

- A. IBHE meetings occurred last week. Chancellors and Presidents met from all Illinois universities privately and then with IBHE officials. Discussion was mostly on whether there would be a legislative budget cut for 2013. Nothing definite at this point
- B. The discussion about Universities and their employees taking on some of the pension debt is still occurring. This did not happen in committee, but I personally encourage any of you that are active with politics to make sure your local politician understand how you feel about this situation and possible change.
- C. Approximately 15 months ago, a strategic plan process was begun. Many constituencies including the Carbondale community were involved. The document is now to the point where it needs feedback from the constituencies. Once the committee members are given the website I will have it forwarded to everyone, but the goal is for A/P staff to read the document, and then use the website to make comments on the document. The university is still early in this process, please note, no priority setting has taken place, etc. The document is just in the preparation stages.
- D. Chancellor indicated there are three lists to use for comparison sake. I found this validating due to all the best practices research required in my position and I use these lists many times. However, if any of you should need them, they are: IBHE has a peer list for SIU Carbondale. Southern @ 150 has a peer list and an aspiration peer list. It was interesting to hear her note that when you drill down to departments or auxiliary unit, there may be better institutions to aspire which excel in a particular area.
- E. The committee recommended that SIU Carbondale adopt a policy which all fiscal officers on campus begin and the dean/director level and go upward in administration. Personally I was surprised to find out this was not the case. For security purposes this will cover the University that has fiduciary responsibility of all funds including soft money grants, but also provide security to those with these funds so there is no accusations of misuse, it is another step in transparency, etc. If you have questions, Lorrie can offer a bit more detail in my absence.

#### BASIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. David Crain, SIU's new CIO, has joined university and will sit on this committee. He counted 120 different servers on campus.
2. Chancellor thanked those that gave their time to assist with Honor's Weekend. She was impressed with the number of outstanding students recognized over the weekend.
3. The Student Service building groundbreaking was on 4/16 for those of you that did not attend.
4. Tuesday, April 17, the Annual Town Hall meeting that highlights all campus research was held. Just a thought of mine, as a research university, A/P Council should probably do a better job next year of getting our students and ourselves to attend.
5. A first ever event celebrating SIU Carbondale authors occurred today, Wednesday, at the library. This will highlight many campus contributors whose disciplines do not have journals, etc yet they publish.
6. Mr. Mark Kelly, astronaut and husband of former congresswoman Gabrielle Gifford, will be the May 2012 commencement speaker. He presentation is entitled, "Endeavor to Succeed"