Welcome Back

I am delighted to say “Welcome” to the entire BU community — new students, returning students, faculty and staff, including everyone who worked and studied here this summer. Each person who studies, lives or works on this campus makes up the heart and soul of BU, but that is especially true of the students who invigorate our campus with their energy, vitality and enthusiasm.

We are looking forward to another big year. We are welcoming more than 1,600 fall freshman — the largest incoming class in our history — and more than 35 new tenure-track faculty members. We also have special events in the offing as we celebrate our 175th anniversary in 2014.

The fall events began with the pep rally last Thursday, but that truly is just the beginning. I strongly encourage students to get involved in one or more of the 250 student organizations and groups that allow for hands-on experience in the community and your academic discipline. These co-curricular experiences can help students achieve requirements for the general education program known as MyCore and, quite frankly, are key components to a fully rounded collegiate educational experience.

I wish everyone a wonderful, productive year. Welcome!

Sincerely,

David L. Soltz
President, Bloomsburg University
MyCore Update

Implemented in fall 2012 for incoming freshmen only, MyCore, BU’s revised general education program, now has 1,850 students enrolled. By the end of their first year, freshmen in the program had an average of 27 points achieved toward the minimum 40 GEPs required. At the end of the 2012-13 academic year, approximately 50,000 GEPs were obtained by students provided they passed the courses.

There are 165 GEP approved courses in more than 38 disciplines that meet the 10 General Education Goals: communications, information literacy, analytical and quantitative skills, cultural diversity, natural sciences, social sciences, arts and humanities, second language, healthy living and citizenship. Transfer students are expected to be enrolled in MyCore starting fall 2014.

MyCore is designed to provide students with a “deeper understanding” of the world by teaching them to become lifelong learners through the skills and high-level thinking acquired through the program. Learn more about MyCore’s value and progress at www.bloomu.edu/general_education.

New Faculty Institute

A New Faculty Institute offered workshops designed to support new faculty and enhance teaching at Bloomsburg University.

Workshops conducted by Bloomsburg master instructors Karen Hamman, Tom Starmack, Denise Davidson, Patricia Beyer, Ted Roggenbuck and Brian Johnson focused on syllabi design, using technology in the classroom, and understanding and using active learning techniques to motivate students. About two dozen new faculty participated.

The institute was developed as a part of BU’s strategic focus and commitment to enhance teaching at BU.

BU to Debut Student Research Publication

Research projects completed by 30 students who participated in the Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity (URSCA) Awards program this summer will be highlighted in October in BU’s first undergraduate research publication. The booklet will showcase projects related to chemistry, biology, physics, speech pathology, linguistics, community development, anthropology, child development, art and music. The URSCA awards program is open to all BU undergraduates involved in summer undergraduate research, scholarship or creative activity under the guidance of faculty members.
John Loonan, former vice president of finance and fiscal management at the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE), University of Albany, State University of New York, is BU’s new vice president for administration and finance.

Loonan oversees the management of BU’s $196 million operating budget. He is responsible for the budget office, finance and business services, procurement and operations, facilities management and planning, police, public safety, human resources and labor relations, financial aid and right-to-know requests.

Retired from the New York Army National Guard with 23 years of service, Loonan earned an MBA from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a bachelor’s degree in accounting from Siena College, Loudonville, N.Y. He fills a vacancy created by the retirement of Richard Rugen in December 2012.

Facilities Master Plan Update

Three phases of BU’s facilities master plan are essentially complete with the fourth phase, planning and documentation, remaining. The facilities master plan process involves:

**Strategic Review:** obtaining feedback from the campus community on ideas, goals and concerns for the campus’ future facility needs.

**Functional and Physical Analysis:** conducting an assessment of the campus facilities to evaluate architectural conditions, code compliance, functionality and use.

**Solution Development:** developing guiding principles to identify planning priorities based on data analysis and input from the Master Plan Steering Committee, university administration and Council of Trustees, along with historical and developing campus use patterns and vision feedback.

The planning and documentation phase now underway creates the final facilities plan to serve a reference for the next 10 to 20 years. The plan will guide physical changes to the campus facilities to meet educational program needs, student expectations, operational requirements and life cycle replacements. The end product, both hard copy and digital copy, will include the master plan guiding principles, campus condition assessment, space utilization data, stakeholder input summaries, maps and imagery of multiple development scenarios, construction budget costs and a schedule of projected funding needs. The digital presentation document will aid in future communication and engagement to keep the ideas and concepts current and familiar.

The process began in August 2012, and phase four will be completed with a final report and presentation to the campus community in October 2013. BU’s campus plan progress update provides detailed information about the projected plan and identification of campus priorities and options for consideration.

