



INDIANA UNIVERSITY
NORTHWEST

Board of Advisors' Meeting
31 October 2019

Future Meeting Dates (*all meetings are 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.*)

- Wednesday, 19 February 2020
- Wednesday, 6 May 2020

Chair/Executive Committee Report

- Notes approved from 12 September 2019 meeting.

Board Member Vacancies

- Bernadette Slawinski has joined the BOA, as the IU Northwest Alumni Association board representative.
- Franki Fesko, chairwoman of the Community Foundation of Northwest Indiana, has agreed to be on the BOA. With IU's approval, she will join the BOA in 2020.

Presentation of Bicentennial Medals

- BOA members, who were unable to attend the September 2019 meeting, were awarded the [IU Bicentennial Medal](#). Those who have not received their medals will receive them at a future meeting.

Board of Advisors Committee Updates

- Committee Sign-Up
 - All BOA members are encouraged to sign-up for a committee.
- Experiential Learning & Internships Committee
 - The committee continues to work with the [Office of Career Services](#) (OCS). Since the committee began working with the OCS, there has been a 50 percent increase in student internship placements.
 - The OCS will be hosting Internship Awareness Day (20 November 2019) to provide students with an opportunity to meet with employers currently hiring interns.
- Board Social & Cultural Engagement Committee
 - BOA members are invited to performances of [A Raisin in the Sun](#) (IU Northwest Theater at the Arts & Sciences Building). Production continues through 16 November.
 - The committee is exploring future social and cultural engagement events. Suggested events by the BOA, include: a tour of the School of the Arts; attending an upcoming Theatre Northwest performance; having an educational meeting to learn how to improve the board; participating in the One Book...One Campus...One Community reading initiative; and attending an athletic event/game.
- Philanthropy Committee & Campaign Update
 - IU Northwest continues to fundraise for the university [For All](#) campaign, which is in its final year.
 - BOA Leadership Program has 11 students in its inaugural year. It is anticipated that the inaugural class will be introduced at the February 2020 BOA meeting.
 - IU entered into a new fiscal year beginning 1 July 2019. All BOA members are encouraged to make their annual donation to the IU Northwest campus.

Chancellor's Update

- The findings of the 2019 [Indiana Civic Health Index](#) were presented on 13 November at IU Northwest. The Indiana Bar Foundation extended an invite to all BOA members.

- Enrollment, Retention and Financial Update
 - IU Northwest's Fall 2019 enrollment was very close to projections. There was an increase in students who enrolled early, which positively affected both the students and the campus. Tuition and fee revenue increased compared to 2018 and the campus is working toward achieving enrollment stabilization during Spring 2020.
 - The current financial status is sound. The campus works hard to ensure that status continues.
 - Spring 2020 course registration is in process. The campus encouraged students to register early by offering free parking at IU Northwest during the Spring 2020 semester to any student who re-enrolls in six or more credits hours by 15 November 2019.
- Campus renovations
 - The John W. Anderson Library Conference Center's \$7 million renovation to modernize the building is complete.
 - The Library Plaza/Courtyard has been transformed, thanks to a renovation, which features a stage for musical and theatrical performances, seating and study areas, and additional greenspace.
- Competition in the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletics Conference
 - The start of the 2019-20 academic year marked the campus's official entry into the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletics Conference.
 - Fall athletic highlights include the start of the men's soccer program, as well as the successful women's volleyball season (current record: 15 – 9). The campus looks forward to a successful men's and women's basketball season.
- Chancellor's Commission for Community Engagement
 - The autumn meeting explored the challenges and interrelationships posed for Northwest Indiana P-12 schools by changing policies, requirements and economic conditions. Panelists, including Sharon Johnson-Shirley, discussed "What role does/can P-12 education play in preparing future citizens to work and have satisfying lives in the emerging Twenty-First-Century knowledge economy?" There was energetic engagement with the topic by those in attendance and suggestions for future sessions from the Board of Advisors are always welcome.

Campus Focus Presentation: Responding to Student Needs, To Support Academic Success

(Food Pantry, Professional Clothing Closet, Individual Emergencies)

Presenters: [Vicki Román-Lagunas](#), Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; [Beth Tyler](#), Associate Vice Chancellor & Dean of Students, Student Affairs and Enrollment Management; [Gina Pirtle](#), Director Financial Aid and Scholarships; [Veronica Williams](#), Director of Academic Advising; Ashley Lugo and Andrea John, Student Volunteers, RedHawks Nest (food pantry).

- A preliminary survey of IU Northwest students showed that 18 percent indicated they are food insecure, with 25 percent noting they experience housing insecurity. To obtain additional data, the University is conducting a financial wellness survey among students at all campuses during Fall Semester 2019.
- Recognizing these external challenges as hindrances to a student's academic performance, the campus has made student retention a priority by:
 - Redoubling efforts to re-align its scholarship programs to ensure as many students as possible have access to scholarship support and fully understand their expenses and financial packages. BOA members inquired how they can assist students' with financial needs.
 - Working with students experiencing individual emergencies by providing the necessary financial support and resources, so they can continue to stay enrolled.
 - Providing resources to students, like food (through the [RedHawk Nest](#), the student-run on-campus food pantry) or clothing (through the Office of Career Services Professional Clothing Closet).
- RedHawk Nest Donation Needs: Non-perishable boxed items (rice, oatmeal, cereal, stuffing, pasta, potato mixes...etc.); canned fruit, soup, peanut butter, and condiments.
- Professional Clothing Closet Donation Needs: Non-slip hangers; new or used garment bags; men's pants: size 42-44 long; all women's clothing: size 12 – 18 plus.