

To: Faculty Senate
From: Joanne K. Glasser
Re: President's Report
Date: September 7, 2006

As we begin the third week of the fall semester, I am looking forward to the first Faculty Senate meeting and the Faculty Senate dinner on Monday evening, September 11, 2006, 6:00 p.m. at Arlington. It will be wonderful to spend a relaxing evening with each of you and your guest. This will be an evening of good food and friendship, with no "shop" talk.

I wish to share with you the following information for my September report:

SACS Update

I am very pleased to report that the SACS Compliance Report, a critical component of the SACS reaffirmation process, is complete and has been submitted to the SACS and the SACS off-site review team. I want to thank faculty, chairs, deans, the SACS Leadership Team, the SACS Compliance Committee and subcommittees, and every member of the campus community who have been involved in this process. All of the work, dedication and commitment, you have devoted to meeting this important milestone is greatly valued. The next steps in the reaffirmation process include submitting our Quality Enhancement Plan on February 27, 2007, and the on-site review scheduled for April 10, 11, and 12, 2006. We expect to receive notice of our reaffirmation in December 2007.

Fall Enrollment

As classes began Monday, August 21, 2006, we had an overall enrollment of approximately 15,500 students, down slightly from a year ago at the same time. Credit-hour enrollment, however, is running even with last year, with credit-hour enrollment especially strong at our Corbin and Manchester campuses and in our on-line courses. Graduate enrollment will continue to be a focus. I have asked the Financial Aid Task Force to make recommendations for improvement to ensure that the University is more competitive in the recruitment and retention of graduate students.

Lancaster Higher Education Center

As I shared with you during Convocation, the New Lancaster Higher Education Center, a partnership between ECU and Bluegrass Community and Technical College, has opened. Eight classes are being offered this fall, and thirty students are enrolled in five ECU classes, taking a total of 90 credit hours.

Business and Technology Grand Opening

As you know, on Saturday, September 9, 2006, we will celebrate the official grand opening of our new Business and Technology Center. Governor Fletcher, Representative Moberly and Senator Worley will be bringing remarks at this very special event. This is

an exciting occasion, not only for our students, faculty and staff in the College of Business and Technology, but our entire region.

Provost Search

As I have previously shared with the campus community, the search for the permanent Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs began this summer with the appointment of a search committee. The committee has been meeting and the position announcement for the permanent provost has appeared in several national print and on-line forums. As it states in the position announcement, the committee will begin reviewing applications on September 25, with the goal of having finalists for on-campus interviews by the end of the semester. I will continue to keep you apprised as the search continues.

University Advancement and Capital Campaign Update

- Our capital campaign continues to make good progress with our total now at almost 14.8 million dollars. I and our development officers have a very aggressive travel schedule for this fall semester, continuing to focus our efforts on engaging alumni and friends in the life of the University and securing their support for the campaign;
- Our phonathon and annual fund efforts will be getting underway in the next few weeks. Student callers are being trained and several new annual fund efforts are planned for this fall. As you might recall, our phonathon/annual fund efforts generated nearly \$400,000 in gifts last fiscal year;
- Make plans now for Homecoming 2006 to be held this year on October 13th and 14th. Our alumni staff has worked with many, many alumni, friends, faculty, staff and students to plan a very exciting schedule of events. If you or your department would still like to plan an event for your alumni during homecoming, please contact the Alumni Office at 622-1260 for more information.
- In addition to the aggressive development schedule which I mentioned earlier, plans are underway for a significant number of regional alumni and friends events for this fall. Events are being planned in key areas in the Commonwealth and throughout the country for the purpose of advancing our capital campaign. Information about this fall's events schedule will be released once all details are finalized.

University Budget Process

The budget process is starting to get underway for next fiscal year, 2007-08. I have renewed my charge to the Budget Advisory Council and included in its membership this year two academic department chairs. Given the desire to have more time to explore departmental budgetary needs, the tentative calendar for this process includes intense focus and work by the Budget Advisory Council. A recommendation for tuition and

general budget guidelines, such as fixed cost increases and other initiative funding, is expected to be submitted to me by the end of this semester. At that point the focus will be on departmental budgets in terms of taking an additional step in evaluating operational needs. You will be hearing more about this from your deans and chairs and the budget office as this process continues to unfold.

Board of Regents Meeting

Following the Business and Technology Grand Opening on Saturday, we will have our first regularly scheduled Board of Regents meeting of the 2006-07 fiscal year. Three new Regents will be sworn-in on Saturday: Mr. Craig Turner, Mr. Steven Fulkerson, our staff Regent, and Mr. David Fifer, our student Regent. We are pleased to welcome Mr. Turner, Mr. Fulkerson and Mr. Fifer to our governing board.

I look forward to working with Faculty Senate Chair, Dr. David Eaken, and Vice-Chair, Dr. David May this year and express of my appreciation to both for their leadership.

Also, I wish each of you a very successful academic year and look forward to seeing you on Monday at both the Faculty Senate meeting and Faculty Senate dinner.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to Eastern Kentucky University and your service on Faculty Senate.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne K. Glasser
President