State of Student Life Address
Chancellor Bantz and Vice Chancellor Whitney discuss recreational sports and housing
Date: February 03, 2009
Duration: 3:45

Transcript

[C. Bantz] Last fall I was saying we set record enrollment 30,300 students, we finally broke through it. It's the 13th year in a row fall semester we set record number of credit hours. So what happens this spring? We broke the record number for spring semester that had been stuck about four years ago and we for, I think it's the fourth year in a row record number of credit hours. So this year we've had the biggest fall, the biggest spring in history both in credits that students are taking which is important because it means we're having as you all know more full time students. Now how much more?

We've gone from 57 percent of our undergraduates being full time back in the 1990s to 70 percent this year. That's part of the Campus Center. You're here as students more because you're full time but also I'm convinced having a place to be encourages you to be more full time. It gives you an opportunity to have a reason to be here and if we get more housing, which we'll gonna get because it's being planned, we're gonna have more places for students to be full time. Similarly, our international student numbers 10 years ago were tiny. We have essentially doubled them twice in the last 10 years so that we now have built up such incredible programs that were drawing students from all over the world to come to our campus.

Similarly we're doing the same thing in terms of recruiting students. One of the key things that's happened in my time here was the moment at which I could look people in the eye and say, "We have students who are on this campus who chose to come here over institutions that are recognized in the world as the best."

So those of you in the room who graduated from IUPUI 10 years ago have degrees that are more valuable today than they were when you got them. It's our job to make sure that that is increasingly true by the quality of work that we all do together. So thank you for being here today and I appreciate the opportunity to share this little bit with you today. Thanks.

[K. Whitney] Efforts are underway to house at least 500 more students on our campus beginning fall 2011. There is a campus commitment to develop a campus housing program that supports the needs of 10 percent of our students. Second is the student health and fitness. In fact, I'm pleased to announce tonight that effective July 1st, Intramural and Recreational Sports, under the leadership of Matt Rota-Autry, will be joining the Division of Student Life.

That's a very exciting challenge. They've been over in Physical Education and Tourism Management and by moving them over in our area, our hope is that we can develop more collaborations. We can look at ways to work with that unit to serve students more. We can chart of future course that will step up and engage more students.

It's a very exciting move that I'm expecting many of you all will be seeing dramatic changes over the next couple of years. Increasing investments in student health and fitness overtime is important for student to be ready to learn and ready to fully engage their student life at IUPUI. A third of our students don't have health insurance. Students often report that they could have done better if they weren't ill. Other
students report that they wait to the very last moment to see a doctor and regret that and it affects their ability to do well. Students report that if more intramurals were available and more clubs sports were available, they would join. And we wanna step up to that call.