A Tradition of Excellence; A Standard of Success

Monday, September 18, 2017

Dear Colleagues,

Rearranging my office files, I found a letter from the bottom of one file drawer. It was dated August 13, 1998, from then Chancellor Jo Ann E. Argersinger to CASA faculty. It goes like this:

On behalf of Southern Illinois University Carbondale, and as the new Chancellor, I want to extend a warm welcome to you at the beginning of this new year.

Although I have only been here a few months, I have rapidly become aware of the significant impact the College of Applied Sciences and Arts has on our campus and community. You should be proud of the challenging road you have traveled in recent years. You have established firmly the College of Applied Sciences and Arts - a college that will continue to grow and gain regional and national acclaim.

My goals as Chancellor include trying to increase undergraduate research opportunities and strengthen mentoring programs. I know that your college has always placed tremendous emphasis on your undergraduate students, and so I am sure I will be looking to many of you in the coming months for your ideas and your assistance. It is a genuine pleasure to learn of your past record of achievement and to prepare to work together to make still greater advances for our students.

Together, I am confident we will build upon this University’s tradition of excellence as we chart the course for the next century.

Sincerely yours,

Jo Ann E. Argersinger (signature)
Chancellor
August 13, 1998

Reflecting on this letter written 19 years ago, I feel proud to say yes, “the significant impact the College of Applied Sciences and Arts has on our campus and community” has been growing and we will continue to grow and gain even more regional and national acclaim. No matter how we measure a college’s performance, in my humble opinion a college’s success must be ultimately translated into its students’ success. Our students ought to not only graduate on-time, but also work full-time, part-time, be in graduate school, or be committed to volunteer or military service within six months of graduation. Our Automotive Technology (AUT) program, for instance, is setting the standard for excellence in automotive technical and applied aftersales industry management education. Eighty-eight percent (88%) of SIU
Carbondale’s automotive technology graduates accept job offers prior to graduation with a mean annual starting salary of $57,000. We offer the only aviation program in Illinois in a public university and we have been consistently ranked as one of the top aviation programs in the nation. SIU is among a group of 66 universities to receive FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) certification that reduces the required flight hours for graduates interested in becoming airline pilots. The nine-time national champion Flying Salukis have finished in the top three in the National Intercollegiate Flying Association championships for the last seven years – winning times in 2011, 2014, and 2015, and finishing third in 2017. The Aviation Technologies (AVT) Aerobatics student team won six (6) national titles. The Security Dawgs cyber defense team placed 2nd in the Midwest Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition this year, and the Web Development Team finished in 3rd place in 2017 AITP National Collegiate Conference. CASA offers bachelor’s degrees in radiologic sciences, mortuary sciences and dental hygiene; all are the only baccalaureate programs in their specializations in Illinois. The School of Allied Health also offers one of the only three MS degree programs in medical dosimetry obtainable within the United States. During the recent JRCERT accreditation visit, the Medical Dosimetry program gained a perfect score, meeting all six standards and fifty-one objectives. All these examples confirm again that our programs have the highest standards and meet the regional and industrial needs.

Our commitment to industry connection and community service is commendable. The Dental Hygiene program provides services and community outreach activities like “Give Kids a Smile Day,” “Give Adults a Smile Day,” and “Give Veterans a Smile Day” annually, serving the community and giving students valuable experience. A dental sealant program offers preventive dental services to children from 3-14 years old. The aviation programs have been hosting annual Aviation Career Days with United Airlines and American Airlines for more than 20 years. SIU is the only university that works with major airlines to fly students to campus for aviation career day events. Students in the School of Architecture regularly participate in service-related projects. Previous projects include providing design assistance and consultation to families following a deadly 2012 tornado that hit Harrisburg and other parts of the region; a dog park in Ava that is disability friendly; a two-story treehouse for the Dayempur Farm near Carbondale; and a 1,500-square foot hillside amphitheater that overlooks Little Grassy Lake at SIU’s Touch of Nature Environmental Center. Each spring, student designers present their work at an annual Fashion Design and Merchandising Student Showcase and Fashion Show. The feature event is the presentation of original garment collections from senior fashion designers. Students are responsible for every detail of their collections – from concept to fashion illustration, fabric sourcing, patterning and construction, model and music selection, and accessory coordination.

