

Dean's Fall Address
August 31, 2010
3:30 p.m., Old Main Room

I would like to welcome everyone to this year's Fall Address. Before we start I would like to invite Provost Sheri Everts to the podium to make remarks.

Let's begin by introducing the College staff.

Please stand when you are called.

The Executive Associate Dean overseeing personnel and budget is Sam Catanzaro.

The Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Student Affairs and Director of General Education is Sally Parry.

The Interim Associate Dean for Research, Technology, and Facilities is Dagmar Budikova. The Assistant Dean for External Relations is Debbie Fox.

The College's Business and Administrative Associate is Sandi Krumtinger. As many of you know Sandi is not with us today as she is currently undergoing treatment on her broken arm.

The College has an exemplary Administrative Staff in Peggy Haycraft and Elizabeth Shoemaker. The College's Director of Development is Mary Crawford. Maria Pao will be serving as the College's Ombudsperson this year.

I would like to take a few moments to update you on a number of items since the Spring address.

First, the long awaited revised strategic plan for the College should be completed early this Fall as a number of action items will be finalized.

The College has been approved to search for 11 faculty positions this upcoming year as well as a number of Chair searches.

I am pleased to announce the final approval of the Paralegal Legal Studies Program by the American Bar Association.

I also wish to congratulate the Department of Physics and the Mercury Solar Car Team for the completion of the American Solar Car Challenge this past summer.

Congratulations to two students from the actuarial science program for winning two highly competitive international scholarships: Emily Byrnes, the 2010 John Culver Woody Scholarship and Jason Rohlfs, the 2010 Casualty Actuarial Society Trust Scholarship.

I extend my thanks to the Chairs/Directors, faculty, staff, and alumni, in helping the College reach all time highs in both fund raising and external grants awarded this past fiscal year.

This past spring we continued with the Executive in Residence Program with Dean Miller, President of The Quest Group in Irvine, CA visiting campus in late April. Tom Campbell, Managing Partner, Gallop Johnson Neuman in St. Louis, MO will serve as Executive in Residence, October 6-7th.

As a final informational item, I would also like to remind faculty of the Scott M. Elliott Cross-Disciplinary Pilot Grant Program that provides “seed” funds up to \$15,000 in the preparation of an external grant submission for interdisciplinary research teams which have active participation of an economics faculty member. Review of proposals will be in January 2011. The College website will have the guidelines for proposals posted.

In light of the number of new Chairs/Directors, let me introduce all the Chairs/Directors and Program Directors. Please stand as I announce your name.

Craig Gatto, Director, School of Biological Sciences

John Baur, Chair, Department of Chemistry

Larry Long, Director, School of Communication

Ann Beck, Interim Chair, Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders
Sherrilyn Billger, Interim Chair, Department of Economics

Joan Mullin, Chair, Department of English

Eric Peterson, Interim Chair, Department of Geography & Geology

Tony Crubaugh, Chair, Department of History

Bruce Burningham, Interim Chair, Department of Languages, Literatures, & Cultures

George Seelinger, Chair, Department of Mathematics

Jim Swindler, Chair, Department of Philosophy

Rick Martin, Chair, Department of Physics

Ali Riaz, Chair, Department of Politics & Government

Scott Jordan, Interim Chair, Department of Psychology

Diane Zosky, Interim Director, School of Social Work

Fred Smith, Chair, Department of Sociology & Anthropology

and

Alison Bailey, Director, Women's and Gender Studies

We would now like to introduce our new faculty members. Each new faculty member will be introduced by his or her department chair. As I introduce each department chair, please approach the podium with your new faculty.

Department of CHEMISTRY – Chair, John Baur

T. Andrew Mitchell joins the ISU faculty as an assistant professor in synthetic organic Chemistry. He received his PhD at Texas A&M University in 2008 and recently completed his postdoctoral studies at the University of Pennsylvania. He enjoys playing sports, such as basketball and softball. Most of all, he enjoys spending time with his family.

School of COMMUNICATION – Director, Larry Long

John Hooker joins the Illinois State University faculty in the School of Communication. He earned his master's degree in communication here at Illinois State University and received his PhD in Media, Technology, and Society from Purdue University. His research interests include basic communication course pedagogy and administration, mass communication/technology and society, small group communication, and the effects of the use of technology in the classroom.

Department of COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS - Interim Chair, Ann Beck

Lindsay M. Bondurant is a new assistant professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. She completed her PhD at the University of Texas at Dallas. She also holds an M.S. from Vanderbilt University and a B.A. from the University of Florida. Her research includes self-regulation and school readiness in children with hearing impairment, along with improving diagnostic and rehabilitative service-delivery models for children and families in clinical audiology settings.

