



EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

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Office of the President

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To: Faculty Senate
From: Joanne K. Glasser
Re: President's Report
Date: April 26, 2006

As we look forward to the upcoming celebration of the rededication of Keen Johnson, Alumni weekend and our spring commencement, I wish to share with you the following information for my May report:

New Science Building

As I shared in my campus announcement on April 25, 2006, I am very pleased to report the authorization in the state budget of \$54 million in funding for our much-needed new Science Building. We are indebted to the General Assembly, specifically the tireless efforts of State Rep. Harry Moberly and State Sen. Ed Worley, and are most appreciative of Gov. Ernie Fletcher for his recognition of this great need on our campus and for his continued commitment to higher education. This new facility will enrich the teaching and research facilities for our faculty, while greatly enhancing our ability to educate and prepare students to become the scientists, health care professionals, teachers and researchers so needed in Kentucky. Also, I wish to express my appreciation to Dr. Andy Schoolmaster, Dr. Malcolm Frisbie and Mr. James Street for their leadership and all their hard work in shepherding the programming and design process for this long-awaited facility.

Manchester Center

Governor Fletcher also authorized \$3.5 million in additional funds to go toward our new Manchester Postsecondary Education Center. We appreciate the considerable efforts of State Sen. Robert Stivers on behalf of this important facility, which will also help us better meet the educational needs of our students and service region.

Lancaster Center

The state budget also includes community development funding in FY 2006-07 and FY 2007-08 for a Lancaster education center. Last fall, we were approached by representatives from the Lancaster community to explore interests in establishing such a center in Lancaster. A needs-assessment demonstrated interest on the part of a large number of individuals in that area and a bid was placed for space for the center. We will be joined in this venture by Bluegrass Community and Technical College (BCTC). Senator Chapman and Dr. Byron Bond have been working with BCTC on plans for the operation of the center, contingent upon authorization of state funding.

Other State Budget Items

As you are all aware, Governor Fletcher exercised his gubernatorial veto power to eliminate certain provisions of the 2006-08 budget recommendation approved by the House and Senate. We are overall very pleased with the funding of capital projects for EKU and look forward to requesting authorization for funding for the EKU-



note that this funding had been requested due to an overall consideration for student housing renovations and the potential of new student housing, although there are currently no formal plans in place to do so. The debt service for this issuance, should we have determined the need for such funding, would have come through student residence hall charges. At this time there are no significant consequences resulting from its elimination. We will continue to examine the needs in this area and the appropriate time-line for such projects as we consider the potential for future bonding in the 2008-10 biennium.

Tuition Increase

In my last report I indicated that I was scheduled to appear before the Council on Postsecondary Education to formally request approval of our tuition rates for next academic year. This testimony took place on April 5th with all tuition requests approved by the CPE.

University Budget Process

Given that the approved state appropriations for next fiscal year did not change from the amount estimated, the budget guidelines approved at the March Board of Regents meeting, and included in my April Faculty Senate Report, will be unchanged and are being utilized in establishing the 2006-07 budget.

NCAA Recertification Update

I am pleased to share with you the successful completion of the NCAA Peer Review Team site visit. During the exit interview on Tuesday morning, the team was very complimentary of ECU Intercollegiate Athletics in all areas, including academic integrity, compliance, and equity and student athlete welfare, as well as leadership at the institutional and intercollegiate athletics levels. A written report will be provided to us within the next two weeks.

Also, I wish to congratulate and express my appreciation to the NCAA Recertification Committee, chaired by Senator Larry Collins, for the hard work and dedication to this process.

Advancement and Capital Campaign Update

Our regional campaign events and visits continue to go very well. We have recently completed a successful trip to Washington, D.C., as well as several events across the Commonwealth. In addition, we are a few days away from what will be a very well-attended Alumni Weekend. While there are many events throughout the weekend, the highlights will be Faculty Regalia Day with the Rededication of the Keen Johnson Building on Friday afternoon and the Hall of Distinguished Alumni Banquet on Saturday evening when we will recognize our 2006 Class of Distinguished Alumni along with several other awards. I want to thank Senator Siegel and, especially, Dr. Hunter Hensley and his committee for all of their work to make the special event on Friday a reality.

I also hope you will enjoy the most recent issue of our *Alumni Magazine* which you should be receiving within the week. This issue continues our year-long celebration of Eastern's Centennial and will profile the reflections of several alumni and friends on Eastern's proud history.

Our phonathon and annual fund initiatives continue to go well as we near the end of our fiscal year. Annual Fund support is ahead of this time last year and plans are underway to ensure a strong last fiscal quarter. In addition, our new Circle of Opportunity initiative, which is designed to encourage support at the one thousand dollar level and up, is also going very well. Additionally, the capital campaign has surpassed \$13 million and our major gift officers continue to aggressively cover the country, meeting with prospective donors in an effort to continue to secure support for our campaign.

Alumni Weekend

I also wish to remind you of Alumni Weekend, April 28-30. Special events include Academic Regalia Day and the rededication of the Keen Johnson Building on the afternoon of April 28, 2006 and the Hall of Distinguished Alumni Induction Banquet on the evening of April 29, 2006.



At this time, I wish to personally acknowledge and express my appreciation to Senator Carolyn Siegel for her service and numerous hours of work and dedication as Chair of the Faculty Senate this year.

Also, I wish each of you a very successful completion of the spring semester and look forward to seeing you on Faculty Regalia Day for the rededication of Keen Johnson, at other Alumni Weekend events your schedule will permit you to attend, and for our commencement services on May 13.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing commitment to Eastern Kentucky University and your service on Faculty Senate.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne K. Glasser
President

