Dear Colleagues,

SIUC has climbed to No. 153 in the annual U.S. News & World Report “Best Colleges Rankings for 2016,” a 36-spot moving up from last year. The U.S. News ranking system rests on the Carnegie classification of types of higher education institutions, but with its own category names: National Universities, National Liberal Arts Colleges, Regional Universities, and Regional Colleges. National Universities offer a full range of undergraduate majors, plus master’s and doctoral programs, and emphasize faculty research. SIUC is classified by the U.S. News in the category of National Universities, a total of 276 public and private universities in the U.S., with 199 of them ranked and 77 unranked. Within the ranked top 199 universities, SIUC takes the 153th spot, along with Adelphi University and St. John’s University, both in New York. According to the Carnegie classification, both Adelphi University (8,000 students) and St. John’s University (20,000 students) are private not-for-profit DRU (Doctoral/Research University) universities.

It is interesting to find out how the ranking score is calculated. The U.S. News & World Report gathered data from each college on up to 16 indicators of academic excellence. Each factor is assigned a weight that reflects their judgement about how much that measure matters. Then the colleges and universities in each category are ranked against their peers based on their composite weighted score. The 16 indicators for National Universities are organized into seven (7) groups in the following:

1. **Undergraduate Academic Reputation (UAR, 22.5%)**
   - The assessment data came from two sources: (a) by university administrators (presidents, provosts and deans of admissions) at peer institutions through a peer assessment survey, to account for intangibles of undergraduate academic excellence, such as faculty dedication to teaching; and (b) by 2,200 counselors at public high schools and 400 college counselors at large independent schools.
   - \( \text{UAR, 22.5\%} = (\text{Peer Evaluation, 15\%}) + (\text{Counselor Evaluation, 7.5\%}) \)

2. **Retention (22.5%)**
   - The measure has two components: first year retention (20%) and 6-year graduation rate (80%)
   - \( \text{Retention, 22.5\%} = (1\text{st Year Retention, 4.5\%}) + (6\text{-Year Graduation, 18\%}) \)

3. **Faculty Resources (20%)**
   - Six factors from the 2014-2015 academic year were used to assess a school’s commitment to instruction: (a) the proportion of classes with fewer than 20 students (30%); (b) the proportion with 50 or more students (10%); (c) faculty salary (35%) during 2013-2015; (d) the proportion of professors with the highest degree in their fields (15%); (e) the student-faculty ratio (5%); and (f) the proportion of full-time faculty (5%).
   - \( \text{Faculty, 20\%} = (\text{Small-Class-Size, 6\%}) + (\text{Big-Class-Size, 2\%}) + (\text{Faculty Salary, 7\%}) + (\text{Degrees, 3\%}) + (\text{S/F Ratio, 1\%}) + (\text{Full-Time, 1\%}) \)

4. **Student Selectivity (12.5%)**
   - This measure has three components: (a) SAT/ACT Score (65%); (b) Top 10% of High School Classes (25%); and (c) the acceptance rate (10%).
   - \( \text{Student, 12.5\%} = (\text{SAT/ACT Score, 8.125\%}) + (\text{Top 10\% in HS, 3.125\%}) + (\text{Acceptance Rate, 1.25\%}) \)

5. **Financial Resources (10%)**
   - It measures financial resources by using the average spending per student on instruction, research, student services and related educational expenditures in the 2013 and 2014 fiscal year.

6. **Graduation Rate Performance (7.5%)**
   - This indicator shows how well the college has improved their 6-year graduation rate by measuring the difference between a school’s 6-year graduation rate for the class that entered in 2008 and the rate predicted for the class.
7. **Alumni Giving Rate (5%)**: This indicator reflects the average percentage of living alumni with bachelor’s degrees who gave to their school during 2012-2014, which is an indirect measure of student satisfaction.

