

## **MEMORANDUM**

Rodger Tedrick, Chair  
Board of Trustees  
Southern Illinois University

DATE: Tuesday, September 28, 2010

RE: **Presidential Annual Assessment 2009-2010**

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### **2010 Presidential Annual Assessment**

#### **I. Executive Summary**

The primary role and responsibility of the President is proposing and implementing University policy and providing effective budget priorities and management to accomplish Board policy. The most important goal for FY 2010 was the *provision of effective budget management and oversight for the system*. The President exceeded all expectations for this and related goals. (*Goal 7 Provide leadership on SIU economic development outreach to region and Goal 10 Oversee all SIU relationships with IBHE*).

Moreover, of the eleven (11) goals which the President and the Board of Trustees established, he has met or exceeded nine (9) of them. The remaining two (compliance and diversity) represented ongoing challenges that have been included in both the President's and campus goals for FY 2011. The Board is especially pleased with the leadership team which he has developed and maintained, most notably the selection of Dr. Rita Cheng as SIUC Chancellor. In addition, the President's enhanced leadership role in higher education, particularly his service as Co Chair of the Illinois Works Committee and members (only public university presidents) of the Illinois Race To The Top and P-20 Council has strengthened the SIU system and all of its constituent parts. The President's work on behalf of restoring funding for the Monetary Assistance Program ("MAP") not only benefitted the more than 8,000 SIU students who participate in the program at our various campuses, but the more than 150,000 students statewide who, but for this program, would most likely not have real access to a quality post secondary education. This effort is particularly relevant given the historic commitment SIU has made to providing access and opportunity to low and moderate income families as well as first generation students.

## **II. Assessment**

The President has indicated that the University remains strong, that its core missions remain viable, and that strong leadership is in place to address the challenges facing the University, the State, and the Nation. The Board concurs in the President's assessment and believes that the President's plan to continue strong budget management, continued external efforts to protect and increase funding, and an increased collaborative effort within and between each of the campuses and its constituent groups will be necessary to continue the viability of the University.

Fiscal year 2010 (FY 2010) was the most difficult financial year in the history of the University. In FY 2010 the University experienced unprecedented delays of tens of millions of dollars in state reimbursements (8 month delays), the imposition of additional state reserves (4%), the continuation of State unfunded mandates such as the Veterans' Program, which alone represented more than \$5 million in losses to the University in FY10. In spite of these realities, under the leadership of President Poshard, the University has managed this crisis without jeopardizing its core mission and programs, protected both faculty and staff from substantial layoffs and program reductions and simultaneously held true to the University's longstanding commitment and promise to providing access and affordability by enacting the FY10 tuition freeze.

Notwithstanding the financial challenges facing the State and the University, under the leadership of President Poshard, the University has successfully secured and implemented more than \$200 million in external and internal funds for much needed capital projects. These projects involved both new and renovation of current infrastructure, all of which were necessary to address the administrative, academic, public safety and access requirements at each of our campuses and to enhance the medical service efforts. For example, during FY 2010 the Simmons Cancer Institute was opened primarily through the external affairs efforts of the President and the funding necessary to operate was secured at a time when the state faced one of if not the most significant fiscal crisis in our state's history. A special state appropriation was received in late FY2010 to open the facility. Administrative and program staff were relocated to the SCI building in June 2010; clinic operations were opened in July 2010.

Moreover, during the President's tenure the University has now undergone more than \$400 million in state, federal and university funded capital projects resulting in such major new and renovated facilities as the SIUC Transportation and Education Center, the SIUE Science building and renovation, the Student Success Center at SIUE, the Morris Library renovation and addition, the National Corn to Ethanol Research Center renovation, the SIUC stadium and arena construction and renovation, as well as tens of millions of dollars in critically important deferred maintenance repair projects on all of our campuses.