Scott E. Seeman joins the Illinois State faculty as an assistant professor of Audiology. He recently received his PhD in Speech & Hearing Science from Ohio State University. His research focuses on areas that relate to auditory perception in individuals with hearing loss, such as psychoacoustics and amplification.

Department of ENGLISH – Chair, Joan Mullin

Lisya Seloni joins the Illinois State faculty in the Department of English as an assistant professor in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages with an emphasis in TESOL writing. She received her PhD in Foreign and Second Language Education at Ohio State University in 2008.

Her research focuses on second academic literacy and academic socialization, discourse analysis, and social justice issues that pertain to teaching English as a world language.

Department of GEOGRAPHY-GEOLOGY – Interim Chair, Eric Peterson

Matthew Himley joins the ISU faculty as an assistant professor of geography. He recently completed his doctoral degree in geography from Syracuse University. His research interests include political ecology, critical resource geography, Latin American/Andean resource politics, and development studies.

Lisa Tranel joins ISU as an assistant professor of geology. She received her PhD in Active Tectonics and Geomorphology from Virginia Tech. Her research interests include analyzing geomorphic and structural formations in tectonic settings, using geomorphic features to study human impact on landscapes, and the evolution of mountain landscapes and drainage basins as a result of interactions between tectonic, geomorphic, and climatic processes.

Department of HISTORY – Chair, Anthony Crubaugh

John Reda joins ISU as an assistant professor of History specializing in the colonial period. John received his PhD from the University of Illinois at Chicago. His research interests encompass both American and Atlantic World history and include the Trans-Appalachian West, the subject of slavery, and independence issues.

Department of LANGUAGES, LITERATURE AND CULTURES – Interim Chair, Bruce Burningham

Patxi Lascurain-Ibarlucea joins ISU as an assistant professor in Spanish Linguistics. He received his PhD with a specialization in Spanish Semantics, Syntax, and Pragmatics from The University of Texas at Austin. He is fluent in six languages which include: Spanish, Basque, English, Portuguese, French, and Latin.

Department of MATHEMATICS – Chair, George Seelinger

Maochao Xu joins the ISU as an assistant professor of mathematics. Maochao earned a PhD in statistics from Portland State University. His research interests include reliability theory, survival analysis, computational and graphical statistics, and nonparametric inference.

Department of PHILOSOPHY – Chair, Jim Swindler

M. Victoria Costa joins ISU as an assistant professor in Philosophy. Costa received her PhD in 2003 from the Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Argentina. Her areas of specialization include Social and Political Philosophy, Ethics, and Applied Ethics.

Department of POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT – Chair, Ali Riaz

Meghan Leonard comes to ISU as an assistant professor in the Department of Politics and Government. She holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Arizona. Her chapter, “State Judicial Elections and the New Institutional Legitimacy,” appeared in the 2010 Oxford Handbook of American Elections and Political Behavior.

Department of PSYCHOLOGY – Interim Chair, Scott Jordan

Dan Ispas joins ISU as an assistant professor in Psychology. He received his PhD in Industrial-Organizational Psychology with a minor in Statistical Methods from the University of South Florida in 2010. His research interests are performance appraisals and management, individual differences in the workplace, bridging the scientist-practitioner gap, and cross-cultural test adaptation and development.

Now for the Departmental Advancement and Fundraising Awards. Let’s begin with the Departmental Advancement Award. This year’s winner of the Departmental Advancement Award serves as a role model for advancement efforts. They have two exemplary and actively involved advisory boards. The high attendance by alumni at their numerous outreach events is also a testament to their culture of outreach. The collaboration between faculty and students in extracurricular activities is highly commendable as well with winning numerous national competitions in speech and debate and the annual tradition of COM week. These are just a few of the efforts undertaken. Not to mention a Director who continues to think outside the box and is relentless in positioning and advancing the School’s mission. **This year’s Departmental Advancement Award goes to the School of Communication.** Will Larry Long come to the podium to receive the award.

Now for the Departmental Fundraising Award. The **Departmental Fundraising Award Honorable Mention goes to the Department of Mathematics** with their fund raising efforts yielding \$134,252. Will George Seelinger come to the podium to receive the award.

Now this year’s Departmental Advancement Award goes to the Department of Geography & Geology which hit the jackpot with \$845,158. Will Eric Peterson come to the podium to receive the award.

This concludes the Fall Address and I invite everyone to stay for the reception.