Dear Campus Community,

“Young people, prepare yourselves as best you can for a world that grows more challenging every day — get the best education you can, and couple that education with real-life experience in social justice work.”

Julian Bond, civil rights activist and former chairman of the NAACP, shared thoughts like these as the keynote speaker of Bloomsburg University’s 20th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Banquet. A short documentary on Mr. Bond’s presentations at BU can be found here.

Bloomsburg continues to take an innovative approach to helping our students meet today’s challenges. Through the revised general education program model known as MyCore, new academic programs and majors, and an increased focus on career exploration, we are empowering and equipping our students to become involved and apply practical knowledge.

This semester, we are developing additional educational opportunities and partnerships to benefit our students, including the centralized coordination of the Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Arts Office and the Professional U program.

As always, I look forward to hearing your suggestions and feedback for future communications.

David L. Soltz
President, Bloomsburg University
The University-Wide Climate Survey, conducted in fall 2012 by the Office of Planning and Assessment, received 2,113 responses.

“Climate” is the atmosphere of an organization as perceived by its members. An organization’s climate is reflected in its structures, policies and practices; the demographics of its members; the attitudes and values of its members and leaders; and the quality of personal interactions. It includes perceptions of inclusiveness, friendliness, cooperation, professionalism, recognition, support and opportunities for advancement.

The survey included items about overall satisfaction at the university, evaluation of the work environment and leadership, access to and satisfaction with academic resources, and support and career development issues such as promotion, tenure, mentoring and retention. Findings from this survey build on earlier efforts to provide a benchmark for Bloomsburg University and gauge current perceptions. Results and final recommendations will be used to prioritize and implement changes to foster a diverse and inclusive campus community.

The Preliminary Report will be posted to the Campus Climate web page (www.bloomu.edu/campus_climate) for members of the campus community to review and provide comments. A campus wide email with the link to the report will be sent in March.
A focus on undergraduate research

Bloomsburg University’s Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity (URSCA) awards program introduces students to research under the guidance of faculty mentors. Administered by the Office of Sponsored Research and Grants, the URSCA program promotes high-level student-learning outcomes through experiences outside the classroom. The goal is to establish a university-wide, sustainable model for undergraduate research on campus.

The URSCA award provides opportunities for students to work closely with faculty in the humanities, arts, social sciences, life sciences, mathematics, physical sciences and education. Students experience the process of research and scholarship as a creative intellectual activity.

The program is open to all undergraduate students enrolled at Bloomsburg University. The URSCA award provides stipend support of up to $6,000 to students during their summer undergraduate research, scholarship or creative activity. Check the URSCA page (www.bloomu.edu/ursca) for a full description with eligibility requirements.

URSCA is modeled on the grant-seeking process:

- Students collaborate with potential faculty mentors to define and develop a project.
- Applicants write research proposals for their projects.
- A faculty committee reviews the proposals and recommends awards.
- Students carry out the work during the 12-week summer session, May 9 to Aug. 20, 2013.
- Students submit a summary or technical paper or provide a poster or oral presentation at the spring research day.

Through their participation in an undergraduate research project, students will be able to:

- Apply information on human cultures and the physical and natural world to scholarly or creative endeavors.
- Apply intellectual and practical skills to scholarly or creative endeavors.
- Apply ethical reasoning to scholarly or creative endeavors.
- Refine one’s self-identity in a career or profession.
- Use written and oral communication at a level expected of young professionals in scholarly or creative careers.
- Work collaboratively in a team setting to achieve a scholarly or creative objective.

STEM Magnet Program

Bloomsburg University’s College of Education is working with the superintendents of three school districts – Berwick Area, Central Columbia and Bloomsburg – to establish a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Magnet Program at BU. This new program, scheduled to open in fall 2013, will allow high-achieving high school juniors and seniors to get a head start on a college career in the STEM disciplines. The program will focus on engineering, but also give students interested in math or other sciences the tools needed to be successful in college. Examples of classes at BU will include: Computer Science, Coding, Engineering Sampler, Engineering Seminar, Calculus I or II, Physics I, Physics II, Technical Writing, Economics and Ethics.

More information at: www.bloomu.edu/stem.
Facilities Master Plan

Bloomsburg University is now about halfway through the facilities master planning effort. Stantec, master planning consultants, held focus group meetings with students, academic and administrative staff to get their viewpoints regarding the Student Union building and campus housing.

Most fall and winter work focused on campus physical and operational information. Stantec gathered data on student registration; classroom schedule, use and occupancy; residential space use and occupancy; overall campus space use and assignment; and campus building physical conditions and functionality. Data collection and analysis, combined with campus community feedback, is integral to a successful facilities master plan.

During the spring semester, Stantec will develop, present and review larger concepts for campus development possibilities and options with the Master Plan Committee. Through this process, individual ideas and concepts will be merged and modified to provide Bloomsburg’s unique master plan vision.

Join the conversation at facebook.com/31!BloomsburgCampusPlan or follow #BUCampusPlan on Twitter.

SAP Travel Management Update

PASSHE Shared Administrative Systems staff, in collaboration with pilot groups from Bloomsburg and Kutztown universities, is continuing to develop a SAP travel management module. The module will allow for automated travel approval and expense processing using SAP portal workflow functionality.

Due to the complexity of the configuration and workflow design, the roll-out has been pushed back to fall 2013. End users will be trained in phases with full campus implementation expected by early 2014. The goal is to deliver functionality that will be user-friendly for travelers and approvers and make the process more efficient.