## **II. Summary of 2010 President Goals**

The Board and the President established eleven (11) Presidential Goals for FY 2010. These goals include:

### **Presidential Goal 1: Hire a new SIUC Chancellor by end of Spring Semester 2010**

The President managed the search and selection process for a new SIUC chancellor in an inclusive and consultative manner. The process was flawless and with unquestioned integrity. The selection of Dr. Rita Cheng was the result of a comprehensive and unique national search process. Her selection was before the timeline established by the President and the Board, and was done without the cost of outside consultants.

### **Presidential Goal 2: Assume a greater leadership role in higher education**

The President exceeded all expectations related to this goal. He led the restoration of \$200 million in FY 10 state Monetary Award Program funding. He also led public university efforts to pass the first comprehensive capital bill in ten years, resulting in \$800 million in public university projects. Finally, he led public university efforts to enact statutory cash flow borrowing authority. This year marked a large step forward in terms of his involvement in state and national leadership in higher education. He organized two university lobbying campaigns in support of restoration of MAP funding. These campaigns were very successful and funding was restored.

The President has also continued federal lobbying for research by making numerous trips to Washington, D.C., as well as working with local congressmen to bring this need to their attention. Research monies at both campuses have continued to rise and he will continue these meetings throughout FY11.

The President led an effort to pass a short term emergency borrowing bill which will prevent severe personnel layoffs should those become a necessity. All universities in the state, most of which are six months behind in appropriations, eventually joined these efforts in support of this bill.

The Governor appointed the President as the only public university president to the statewide P-20 Council. This is an effort to articulate and coordinate a curriculum which prepares young people for the next grade, in particular the necessary academic accomplishments to attend a college or university. Both campuses have contributed greatly to this project, especially the Illinois Educational Research Council located on the Edwardsville campus. This is a major undertaking but will yield excellent results when this project is finished.

SIUC has worked diligently with the Congressional Delta Caucus stretching from southern Illinois to Louisiana. This Caucus exists for the purpose of bringing more federal support to this impoverished region. The President was invited this year to be one of the main speakers at the Caucus convention in Washington, D.C., to address the needs

of higher education among public universities with large numbers of low income students.

**Presidential Goal 3: Work with Chancellors to improve enrollment, retention and 6-year graduation rates**

SIUC:

With respect to SIUC, which has experienced declines in enrollment over the past several years, the President has authorized the new Chancellor to take all appropriate personnel actions necessary to assure implementation of the enrollment plan and has provided additional resources to the campus to meet Carbondale's distinctive enrollment, retention, and 6-year graduation rates goals. As a result of this delegation of authority, Dr. Cheng has made changes in personnel, including changes in the leadership of enrollment management.

Despite the enrollment problems, SIUC has made excellent progress this past year in numerous undertakings. Most significantly, the accreditation by the North Central Accrediting Agency yielded a very high evaluation of the University's progress.

SIUE:

The President has successfully fulfilled his role in achieving the goal of improving enrollment, retention, and 6-year graduation rates. The primary role, in this regard of the President, is to assure that the appropriate resources and personnel are available to the campuses in their distinctive efforts to achieve this goal. In the case of SIUE, Edwardsville has completed each of the objectives under this goal. Fall enrollment data indicates a 2% enrollment increase compared to this time last year, resulting in more than 14,000 students at SIUE.

**Presidential Goal 4: Work with Chancellors to oversee campus land-use plans and overall infrastructure maintenance and development**

Outstanding progress was made this year with respect to the efforts of each campuses' land use plans and infrastructure efforts.

SIUC:

The new football stadium, part of the overall SIU land use plan, has been completed successfully, on time and under budget, and has opened to rave reviews by conference officials, the media, and the University community in general. The renovation of the arena phase continues on time and within budget as well.

Under the leadership of the President, the University was able to get final funding for the Transportation Education Center during this past year and there are no impediments to the beginning of construction.

The final renovation of Morris Library has been completed and an additional \$17 million was received in the capital bill. These funds will be used for book storage, etc. on the top two floors.

The President successfully lobbied for and the University received more than \$600,000 in operating funds for the SIU Simmons Cancer Institute for FY 10. The University is now positioned to receive \$1.2 million annualized for the operations of the Cancer Institute for FY11.