We are currently in the middle of envisioning SIU 2025. Since its inception as the Vocational Technical Institute (VTI) in 1950, CASA has undergone continuous change to address the workforce needs in the southern Illinois region, state, and nation. This has also enabled the College to stay true to SIU’s mission as it evolved from a teacher’s college to a major Carnegie research institution. Based on the 2017 fall 10-day report, CASA remains the largest college at SIU Carbondale with 2527 students, The College has over 35,000 living alumni. CASA will celebrate its 75th anniversary in 2025. The College aspires to establish national leadership in selected academic areas, and the college as a whole to be recognized among the nation’s top applied sciences and arts colleges by 2025.

We will be there, and I feel proud to join you on this journey.

CONGRATULATIONS
• **Dr. Michael D. Brazley**, Associate Professor of Architectural Studies, had a paper titled “Virtual Reality as an Educational Tool” accepted for presentation at the 16th Annual Hawaii International Conference on Education to be held from January 4 to January 7, 2018 in Honolulu, Hawaii. Congratulations!

• **John Dobbins**, Associate Professor of Architectural Studies and Interim Director of School of Architecture, and **Norman L. Lach**, Assistant Professor and Program Director of Architectural Studies, will attend the Region 4 National Council of Architectural Registration Board (NCARB) Conference and present “Online IPAL (Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure) Program” in the Kent State Center for Architecture and Environmental Design, Kent, OH, October 20, 2017. Region 4 is comprised of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Congratulations!

• Please join me in congratulating School of Architecture’s Bachelor of Science in Interior Design (ID) program on earning accreditation by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA)! ID meets CIDA Professional Standards and has been awarded accreditation for a term of six years, effective August 2017.

Award of CIDA accreditation attests to the quality of our ID program. Parents, students, and employers of graduates can be assured that our program meets the rigor of peer review and develops the skills and knowledge required to practice interior design. Furthermore, the accreditation process provides our program with valuable input for continued development and assists the program in adapting to meet evolving professional requirements as CIDA updates standards.

I would like to thank ID faculty and staff for their diligent work to prepare for the self-study and the site visit, especially **Laura Morthland, Jon Davey, Peter Smith, Nadine Woinarowski**, and **John Dobbins**. Congratulations!

• **Donald R. Morris**, Assistant Professor of Aviation Technologies, submitted his summer research report for his research project titled “2Fly with RPi.” The goal of this project was to determine if the Raspberry Pi or other single board computer could practically be used to create experimental cockpit instrumentation. Specifically, three example applications were detailed:

1. A digital altimeter that can be constructed for under $50. This has been completed and demonstrated.

2. A digital backup multi-use flight display that can be constructed for under $150. The components required to create this have been identified, and feasibility has been shown.

3. A PFD with Synthetic Vision capability that can be constructed for under $500. The components for this have also been selected, and the feasibility of the system has been demonstrated.

From the preliminary research, a research paper “2Fly with RPi - Evaluating Suitability of the Raspberry Pi3 B Single Board Computer for Experimental Glass Cockpit Embedded Applications” has been written and the abstract has been submitted to the 2017 ASA Multidisciplinary Research Symposium, November 4th. Congratulations!
• Fashion Styling students volunteered to help set up the new Fashion Styling Studio in Quigley 306, which was a mid-size classroom, and was recently converted into a main classroom and lab for the fashion stylists specialization in the School of Architecture. Quigley 306 is next to the rooms used by the Fashion Design and Merchandising (FDM) program. The room has north-facing windows, important for photographic lighting, 40 working desks, and a large study area. With Quigley 306 as a dedicated Fashion Styling Studio, we hope it will help boost enrollment and retention in the FDM program, especially in the Fashion Styling specialization. The pictures below were provided by Shelby Adkinson and are images of students at work with Shelby, Assistant Instructor of Fashion Design and Merchandising, who has been working with FDM students to set up this Fashion Styling Studio. As Ms. Adkinson reported, “Without asking, FDM students came in, in between their classes, to help me open up boxes and start setting up! We are far from done, but I wanted to send you a few pics of our start! A quick make-up tutorial was given as well by one of our students in the middle of setup!” Please join me in congratulating FDM students and faculty for their passion and enthusiasm in Fashion Styling and their accomplishments of setting up the new studio!