Printing Services

The Duplicating Department is upgrading its legacy print request and management system to a new software platform from Rochester Software Associates called WebCRD. This new system has been piloted with a group of power users over the past few months to ensure it is configured correctly.

This new web-based platform will allow users to configure requests more efficiently, utilize pre-built templates, review pricing as jobs are submitted and be notified via email when production is complete. Prior jobs can be copied and resubmitted and requests can be submitted directly to Duplicating from most Microsoft Office applications.

Bloomsburg University Police

Missing person contact information has gone paperless.

A dedicated, secure database where students enter contact information themselves was implemented for the spring 2013 semester. Students were informed of the new process via email and their ISIS account. In addition to going green, the new system offers students a convenient means for updating their information.

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Jeanne Clery Act) requires postsecondary institutions with on-campus student housing facilities to comply with regulations regarding students reported missing. The regulations require institutions to give each student who lives on campus the option of identifying one or more contact persons who will be notified within 24 hours if institutional police or the local law enforcement agency determine the student is missing. This process is in addition to any other emergency contact information the institution gathers.
Peer career pilots

The Career Development Center (CDC) is hiring career pilots — student leaders who provide basic career-related guidance on topics such as résumé and cover letter composition, interview preparation and career exploration.

The CDC is co-sponsoring the inaugural Senior Transitions Conference to help improve or enhance key skills they will need following graduation. Sessions include: What to Wear and What Not to Wear to the Job Interview, Networking, Dining Etiquette and Mock Interviews with HR Representatives, Evaluating the Job Offer and Benefits Package, Credit & FICO Scores and Office Politics 101.

The overnight conference in Williamsport is a collaborative effort between Lycoming College, Bloomsburg, East Stroudsburg, Lock Haven, Mansfield and Susquehanna universities. PSECU is a co-sponsor.

Scranton Commons Eateries

The new Starbucks and Subway (above) opened for business Jan. 28. These new food venues are located on the lower levels of the Scranton Commons adjacent to the outside plaza.

Elwell Renovation

Summer 2013 will see construction in the west wing of Elwell Residence Hall and the final phase of the renovation project, Phase 4. Similar to the east wing work completed in August 2011, all bathrooms will be gutted and fully rebuilt with new ceramic tile, new sink and toilet fixtures and individual shower units. The project also features new floor tile in rooms, new hallway carpeting, and new heating and cooling units with individual room control. Multiple, suite-style living areas will be created in the basement level. The work will start in May and be complete for August 2013 move in.
Proficient graduates with the ability to apply practical knowledge their first day on the job are in high demand by employers. Yet, classroom knowledge alone is not sufficient to fully develop these skills. Internships and experiential learning opportunities lend the polish young graduates need to be successful as they begin their careers.

To meet the demand for graduates who can compete in the new economy, Bloomsburg University developed Professional U. Professional U is a new program which engages students, alumni and organizational partners in experiences to foster career maturity and lead to personal and professional success. The program merges the offices of alumni affairs and academic internships to provide students with career-related experiential learning opportunities each year they are enrolled at BU. The newly formed Office of Alumni Engagement and Affairs and Academic Internships will partner with faculty to provide experiences that complement the academic preparation students receive in the classroom. The goal is to ensure every Bloomsburg University student graduates with relevant work experience and a professional network — two key factors in securing meaningful employment or admission to a post-graduate or professional school.
The Henry Carver Fund Challenge

Terry Zeigler ’76, President/CEO of Datacap Systems Inc., Chalfont, and his wife, JoAnn Schultz Zeigler ’77, are challenging faculty, staff, alumni and friends of Bloomsburg University to make a new investment in students through the Zeigler Henry Carver Fund Challenge. The HCF Challenge is the Zeiglers’ special initiative to match donations and raise a potential $200,000 for the Henry Carver Fund (www.bloomufdn.org/hc), the university’s annual fund. The challenge is all or nothing, and no gift is too small to count toward the $100,000 goal.

If new and increased donations to the Henry Carver Fund reach $100,000 by June 30, 2013, the Zeiglers will match these gifts with a $100,000 donation, doubling the total raised to $200,000. Loyal Henry Carver Fund donors may participate in the challenge by increasing the size of their gift over last year’s donation. The amount of your increased gift will be counted toward the match goal.

The Zeiglers believe gifts to the Henry Carver Fund are an investment in today’s students. While dollars raised for the university’s endowment provide for long-term needs, gifts to the annual fund have an immediate impact by supporting student scholarships; student, faculty and staff research and travel; student programming; and opportunities for students to network and engage with alumni. As Terry Zeigler says, “The challenge is a win for the university, students, Bloomsburg University Foundation, alumni and for JoAnn and me.”

Information on supporting the Zeigler Henry Carver Fund Challenge through the Bloomsburg University Foundation is available at www.bloomufdn.org or by calling 855-BU2GIVE (282-4483). Online donations may be made by visiting bloomufdn.thankyou4caring.org.

Yes! I will take the HCF Challenge!

Donate Today Online
Print and Mail Donation Form
Matching Gift Company Search

Unleash Your Inner Husky

Thirty-one students submitted entries into the 2012 Unleash Your Inner Husky contests sponsored by the Bloomsburg University Foundation. Entries by seven finalists (two videos and five essays) have been selected and posted online at www.bloomu.edu/inner_husky. Please visit the site and vote for your favorite submission. The essay and video with the most votes will receive a $2,500 scholarship provided by alumnus Mike Boguski ’85, CEO of Eastern Alliance Insurance Co., to the Henry Carver Fund.

New Commercials

For a sneak peak of the new Bloomsburg University commercial to air on WBRE in March, click HERE.