Therefore the overall ranking formula used by the U.S. News & World Report this year is the following:

\[
\text{The Final Ranking Score} = (\text{UAR, 22.5\%}) + (\text{Retention, 22.5\%}) + (\text{Faculty, 20\%}) + (\text{Student, 12.5\%}) + (\text{Financial, 10\%}) + (\text{Performance, 7.5\%}) + (\text{Alumni, 5\%})
\]

The first group, UAR (Undergraduate Academic Reputation), measures reputation based on administrators and counselors surveys, which could be highly subjective and inaccurate. However, rankings provide a quick and easy way for people to compare universities and we could use the ranking formula as a reference for our school assessment.

**AVIATION NEWS**

- **The 2015 Aviation Alumni Gathering** was a success. Friday September 18 evening, about 100 SIU Aviation alums and friends gathered in the Priester Aviation in Chicago for a great reunion of fun, reminiscing and learning about the latest happenings on campus. Interim Provost Ford, and SIU Foundation CEO, VC Salmo attended this event showing strong university support for our aviation programs. Provost Ford addressed the audience and invited the Flying Salukis and Air Race Classic 1st Place winner Jessica Reed onto the stage with their trophies. Clarence C Copping, a proud and successful Saluki and pilot, senior captain at United Airlines, and SIU Distinguished Alumni Award recipient, provided a warm welcome and touching speech at the event. AVMAF Interim Chair John Voges and AVT Chair Mike Burgener gave aviation alums updates in faculty, students, and past and present projects in both departments. In particular, John Voges announced the official kick-off of the ADS-B fundraising initiative at this alumni event.

- **ADS-B Fundraising Initiative**: The FAA has mandated that aircraft in airspace that currently requires a mode C transponder must also be equipped with Automatic Dependence Surveillance-Broadcast (ADS-B) by January 1, 2020. The Aviation Management and Flight Technology recently installed two ADS-B systems at a cost of $21,615 per unit. As we moves forward we project to upgrade an additional 15-30 planes to meet the FAA mandate at a cost of $325,000 to $650,000. There is a long-term need to secure additional aircraft to upgrade our aging fleet. Some of the planes have been flying for nearly 40 years and they must be replaced. This need for replacement aircraft was a major focus during the AABI accreditation visit in 2014. This Fundraising Initiative has a short-term goal to raise at least $300,000 in gifts and pledges by June 30, 2016 that will be used to help add ADS-B to our fleet. The Chancellor’s and Provost’s offices have generously agreed to match all gifts made by June 30, 2016 on a dollar-for-dollar basis. This match is good for up to $300,000 and the funds will be used to help ADS-B upgrade and purchase/lease new aircraft. The ADS-B Fundraising Initiative was officially announced at the Aviation Alumni Gathering last Friday.

**AUTOMOTIVE NEWS**

- **This past Saturday, the Automotive Department held their annual student car show. Since the students are passionate about cars and trucks, they often learn about and identify each other by what car or truck they drive. It’s not uncommon to attend automotive alumni events and hear “You’re the one that drove the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ vehicle”. The car show allows students from all classes and cohorts an opportunity to make friends, visit alumni, and meet with the faculty and staff of the Department in a fun atmosphere outside of the academic setting. The Automotive Technology student organization provided food and drink for everyone and recent alumni from Fiat Chrysler Automobiles and Ally Financial traveled to Carbondale to**
attend the annual event. Several participants from the general public also attended bringing and
displaying their own rides.

CONGRATULATIONS

- General Motors recently donated to the Automotive Technology Department a new GMC Sierra
  Dual Cab 4X4 pickup. The vehicle is valued at over $45,000 and will be used in various classes
to further the student diagnostic development knowledge. The donation was made possible by
several SIU Automotive alumni working for GM. Congratulations!
• The Masters of Science in Fire Service and Homeland Security has a significant increase in its enrollment of 12 students, from 14 last year to 26 this fall semester. Congratulations to Gary Kistner, Lindsay Laycoax, Mark Rivero, and other FSM faculty and staff members!

• Gary Kistner, Program Coordinator of Fire Service Management (FSM), and Mark Rivero, Program Advisor for FSM, attended the EMS World Expo 2015 Conference in Las Vegas, NV September 15-19, 2015. They received many inquiries about our newly proposed Public Safety program and its specializations. By the end of last Friday they had more than 22 individual contacts from people ranging from Delaware to Hawaii, four ambulance companies and one fire department. Congratulations!


