

Take Five

November 23, 2015

This Week in Academic Affairs



With Thanksgiving on the way, I thought I would take this opportunity to give thanks. Since my arrival in April, many of you have earned my thanks in a variety of ways. I won't try to thank all of you by name, but let me mention a few things that have been particularly meaningful to me. First, I am very thankful for all of the positive energy I have felt here at IU Kokomo. Just last week, I was having lunch with one of you—something I try to do now and then and want to continue doing—and he mentioned that he was a positive person. That's who I am, too. I know that bad, even tragic things happen, and I hope I can help to prevent more from happening, but I tend to “accentuate the positive,” as the old song goes. Positivity—in the form of initiative, participation, even just smiles and jokes—energize me, and I think they help to create a productive workplace. Besides, it just feels good to be in a positive place. Second, I deeply appreciate the work that so many faculty, staff, and students are doing to sustain and develop this university. As you may have noticed, I like to build things, improve things, take them, as I sometimes say, to the next level. In the last six months, I have frequently called on many of you to write articles for the media, interview scholarship candidates, serve on search committees, help craft the Kokomo Experience, give presentations at the August retreat—well, maybe I should stop there. Suffice to say, I have asked a lot, you have responded, and our students and communities have been—or will be—the beneficiaries. Finally, let me thank all of you who have answered my questions, offered assistance, helped me move into my office, even given me lifts before my family moved up here with our car! Thank you, colleagues and friends, for everything you have done for me and for IU Kokomo.



Last week's J.I.V.E. (Job, Internship, Volunteer Extravaganza) was the biggest in IU Kokomo's history. Some 200 students attended the event, which featured more than 70 booths.

This Week at IU Kokomo

11/24: Women's Basketball Game (3 p.m., Cougar Gym)

11/26-11/27: Thanksgiving Break

11/28: Men's and Women's Basketball Games (1 and 3 p.m., Cougar Gym)

Kudos for Kokomojo

- Tracy Springer, Ashlee Shoaff, and many others helped to make last week's J.I.V.E. a huge success. (See the picture above.)
- Last week, we honored Michael Tulley and John Ross, who are retiring from IU Kokomo. Thank you, Michael and John, for all that you have done for our university.
- We had a terrific turnout of faculty and staff on VIP day, both at the morning session and at lunch. Thanks for helping us to put a great face on IU Kokomo for students and parents.
- Mo Almalag is providing a venue where students and alumni can put their computing skills to work. Thanks, Mo, for supporting our students with this great opportunity.