

**IU Northwest Council Meeting Notes**  
**Meeting Held Tuesday, September 8, 2020**

**Strategic Priorities & Objectives:**  
**#1 Student Success; #2 Valuing People; #3 Leveraging Diversity for Inclusive Excellence;**  
**#4 Building & Sustaining Community; #5 Financial Stewardship & Infrastructure**

Meeting notes from the August 2020 Council meeting were provided to Council members.

**I. Chancellor's Updates**

Chancellor Iwama reiterated that Council meetings will address big-picture items, taking a more global and holistic approach to moving the campus forward. The intent is not to eliminate conversations or standing reports from Council meetings, and he encouraged members to include items on the agenda, that refer to Council deliberations, by contacting him at [kiwama@iun.edu](mailto:kiwama@iun.edu) or Kathy Malone at [kalmalon@iun.edu](mailto:kalmalon@iun.edu).

Enrollment Census (*statistics cited were effective September 8, 2020*)

At the end of census, enrollment was down 2% in headcount, but credit hours were higher than post-COVID projections. Addressing questions regarding race and ethnicity of currently enrolled students, Dorothy Frink cited that Latinx/Hispanic enrolled students are at 25.3%, remaining the same as last year, and Black and African American student enrollment declined and is at 17%. Seventy-five percent of students are full-time, which is a decline of 1.3%, and beginning student enrollment is down 3.4%. Chancellor Iwama thanked everyone for their hard work and remarked that overall, especially considering the current reality, enrollment statistics are very encouraging and reflective of the campus slogan "we are all in this together." The campus is experiencing remarkable enrollment results in a very challenging time, and the focus on enrollment will continue for the spring 2021 semester, implementing strategies needed and lessons learned.

Restart Committee

Executive Vice Chancellor Román-Lagunas provided an update on campus COVID-19 mitigation testing efforts. Some campus constituents, mostly students, are not fully complying with required random testing, and non-compliance mandates, for those who do not report for testing, while not preferable, are being considered. Dr. Román-Lagunas thanked the School of Nursing for agreeing to conduct testing, and for the professional service and set-up provided in the Moraine Student Center testing area. She also acknowledged Amy Bluhm's leadership in moving the initiative forward. It was noted that instructions for testing at the site needed to be clarified. Communication efforts regarding testing are ongoing, and a video was produced to illustrate and clarify testing procedures.

**II. Student Government Association Update**

The revised peer mentoring program, which includes introductory Biology students, has produced a strong group of sophomore mentors paired with a strong group of freshman mentees, resulting in a positive outcome. Considering the limited social interaction for students, helpful resources, including conversations and discussions focusing on the mental health aspect of remote learning and working, are provided to students by SGA to raise awareness about the importance and promotion of good mental health.

To encourage students to vote in the November election, the SGA will virtually highlight voter registration, and invite voter registration representatives to campus.

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Non-compliance sanctions are being considered because students are congregating in areas on campus, not observing social distancing guidelines, and not wearing masks, particularly on the third floor of the Library which is a quiet floor. With regard to mask compliance, Angad Sidhu commented that students do not feel comfortable “policing” their peers. Signage is helpful as a friendly, constant reminder to wear masks, and will be placed on tables in the Library and in other campus areas.

**III. 2019 Campus Research Summary**

Vice Chancellor Gabbert led the review of survey results from a 2019 Campus Research Summary of data, compiled in 2018 by IU Studios, which examines student mindset regarding perception and value of IU Northwest. IU Studios was interested in learning more about all regional campuses to understand the perspectives of prospective and current students. A goal was to identify key attributes to best position each campus, among their competitors, for use with enrollment and retention. This data will also be used to support the efforts of regional campuses to address the higher education enrollment cliff, identify opportunities for growth and innovation, and as a communications and marketing tool related to enrollment initiatives. Council members discussed the survey results in detail, and agreed that the Research Summary speaks to the perceptions of some students, and will be helpful to define who we are moving forward. Unique IU Northwest value points identified include prestigious IU degree, affordable, diverse campus, intimate/close relationship with faculty, small class sizes, purpose driven, opportunity and flourishing. The top ten words used to describe IU Northwest included diverse, friendly, welcoming, affordable, flexible, helpful, challenging, encouraging, opportunity and fun. Ultimately, the campus will determine campus value and message point, but the summary results were helpful and thought provoking as the campus moves forward with strategic planning efforts.

**IV. Chancellor’s campus-wide conversations (purpose and process)**

With a focus on strategic planning, Chancellor Iwama will conduct conversations with faculty, staff and students, and has already met with Faculty Organization representatives, and Executive Vice Chancellor Román-Lagunas, to determine the best approach to promote campus enthusiasm and gain honest feedback through discussion and engagement.

**V. Office of Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs (ODEMA)**

- **IU Pandemic Health Disparities Fund**

The Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Multicultural Affairs created a pandemic health disparities fund for students, who are impacted by the pandemic, to apply for emergency funds. Currently, all allocated funds have been distributed and, if students are still in need of assistance, they are encouraged to visit their local offices of Student Affairs or Financial Aid.

- **Antiracist Agenda**

IU Provost Professor Lemuel Watson, has been named associate vice president for diversity, equity and multicultural affairs, and is working with Vice President James Winbush. James Wallace shared details of an antiracist framework that OVPDEMA established, which describes IU’s approach to address racism, and how they will proceed in this regard going forward. The antiracist agenda describes how we educate, how we serve to advance IU’s culture of belonging, and how we will do business. Council members were encouraged to review the document, which can be found at the link below, and will be discussed at the October Council meeting. <https://diversity.iu.edu/doc/anti-racist/antiracist-agenda-framework-final.pdf>

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- Annual Report

Each year the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs produces an annual report which explains certain diversity metrics at all campuses. Elizabeth Blevins, the Associate VP of Marketing for OVPDEMA, reaches out to the campus diversity officers for narratives to explain the numbers. James provided the 2019 IU Northwest Annual Review outline, which includes the data and a narrative explaining steps IU Northwest is taking to address the opportunities presented by the data. He asked Council members to review what has been prepared for inclusion in the 2020 Annual Report and provide feedback. A link to the 2018-19 IU Annual Report follows, and information specific to IU Northwest is on pages 14, 15, 28 & 29: [2018-19 Diversity Annual Report](#) .

**VI. Microaggressions concerning students and staff of color**

This topic will be discussed at October meeting.

**VII. Other Business**