• Shannon McDonald, Assistant Professor of Architecture, has a paper: Envisioning Automated Vehicles Within the Built Environment: 2020, 2035, and 2050 available online at http://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783319190778 now. Lecture Notes in Mobility book series “Road Vehicle Automation 2” edited by Sven Beiker and Gereon Meyer with the results of the 2014 workshop. Congratulations!
• Dr. Sandra K Collins, Associate Professor and Program Director of Health Care Management (HCM), has been invited to be the moderator for a panel Diversity in Healthcare Management - Value-Added Business Sense discussion at the Mid America Health Care Executives Forum (MAHCEF), a chapter of the American College of Health Care Executives (ACHE). This all-day event will be hosted at Southern Illinois Healthcare (SIH) Corporate Offices in the Carbondale Mall on October 20, 2015. Congratulations!

• Belle Sarah Woodward, Associate Professor of Information Systems Technologies, had a presentation at the SIU Second Annual Women’s Leadership Conference organized by the Center for Inclusive Excellence Women’s Resource Center. The conference provides undergraduate students a chance to interact with peers and mentors, form professional networks, prepare for careers, reflect on their educational paths, develop leadership skills, and experience the diversity of women in leadership roles. Congratulations!

• Dr. Walter Wendler, Professor and Director of School of Architecture, and Norman Lach, Associate Professor and Architectural Studies Program Director, have a new grant proposal “SIU Carbondale Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program” submitted with a project dates April 2015 to June 2016. Congratulations!

• The Dental Hygiene (DH) Program has been organizing an annual dental professional seminar for dental health professionals. This year’s program will be on Friday October 23 and Saturday October 24, 2015 in the SIU Student Center. It appeals to a broader audience this year. [Link](http://continuinged.siu.edu/conferences/dental_professionals_seminar.html). Congratulations!

• Mr. John Malcolm, graduate from our Fire Service Management (FSM) program, has been named as the new Fire Chief at Lake Zurich IL. Mr. Malcolm has been serving as Mount Prospect fire chief since 2010, and he served the previous 12 years as deputy fire chief. The Lake Zurich Fire Department has a total budget of $11 million with 59 full-time employees and four fire stations. Congratulations!

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
Grant Alerts from the Illinois General Assembly Legislative Research Unit
[http://www.ilga.gov/commission/lru/GrantAlerts.pdf](http://www.ilga.gov/commission/lru/GrantAlerts.pdf)

TEACHING TIPS
Feel good about teaching, and feel good about students. The student is ...

- the most important person at our college. Without students, there would be no need for your position.
not a cold enrollment statistic but a flesh and blood human being with feelings and emotions like our own.
not someone to be tolerated so we can do our thing. They are our thing.
not dependent on us. Rather, we are dependent on them.
not an interruption to our work, but the purpose of it. We are not doing them a favor by serving them. They are doing us a favor by giving us the opportunity to do so.

ON THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR
- Monday, September 21, 2015: 5:00pm, Gigbit Campus and City, SC Ballroom B.
- Tuesday, September 22, 2015: 11:00am - 12:30pm, Deans’ Council Informal Meeting, AH BCR.
- Wednesday, September 23, 2015: 10:00am - 11:00am, Core Curriculum Committee Meeting, AH BCR.
- Thursday, September 24, 2015: 9:00am - 11:30am, President Dunn State of the SIU System Address, SC Ballrooms.
- Friday, September 25, 2015: Salukis Family Weekend starts today.

AND FINALLY …

If you see something in this update that you want to comment on, please send me an email at my SIU email awang@siu.edu or call me at 618-536-6682. Also, if you know of somebody who might be interested in receiving the CASA Dean’s MMU, please ask them to send me an email and we will gladly add them to our mailing list. On the other hand, if you prefer not to receive the CASA Dean’s MMU, please let me know as well. Thank you.

Andy Ju An Wang, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Applied Sciences and Arts