Dear Colleagues,

It is a semester/year-end celebration! You are cordially invited to a CASA Winter Potluck lunch to be held in the Dean’s office conference room (ASA C-220) today.

THE STATE WE’RE IN
Advance Illinois released on November 30, 2016, its fifth edition of The State We’re In for 2016-2017, that provides outcome data to answer a fundamental question: Is the state’s education system on track to achieve the goal for 2025? That is, “60 by 25,” to have 60% of Illinoisans with a postsecondary degree or credential by 2025. The good news is, currently 88% of high schoolers are graduating, versus 84% in 2012. However, on a key measure of whether students are ready for college - the ACT - only 38% of Illinois high school graduates are scoring as college ready. Approximately 49% of community college students take remedial coursework. Just 58% of college students from Illinois graduate in six years. Illinois needs a strong education system to ensure the economic vitality of the state and our competitiveness nationally and internationally. We will have to expand current strategies, adopt new ones, hold ourselves accountable and partner with communities to reach the 60 by 25 goal. For the complete report, please visit: http://www.advanceillinois.org/2025/.

FINAL EXAMS
Please be reminded of University policy regarding final exams scheduling. All final examinations must be scheduled the week immediately before commencement - December 12-16, 2016 for the Fall 2016 semester. Instructors must administer their examinations only during finals week, whether or not they poll
their students to determine an alternate date. Except in the most unusual of circumstances, scheduling final exams during the last week of classes is not an option. The policy is intended to ensure that students have time to do their very best work. Finals held the last week of classes often interfere with students’ other obligations, such as attending all their classes and completing papers, reports, and projects, which are due in other courses before exam week. If you have any questions about this policy or the procedure to oversee its implementation, please contact Jim Allen, Associate Provost for Academic Programs, at 453-7653 or jsallen@siu.edu. Thank you.

CONGRATULATIONS

Twenty-three (23) representatives of the SIU Automotive Advisory Board were in attendance at the recent Fall 2016 meeting conducted at the Transportation Education Center. This annual multi-day gathering of industry representatives conducts an external program review each year to support constant program improvement. The Department opens itself up for review so this group of industry representatives can gather information and provide valuable guidance to the program.

This annual Board review is conducted in multiple phases:

1. Closed door session meeting with faculty to gather input on positives as well as thoughts on improvement points.
2. Open meeting will students, faculty, staff, and administration to provide feedback on what is occurring within industry and how to be best prepared. At this meeting, student scholarship and award recipients are announced and presented with a certificate.
3. Closed door meeting with students. Here, the Board asks students questions on their perceptions of things that are working as well as things that need improvement.
4. The Board asks each student to complete an anonymous survey to gather valuable student population trends as well as feedback on issues they did not want to bring up in front of peers.
5. Business meeting with department faculty, staff, administration, and student group leaders. This full day session is divided into various components where program personnel provide updates to the Board on enrollment, entering student profile, budget, initiatives, curriculum, graduation, placement, and progress on implementing previous
Board recommendations. During this meeting, the Board provides feedback gathered from the students, student survey, and faculty, along with their recommendations for the program to investigate and take action on for improvement.

6. The Board concludes its visit with a closed session with program administration to provide any critical sensitive feedback.

During the open session of the Board meeting, the Department recognizes its Teacher of the Year recipients. Pictured below from left to right are Mike Behrmann, Department Chair; Blaine Heisner, Tenured/Tenure Track Teacher of the Year, Kent Meckfessel, Non Tenure Track Teacher of the Year; Dr. Brad Colwell, Interim Chancellor; Dr. Andy Wang, CASA Dean.

During the open session, student scholarship and award recipients are announced. Pictured below from left to right are Chris Micha, Board Co-Chair from Fiat Chrysler Automobiles; Dan Sherman, Board Co-Chair from Mitsubishi Motors North America; Mike Behrmann, Department Chair; Ashley Nelson, Outstanding Student of the Year recipient; Dr. Brad Colwell, Interim Chancellor; Dr. Andy Wang, CASA Dean.

Congratulations!