• The annual Community College Conference took place last Wednesday in the Student Center, Ballroom D. Approximately 65 community college counselors attended this conference on campus to hear about our exciting updates and to see our new facilities. From our College, Elaine Atwood, Chief Academic Advisor, and Mike Behrmann, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, attended the conference. Mike made a 20-minute presentation on behalf of the College, providing updates for all our degree programs. Please join me in congratulating Mike and Elaine on a
successful presentation, and thanking them for their great effort to promote our academic programs at this Community College Conference!

• The Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA), a Registered Student Organization (RSO) in the School of Allied Health, hosted an event for Health Care Management (HCM) and
Master of Healthcare Administration / Health Informatics (MHA/MHI) students on Wednesday, September 13, 2017. HFMA and its associates are dedicated to providing mentoring, networking, and professional development opportunities to students interested in areas of financial management in the healthcare industry. Over 40 students attended the event. They were able to learn about different career paths in the healthcare industry from several professionals currently working in the field. HFMA provided details on the benefits of becoming a student member and eventually an associate member. At the end of the event, students were able to network with professionals currently in the field. All students that attended registered to be student members of HFMA. Please join me in congratulating Marcea Walter, Assistant Professor of Health Care Management, for the nice job setting this up. Congratulations on a job well done!
• One of the reliable ways to measure program quality is through national examinations required to be certified or licensed in a relevant industry. John Dobbins, Interim Director of the School of Architecture, provided the following information regarding the national exam passing rates for the Interior Design (ID) program at SIU. The Council for Interior Design Qualification (CIDQ), an independent, non-profit corporation comprised of state and provincial credentialing bodies, provides the North American public with the means to identify interior designers who have demonstrated the minimum level of competence needed to practice interior design. This is the ID equivalent of the Architect Registration Exam.

The NCIDQ IDFX (Interior Design Fundamentals Exam) is the Fundamentals Exam covering the content areas of Building Systems and Construction, Programming and Site Analysis, Human Behavior and the Designed Environment, Construction Drawing and Specifications, among others. Candidates have three hours to complete the IDFX. In 2016, the pass rate for SIU graduates was 75% compared to a national average of 71%. In both 2015 and 2014, SIU graduates had a 100% pass rate on this exam.

IDPX (Interior Design Professional Exam) is the Professional Exam consisting of 150 scored questions and 25 unscored pilot questions. The IDPX addresses the content areas of Codes and Standards, Building Systems and Integration, Project Coordination, Professional and Business Practices, among others. In 2016, the pass rate for SIU graduates was 60% compared to a national average of 59%. In 2015, SIU graduates had an 83% pass rate. No one from SIU took this exam in 2014.

The Interior Design Practicum Exam (PRAC 2.0) is the third section of the exam utilizing three CIDQ case studies: large commercial, small commercial, and residential, to assess a candidate’s ability to synthesize information related to the design process and make a judgement using the resources provided. In 2016, the pass rate for SIU graduates was 75% compared to a national
average of 62%. In 2015, the pass rate for SIU graduates was 100% on this exam. One person took the exam in 2014 and did not pass, giving us a rate of 0% in that year. In summary, SIU graduates beat the national average on every exam and on the practicum. Our graduates’ pass rate was about 21% higher. Congratulations!

- As you may know, a large percentage of students in the SIU Marching Salukis are not majoring in music; but obviously love and want to continue the musical experience many began in middle school. Please join me in recognizing and congratulating the following 20 Students from CASA on serving on the SIU Marching Salukis and Pep Band:
  - Justice Ellison, Architectural Studies;
  - Alex Grenhoff, Architectural Studies;
  - Alan Lovekamp, Architectural Studies;
  - Brendan Vanost, Architectural Studies;
  - Alex Zacek, Automotive Technology;
  - Jackson Coker, Aviation Flight;
  - Andrew Garavito, Aviation Flight;
  - Ariel Gralewski, Aviation Flight;
  - Austin Resing, Aviation Flight;
  - Ashanti Perkin, Aviation Management;
  - Kyle Koblas, Aviation Technologies;
  - Michael Linley, Aviation Technologies;
  - Rachel Royer, Fashion Design and Merchandising;
  - Rana Schenke, Fashion Design and Merchandising;
  - Carissa Teal, Fashion Design and Merchandising;
  - Alana Lev, Fashion Design and Merchandising;
  - Elise Ratcliff, Interior Design;
  - Dana DeLaurentis, Radiologic Sciences;
  - Janelle Schaefer, Radiologic Sciences;
  - Kristyn Southwood, Radiologic Sciences.

