First Friday.....January 10, 2014

Happy New Year to all! I trust you had a nice holiday break and are ready to engage in planning and actions to propel IUSD forward in 2014. A new year provides new opportunities to advance our mission and activities. Now that all the preparatory work of accreditation is behind us, we have greater flexibility to restructure our programs and facilities to enhance what we do. In addition to managing those things now in place as a result of our self-study, such as a better comprehensive program assessment, we will outline our collective goals and aspirations for the next 5 years as we formulate our new IUSD Strategic Plan 2014-19 and consider dental school facility options for the next 40 years. How we respond and position the IU dental school within the complex environment of dental education and practice will advance our Mission and the Vision of IUSD to make Indiana..... one of the best dental schools of the 21st century. Wishing each of you a glorious new year in 2014!

- **IUSD -- Slow Start to the New Year**

The severe winter weather and bitter cold have slowed our start to the spring (winter) semester which we had planned to begin Monday, January 6th! Besides having the entire IUPUI campus closed on Monday and Tuesday, as things “warmed up” we had a very serious break in a waterline which resulted in flooding to the main electrical panels and fire control systems for the 3 contiguous dental buildings so we closed the building on Wednesday and Thursday to have repairs made. The dental school was reopened for classes and clinics today- Friday. I appreciate the prompt attention to the building repairs by the IUPUI maintenance team and everyone’s flexibility during this “challenging” wintry start to 2014.

- **January Faculty Orientation & Appreciation – Tower Ballroom**

January 3, 2013 marked the all faculty invitational to attend the Spring Semester Orientation and Appreciation program at the IUPUI Tower Ballroom. The program provided updates for the spring semester with special emphasis on Strategic Planning for 2014-19 as the dental school aligns future plans with those outlined in the IUPUI campus Strategic Plan.

- **Dental Facilities and Building Project Update**

One of several things I did over the holiday break was to re-read the IUPUI and Academic Medical Center Master Plans (not word for word, actually but the pertinent sections)! You can access this fascinating document [here](http://www.ada.org/194.aspx). The stimulus for re-reading these plans was the Indiana Alumni magazine (Winter 2013) which highlighted the future thinking about IUPUI and the plans for campus transformation. One the items under discussion is the IUPUI Master Plan- Integrated Plan for Academic Medical Center Campus (February 2012). This document outlines several recommendations summarized for health programs below:
Recommendation: Given continuing changes in medical education, research, and healthcare delivery requires even greater integration and physical collocation of facilities for the Academic Medical Center campus. Present research and healthcare facilities lack the capacity to accommodate future growth and projected space needs.

Recommendation: Continue coordinated planning and sharing of resources between IUPUI and IU Health across all Academic Medical Center campus districts and properties, for the optimum strategic alignment and functional adjacency between future research, health sciences education, and healthcare facilities.

Recommendation: Through strategic phasing of new construction, demolition, and redevelopment of sites, create new facilities and renovate existing structures to provide adequate space for future growth of the Academic Medical Center campus, in proximity to existing hospitals and research facilities.

Last month, I shared with you the exciting possibility of acquiring some or all of a soon to be former Wishard clinical building. We have been informed of a potential opportunity to assume the current Wishard Primary Care Clinical (WPCC) building (approx. 100,000 sq. ft.). This four story building with a basement connects to other health care buildings through a series of underground tunnels. We are now seriously beginning to study the feasibility of relocating programs to this site. After considerable discussion, it appears to make the most sense to explore in earnest the total relocation of the dental school operation to this new area on campus. No final decisions have been made to relocate any program/s, but we did make the conscientious decision on November 22nd to take the next steps in working with an architect to explore “what if” and obtain some preliminary design and cost estimates. The dialogue continues and all ideas are welcome. I invite you to contact me directly with your thoughts, ideas or concerns. We are targeting spring 2014 to have a better understanding of our options.

- New Building Fundraising Approaches $3.7 million!!
As of January 8th, I am extremely pleased to report the tremendous progress the dental school is making toward our initial fundraising goal of $3 million as part of the new clinical building facilities project. Through the generosity of our alumni and supporters, we have secured almost $3.7 million in gifts and pledges taking us over the initial $3 million mark before our December 31, 2013 deadline. We continue to raise money and John Hoffman is standing by to take your calls and pledge cards! Thank you so very much for supporting IUSD!

- IUSD Has a New Website for 2014
Check out the new and improved IUSD website created with the new Indiana University marketing themes

Thank you for your continued dedication and support of the Vision and Mission of IUSD. I’ll be back next month with the 2014 February edition of First Friday...Dean’s Update.

Wishing each of you a glorious New Year in 2014!

-A HAPPY NEW YEAR-

-John

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