

Dean's Spring Address
April 15, 2009

I would like to welcome everyone to this year's Spring Address. As you know Dean Olson has taken the position of Provost at Idaho State University. On the behalf of the College of Arts and Sciences, I wish him the best in his new position.

Before addressing the faculty's curiosity about my leadership style and agenda for the next two years, I would like to thank a number of people. I wish to thank President Bowman and Provost Everts for providing me with this opportunity to serve and lead the College as Interim Dean. I would also like to thank the Associate/Assistant Deans in the College: Ann Beck, Sam Catanzaro, Sally Parry, and Deb Fox; College staff: Debra Cruise, Peggy Haycraft, and Sandi Krumtinger; and my colleagues in the Department of Economics in making the transition as smooth as possible.

Now my leadership style and values:

As Chair of the Department of Economics, I have tried to lead by example in being a productive researcher and conscientious teacher as I believe that quality teaching and research serve as complements in fulfilling the "scholar-teacher" ideal of "*Educating Illinois*".

I value academic integrity, fairness, and transparency in addressing the needs of faculty as well as in the allocation of resources.

I am a strong proponent of creating incentives through the ASPT process to encourage and reward faculty in the responsibility to participate in the advancement of their Department/School in the spirit of shared governance.

Realizing the ever present resource constraints, I understand the benefits of promoting an entrepreneurial spirit while maintaining one's academic integrity in the establishment of mutually beneficial relationships with alumni, the business community, and government agencies.

I hope to foster these same values in serving the faculty, staff, and students in the College of Arts and Sciences as your Interim Dean.

Now my agenda during the next two years:

1. Update the College's strategic plan in light of the revisions to "*Educating Illinois*".
2. Examine the sustainability of various program initiatives. The Chairs/Directors and I have already begun this process.
3. To the extent possible, enhance operating budgets through the reallocation of resources from program initiatives. On this front, the Chairs/Directors and I have already begin this process.

4. Establish dialogue with the Provost's office on alternative funding models for program delivery.
5. Continue working with the College's advisory boards and start a fund raising initiative oriented towards the programmatic needs of Departments/Schools. With regard to this initiative I have given directions to the Chairs/Directors to compile the short-run and long-run programmatic needs of their respective Department/School.
6. Encourage greater outreach with other Colleges in exploring external funding opportunities and program development.

Again, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve the College and look forward to working with each of you.