Diversity and Inclusion Center Established

Three campus entities serving underrepresented populations are now united as part of BU’s Diversity and Inclusion Center. The center includes Multicultural Affairs, the Women’s Resource Center and LGBTQA Student Services.

The center was established to provide support, outreach, advocacy and to enhance services for BU students.

Key to the Diversity and Inclusion Center’s success is leadership of the three units. Matthew Barcus became BU’s first coordinator of LGBTQA Student Services Aug. 1. Barcus earned a master’s degree from the University of South Dakota, where he was a graduate assistant in the Office of Diversity, and a bachelor’s degree from Briar Cliff University, Sioux City, Iowa.

A search is currently underway for a coordinator of the Women’s Resource Center. Madelyn Rodriguez continues to serve as director of Multicultural Affairs.

The Diversity and Inclusion Center is part of BU’s Dean of Students Office, now located in the lower level of Kehr Union, room 101.

New Tailgating Policy

A Husky Tailgate Zone has been established for the 2013 football season. Located in the Orange Lot beyond the northern end of Danny Hale Field at Robert B. Redman Stadium, the zone provides a place to socialize with fellow fans and celebrate every Husky victory.

The consumption of alcohol is permitted for fans over age 21 during pre-game, halftime and one hour following the conclusion of the game. Tailgate passes may be purchased by the game or for full season at Bloomsburg Athletics. View tailgate policies and pass prices at bubuskies.com/sports/2013/3/19/GEN_0319131542.aspx.

Keller Leads Career Development

Chris Keller, Bloomsburg University’s director of Admissions for the past 18 years, was named director of Career Development in late July. Before coming to BU, he was director of admissions at Wingate (N.C.) University, director of communications for Erie County (N.Y.) Legislature, District 14, and a media communications faculty member at Medaille College, Buffalo, N.Y.

Chris Lapos is serving as interim director of Admissions until a national search is completed for Keller’s replacement. Lapos came to BU as a Latino student recruiter in 2001 and also served as transfer coordinator and functional lead for ISIS implementation.

More at www.bloomu.edu/keller-lapos.

Calling all Students

Students are invited to participate in the second Unleash Your Inner Husky video contest. Show and tell how BU has positively impacted or transformed your personal and professional lives for a chance to win a first-place scholarship of $3,500 or second-place scholarship of $1,500. Winning entries will be posted on the Bloomsburg University website, Facebook and YouTube Channel.

Scholarships for this contest are sponsored by the Bloomsburg University Foundation’s Henry Carver Fund. View contest guidelines and submit video entries at bloomu.edu/inner_busky/contest. The deadline for submissions is Friday, Nov. 1, at noon.
Redesigned Speaker Series Webpage

BU’s Speaker Series website (www.bloomu.edu/speaker-series) now offers glimpses of notable campus lectures and, as available, a schedule for the coming year. The website highlights current and past distinguished speakers, including Julian Bond, civil rights leader, and Rebecca Campbell '83, president of the ABC-Owned Television Stations Group, along with bonus videos that offer additional perspectives on their lectures and careers. Users also may preview upcoming speakers for the 2013–14 academic year. Contact Jaime North at jnorth@bloomu.edu or 570-389-4488 to add and upload video of distinguished speakers.

New Admissions Video

BU debuted a new admissions video aimed to increase visibility and promote the institution’s tradition of academic excellence, community involvement and career preparation. Designed for prospective students, the video shares the benefits of a BU education, from classroom to co-curricular learning, and the many opportunities enjoyed by students. See the video.

Redesigned Graduate Website

The School of Graduate Studies website has a new look (www.bloomu.edu/gradschool) and more prominent presence on the BU homepage to better engage prospective students and create a more standard design for graduate studies. The redesign incorporates more program-specific links and interactive features, such as student video testimonials.

Henry Carver Fund Goal Exceeded

Thanks to alumni, faculty, staff, parent and friend support, the Henry Carver Fund 2012-13 results proved to be record-setting, raising $834,218 from 4,669 donors. This year’s record high amount was an increase of 47 percent over last year’s total and a 100 percent increase from just four years ago.

Factors contributing to these results include:

- The tremendous success of the Terry and JoAnn Zeigler Henry Carver Fund Challenge, in which more than 1,500 alumni and friends of BU came together to contribute $150,000 in new or increased gifts to the Henry Carver Fund.

- Growth in the number of Carver Scholars, individuals giving $1,867 or more to the Henry Carver Fund, which grew from 34 last year to 67 this year.

More than $635,000 in scholarship support and unrestricted gifts will be used to support academic and athletic programs as well as additional funding for student financial aid.

Thank you for your generosity and support! We look forward to sharing with you the impact your gifts are having on today’s and future Bloomsburg University’s students.

DONATE NOW.