The capital bill also included \$10 million for deferred maintenance for both campuses and an additional \$3.5 million for planning expansion to the Communications Building.

SIUE:

The new Science Building, a \$70 million plus project, is nearly at the point of bid completion and beginning construction. Many additional building projects on the Edwardsville campus including GIS/Biology Labs, a new Student Services Success Center, Student Fitness Center, renovation of the Vadalabene Center, renovation of the Early Childhood Center, and preparation for the new Art and Science Building have been accomplished.

These projects for the University system total hundreds of millions of dollars of new construction work in southern Illinois, providing an economic boost to the entire area.

**Presidential Goal 5: Implement compliance and risk management program**

Internal Audit developed a five phase approach to the implementation of a risk based audit plan for the University. Phases I (identification of auditable units) and II (identification of risk categories) were completed in April 2009. Internal Audit distributed a self risk assessment survey to each auditable unit on each campus (377 units) in June, and received 97% of those back in July, which concluded phase III of the implementation. Internal Audit evaluated the results of the self risk assessments and quantified the risk carried by each unit (phase IV) during the month of August. The processes were completed when a two year (FY10/11) risk based audit plan was submitted to and approved by the President in September 2009. The next University wide self risk assessment process will be conducted in the Spring of 2011.

**Presidential Goal 6: Increase diversity**

The vast majority of opportunities and decisions in this area are made at various levels of the campus and as such, the President's role and responsibility in this area has been to provide overall support and guidance to each of the campuses, clarification and enforcement of policy related to diversity and affirmative action, and to work with the campuses to assure compliance with Board of Trustee policy as well as relevant state and federal laws and regulation governing this area. During the past year, the University has not been the subject of material federal or state litigation in this area and the campuses have shown some progress in meeting various diversity goals.

This year, the President also promoted the University's General Counsel to the position of Vice President, one of only three such positions within the SIU system.

**Presidential Goal 7: Provide leadership on SIU economic development outreach to region**

The President has served as the chief spokesperson for the Southern Illinois region and has either led or has been a primary participant in bringing jobs, infrastructure, and other public and private resources to the region. These efforts have included the Marion Destination Development Project, Connect SI, as well as the continuation of the Coal Research and Development Center and the National Corn to Ethanol Research Center on the Edwardsville campus.

**Presidential Goal 8: Provide effective budget management and oversight for system**

The President has exceeded all expectations related to this goal. The achievements are included in the executive summary. This year, FY10, has required exceptional attention to budget management and cash flow issues.

**Presidential Goal 9 and 10: Provide oversight to General Counsel on all legal affairs facing SIU and Oversee all SIU relationships with IBHE**

The President has provided the direction and oversight to each of the executive officers including the Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Vice President and General Counsel, Executive Director for Intergovernmental and Public Affairs, and the Internal Auditor. In particular, the University has been successful in each of the material law suites and has not experienced any major adverse legal or regulatory verdicts or findings. The President established as a priority policy and compliance reviews and, under his direction, the Office of General Counsel and the Office of Academic Affairs have completed or initiated major policy review and revision in such areas as sexual harassment, academic honesty, and the realignment of University goals with the Illinois Board of Higher Education Public Agenda.

**Presidential Goal 11: Strengthen the SIU system by building cooperation between both campuses**

The SIU System is stronger today than it has been in the past. The basis of this enhanced strength is the stronger financial and program relationships between the campuses as evidenced by the \$500,000 FY 10 non-ramp grant to fund the SIUC/SIUE nursing initiative. The University has not been the subject of legislative attempts to separate the two institutions and the fiscal challenges have demonstrated the necessity for more cooperative initiatives between the two campuses.

### **III. Conclusions**

The Board of Trustees of Southern Illinois University is especially pleased with the performance of the President for Fiscal Year 2010, particularly as it relates to his efforts to protect critical University programs and enhance capital funding for the University. The Board provided a mandate for stronger State and National leadership and the President has exceeded all expectations in this regard.