Fall 2013 Wrap-Up

The Fall semester is coming to a close. Our students are preparing for final exams and commencement is just around the corner. Together we made significant strides this semester toward realizing our Strategic Plan, Academic Master Plan, and Campus Master Plan. The Academic Reorganization process is just wrapping up with the final report now being transmitted to the Provost. Dr. Saunders is planning an early spring academic leadership retreat to review the recommendations and begin implementation. I am pleased by the campus engagement and dialogue around this important topic and I look forward to the reorganization.

We have also made great strides in preparing a comprehensive Diversity and Inclusion plan for UWF, a robust Enrollment and Recruitment Plan, and implementing new retention initiatives. Much work was conducted for our reaffirmation of accreditation by SACS/COC and toward development of our Quality Enhancement Plan. Our 50th anniversary capital campaign is moving forward; we began our 14th sport Swimming and Diving, and announced the addition of Football for Fall 2016. We made investments in our faculty and staff through legislative increases, faculty equity, and a lump sum bonus. All of these...
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Employee Equity and Compression Rolls Out in January

I am pleased to invest $100,000 in employee equity and compression for 2013/14. The goal of this process and investment is to identify appropriate benchmark salaries for university workforce staff and out-of-unit faculty and make strides toward reaching those salaries. That can’t be fully accomplished this year, but we will start this year. A representative team worked this year to develop a model for distribution and the funds will be distributed in the January 24th paychecks. Human Resources completed a yearlong review of benchmark data and job descriptions to determine eligibility. Every university workforce staff member and non-unit faculty will receive a letter with their specific details and eligibility the week of January 20, 2014. Please visit the Human Resources website for details and FAQ’s.

Commencement is next Saturday, December 14, and that is where we recognize our most important achievements, our graduates. This semester we will confer 963 degrees and these students are now prepared to enter into the professional workforce. The graduating class ranges in age from 19 to 74, hail from 23 different nations around the globe, come from 33 states and 51 Florida counties, 64% are female, and the graduating class is 26.9% ethnically diverse. This is a joyous time of celebration and I hope that each of you have a healthy, safe, and restful holiday season.

UWF Announces Student Referral Program

Please take time to refer potential UWF undergraduate students through the new Future Argonaut Referral (FAR) Program. Prospective students referred through the program will receive admissions materials appropriate for their high school graduation year, and if they have not yet applied to UWF their application fee will be waived. Referrals are accepted for students in their first year of high school through the fall semester of their senior year. Additional information including an overview of the program, a list of frequently asked questions, and the referral form is located at uwf.im/futureargo.
UWF Presidential News is published during the Fall and Spring semesters by the President’s Office. The publication’s purpose is to inform faculty and staff about the school’s progress and accomplishments.