First Friday.....August 2, 2013 (Back to School Edition)

It is Back to School time at IUSD as August ramps up all of our academic programs for the fall term. First year DDS students began orientation July 8th and have spent the summer weeks engaged in study while the remaining three DDS classes have a staggered schedule over the summer. Advanced education students began July 1, 2013 and allied students will startup in August. A new addition for the fall is the initial cohort of International Dental students as part of the new IDP program. Total fall enrollment for all programs tops out at almost 660. I hope many of you have had an opportunity to take some vacation and “recreate” in preparation for a very busy fall term. I was fortunate to spend some time in the backwoods on the waters of French River Ontario recharging my batteries for the new academic year (see photo). This fall provides new opportunities to advance the Vision of IUSD to make Indiana University School of Dentistry one of the best dental schools of the 21st century.

- IUSD Accreditation Site Visit....just...39 days away!

After many months of preparation of self studies and assembling documentation, many committee meetings, painting and remodeling various areas of the dental school, it is almost time for our September (10-12) 2013 site visit by the CODA team who will be conducting an on-site review of all academic programs accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Last minute details are coming together very nicely under the continuing leadership of Dr. Christianne Guba. On August 20 and 21, we will be conducting a Mock Site Visit run through of the entire predoctoral schedule so that participants understand the types of questions they may be asked when participating in the site visit process. Understanding the terminology and definitions used by the CODA site visitors as outlined in the various self-study guidelines is an important part of institutional preparation for a site visit. [See side bar for more information.]

So why do dental schools go to this much time and effort to prepare for an accreditation site visit? It is simple-- to assure to the public of a quality educational program. In addition to the emphasis on quality, the Accreditation Standards for Dental Education Programs are designed to meet the following goals:

1. to protect the public welfare;
2. to promote an educational environment that fosters innovation and continuous improvement;
3. to guide institutions in developing their academic programs;
4. to guide site visit teams in making judgments regarding the quality of the program and;
5. to provide students with reasonable assurance that the program is meeting its stated objectives.

IUSD has done a great job preparing, and I thank each of you for your efforts!
• **IUPUI Strategic Plan 2025**

A major emphasis for the past academic year has been the creation of an IUPUI campus Strategic Plan 2025. The focus of the plan was to address 3 questions for the campus: 1. What will distinguish us (IUPUI) from other universities? 2. What are the assets we can leverage to accomplish this? 3. What are the challenges we face? The time horizon was set for 2025 which is consistent with state and Foundation deadlines for improving educational and societal outcomes for the state of Indiana. Three central themes were developed and include the alignment around the campus vision statement: the success of our students; advances in health and life sciences; and for the well-being of the citizens of Indianapolis, the state of Indiana, and beyond. The health and life science theme is what we do in dentistry and will be reviewing the IUPUI Strategic Plan 2025 with an attention to create alignment of what we do at IUSD with the themes, goals and objectives for the IUPUI campus. The IUPUI Strategic Plan 2025 also fits nicely with the IU New Academic Directions document and our own preliminary work being conducted by several IUSD Task Forces on Admissions, Academic and Clinical Education as well as the Task Force on Dental Hygiene education. Following our accreditation site visit next month, I will be outlining the next steps in our own planning process to establish the next 3 year plan for IUSD. The confluence of New Academic directions, the IUPUI Strategic Plan 2015, accreditation site visit and the review of our non-accredited programs gives us an excellent background to move forward as we strive to reach the Vision of IUSD to make Indiana University School of Dentistry one of the best dental schools of the 21st century.

• **New Building Fundraising...Stands at $1.6 million**

As of the end of July, I am pleased to share with you the continued progress the dental school is making toward raising money toward the new building Phase 1 goal of $3M. With $1.6M pledged or committed, we are well on our way to reach the goal by December 2013. Please contact John Hoffman for giving details.

• **The Mindset List ....Beloit College**

The Mindset List 2016 was created at Beloit College (Wisconsin) in 1998 to reflect annually the world view of entering first year students. What started as a witty way of saying to faculty colleagues "watch your references," has turned into a global faculty guide to understand the unprepared adolescent consciousness. Students starting IUSD this year were born into cyberspace and they have therefore measured their output in the fundamental particles of life: bits, bytes, and bauds. Click the hyperlink above for the full Mindset list.

• **Upcoming IUSD Events**

  - Saturday, August 10th – White Coat Ceremony for D1 students (Campus Center 4th Fl)
  - Friday, August 16th – Faculty Appreciation and Orientation Day (Towers Ballroom-IUPUI)
  - Tues/Wednesday, August 20 & 21 – Mock Site Visit- Predoctoral Accreditation

**First Friday Social**

From Staff President Terry Wilson “Just a reminder that this Friday is August 2, and as such IUSD Staff Council will again be hosting Dean Williams’ “First Friday Social” starting at 7:30 am in the basement student lounge with complimentary coffee and donuts.”

Thanks to each of you for your dedication and support of the Vision and Mission of IUSD. I’ll be back next month with another edition of First Friday...Dean’s Update. Have a great fall term!

Check out all the current IUSD News on our website or at: http://www.iusd.iupui.edu/

-John