- Please join me in congratulating Brianna Jones, a Dental Hygiene (DH) junior, on her great performance as SIU softball pitcher. Brianna is the 2nd from the right, middle row in the picture below. Congratulations!
• JaTerra (Castine) Ross, a 2009 Dental Hygiene (DH) graduate and in D3, SIU School of Dental Medicine, received a scholarship from The Gateway to Oral Health Foundation, an onsite school based dental outreach provider. Congratulations!
You can watch the recorded video of The Inauguration of Walter Wendler as the 11th President of West Texas A&M University (WTAMU) from the URL below: http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:http://live.wtamu.edu/. The investiture ceremony was on Friday, September 15, 2017. By the way, the Harrington String Quartet played a beautiful piece of Mendelssohn at the ceremony - I include a picture below. As many of you know, Dr. Walter V. Wendler took office as WTAMU’s 11th president on August 20, 2016. Dr. Wendler served from 2001-2007 as chancellor of SIU Carbondale. He later served as Director of the School of Architecture until he retired in 2015.

Within just one year, Walter has met several milestones with great achievements. He visited every high school in the Texas Panhandle region, talking to school superintendents, counselors, teachers and students, sharing his vision and passion on education and student success. Under Dr. Wendler’s leadership, WTAMU had a record enrollment, a total of 10,169 students this fall compared to 9,961 last year. This is the highest enrollment in WTAMU’s history. The Best College Review has ranked WTAMU at #5 in its Top 25 Online Colleges for 2017-2018, one of the four Texas schools listed in the recent ranking. The Board of Regents of the Texas A&M University System approved WTAMU’s request for a new Doctor of Education. Enhancing graduate education is part of a long term vision and plan of WTAMU. I was impressed by his words: “If we cannot serve well locally, we cannot serve anywhere.” With his long-term vision to build strong relationship with local community and the region, I am sure WTAMU will become the most attractive university in the Panhandle area and beyond.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Walter Wendler and wishing him success in his tenure!
AD STAFF MEETING

The Administrative (AD) Staff will meet on Wednesday, September 20, 2017, 9:00am - 11:30am in the Dean’s Conference Room. The tentative agenda of the meeting is below:

1. Welcome, Open Forum, and Dean’s Update
2. Pregame Tailgates and Homecoming
3. Alumni Adjunct Initiative
4. Off-Campus Programs Discussion
5. Roundtable Update and Other Business

If you have any specific items that you feel the Administrative Staff should consider at the meeting, please send me your suggestions before 1:00pm Tuesday, 9/19/2017. All faculty and staff are invited to the open forum section of the Administrative Staff meeting from 9:00am - 9:30am.

ON THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

- Monday, September 18, 2017: 5:30pm - 9:00pm, Tele Fund for SAH, DH, HCM, MSFS, PTH, and RADS, Kaplan Hall Call Center.
- Tuesday, September 19, 2017: 11:00am - 12:30pm, Deans’ Council Meeting, Anthony Hall Balcony Conference Room; 1:00pm - 5:00pm, SIU STEM Career Fair, SIU Arena. 5:30pm - 9:00pm, Tele Fund for ARC, ID, FDM, ATS, EST, IST, and PSM, Kaplan Hall Call Center.
- Wednesday, September 20, 2017: 9:00am - 12:00pm, Ad Staff Meeting, Dean’s Conference Room; 5:30pm - 9:00pm, Tele Fund for AVM, AVT, AUT, EST, IST, and CASA; Kaplan Hall Call Center.
- Thursday, September 21, 2017: 1:00pm - 2:00pm, CASA Diversity and Inclusivity Committee Meeting, Dean’s Conference Room.
• Friday, September 22, 2017: Deadline of Nominating Distinguished Alumni Award recipient.

AND FINALLY …

If you see something in this update that you want to comment on, please send an email to 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