courses, which has grown from just over 2,000 in 2002 to over 8,600 in 2014! Every year I report on the state of the campus, I am so impressed by the accomplishments of my colleagues, faculty, staff and students. While I am thrilled by success, I also realize that we must continue to improve each and every year.

There are many challenges as success is temporary. Technology, of course, is the easiest way to highlight this lesson.

The *"best"* digital computers in 1944 filled a 20 x 40 foot room and were only for specialists. Less than 40 years later, mass consumer computer use took off with the IBM personal computer. Less than 15 years later, Wi-Fi was introduced, making operations totally mobile. And less than 10 years later our iPhones offer tremendous computing and communication capabilities!

We must keep striving forward as individuals and as a campus. It is with that spirit that I announced last week that I will be "stepping out" of the chancellorship on August 15, 2015. The campus is at a good place for a transition—with a talented team of vice chancellors and deans—with significant progress made on key goals and a new strategic plan being implemented to continue moving us down a successful path.

Personally, I will have served as chancellor for 12 years, and I am ready for my next challenge. Building on my leadership experience, I intend to write and teach. It will take some time to integrate my experience and my expertise, but I look forward to reading many books and writing at least one!

CHANCELLOR CHARLES R. BANTZ

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> Office of the Chancellor 420 University Boulevard Indianapolis, IN 46202