- The ARC 231 - Architecture and Interior Design History I course, studies the influences and the development of architecture from prehistoric to the 19th Century. In particular, it is the study of
structure, aesthetics, and the language of architecture. Dr. Jon Daniel Davey, Professor of Architecture, is teaching ARC 231 this semester. The last hands-on project for ARC 231 is to design and make Architecture Building Blocks that will be given to the Marines Toys for Tots and the Carbondale Women's Center. This event occurred Friday in the halls of Quigley. Skip Cosgrove who represents the Marines Toys for Tots, is shaking hands with Professor Davey upon receiving the blocks from the students (the last picture below). Please join me in congratulating Professor Davey and his students for a successful course project as well as a great community service!
Chad Schwartz, Assistant Professor of Architecture, Laura Morthland, Associate Professor of Architecture, and Jenny Huang, Assistant Professor of Architecture, are all co-instructors for the independent course that has been working to design and build a new Mother's Room on the third floor of Morris Library. It will meet the needs of SIU students, faculty and staff who need to breastfeed or pump between classes and study sessions. This project has Architectural Studies (ARC), Interior Design (ID) and Construction Management and Operation (COMO) programs working together and using their collective skills sets. This project was funded by the SIU Green Fund. Congratulations!
Zoey Koester, an Interior Design (ID) senior, left, saws the interior panels of the new lactation station with help from Shelby Orr, an Architectural Studies (ARC) senior, on Tuesday, December 6, 2016, during an independent study class in the woodshop of Quigley Hall. “Especially during this time of the financial deficit, [this project] is showing that our program is still strong,” Koester said. “We’re learning what we need to in order to accomplish things in the field. It’s also helping the non-traditional students, those who are minorities on campus, the mothers, and showing our diversity.” (Morgan Timms | @Morgan_Timms)

- The 19th Advanced Embalming Annual Colloquium was held on Friday, December 9, 2016, in the SIU Transportation Education Center (TEC). Twenty-four (24) student posters were presented and evaluated by four professional judges. Please join me in congratulating Abel Salazar and other Mortuary Science and Funeral Service faculty and students on a successful colloquium!

- As many of you may know, Southern Illinois University Carbondale has earned recognition as a “Bicycle Friendly University” from the League of American Bicyclists. To earn this designation, a university must submit an application detailing how the campus promotes bicycling through
engineering, encouragement, education, enforcement and evaluation. **Shelby Orr**, a senior Architectural Studies (ARC) student has contributed to this successful designation. Shelby conducted a bicycle survey for the entire campus last spring - more than 800 people participated in the survey, and created a bicycle master plan this year under the guidance of **Shannon McDonald**, Assistant Professor of Architecture. Moreover, Shelby filled out the application for a Bicycle Friendly University answering over 22 pages of detailed questions about bicycles and Southern Illinois University. Please join me in congratulating Shelby and Shannon for their tireless efforts over two years to make SIU a more friendly place for bicyclists!


- **Dan Johnson**, a Fire Service Management graduate, has been sworn in as the new Deputy Chief of Operations for the Schaumburg Fire Department effective immediately. Johnson most recently served the Department as a captain and a shift commander. "The Schaumburg Fire Department has a proud 50-year history of leadership dedicated to professionalism and excellent service to the community, and I am honored to have this opportunity to serve the men and women of our department and our community," Johnson said. Congratulations!

**SUPPORT STAFF MEETING**

The Budgeting, Planning, and Support Staff will meet on Wednesday, December 14, 2016, 10:00am - 12:00pm in the Dean’s Conference Room. The tentative agenda of the meeting is below:

1. **Welcome and Update**
2. Ad Staff Meeting Report  
3. CASA Diversity & Inclusion Committee Update  
4. Budget, TT/NTT and GA Hire Update  
5. Important Deadlines and Due Dates  
6. Round Table Discussion and Other Business  

If you have any specific items that you feel the Budgeting, Planning, and Support Staff should consider at the meeting, please send Mary Nemetsky (mnemet@siu.edu) your suggestions before 1:00pm Tuesday, 12/13/2016.

ON THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

- Monday, December 12, 2016: 11:00am - 1:00pm, CASA Winter Potluck, recognizing TOY and ROY award winners.
- Tuesday, December 13, 2016: 11:00am - 12:00pm, Deans’ Council Informal Meeting, Anthony Hall Balcony Conference Room; 1:00pm-2:00pm, Faculty Senate Meeting, SSB 150.
- Wednesday, December 14, 2016: 10:00am - 12:00pm, CASA Budgeting, Planning, and Support Staff Meeting, Dean’s Conference Room.
- Thursday, December 15, 2016: 12:00pm - 1:30pm, Faculty and Staff Art Exhibit Reception, Morris Library First Floor Rotunda.
- Friday, December 16, 2016: 4:30pm - 6:30pm, Chancellor Hosted Honorary Degree Reception, Paul Simon Public Policy Institute; 7:00pm - 8:30pm, Academic Excellence Recognition Ceremony, Student Center Ballrooms.
- Saturday, December 17, 2016: 2:00pm, Commencement, SIU Arena. Faculty will line up at 1:15pm in Tedrick Auditorium.

AND FINALLY …

If you see something in this update that you want to comment on, please send an email to my SIU email awang@siu.edu or call me at 618-536-6682. Also, if you know of anyone 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. 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