



A Letter from Your University

By Jim Sayer, Dean

October 3, 2009

Happy autumn from your beautiful Lake Campus!

And I do mean “your” Lake Campus, as all the folks who came to our Open House last Thursday proved that this campus really belongs to the people of West Central Ohio. When you realize that over \$4 million of our \$9 million renovation and expansion project (happily completed!) came from donations from area businesses and individuals, then you can see definite proof that folks in our area take both pride in and ownership of your Lake Campus.

Enrollment this fall also shows that people in this area recognize our high educational quality, offered at very reasonable prices. Even though WSU did institute a 3.5% tuition increase this year, our annual fulltime tuition and fees remain low — just slightly over \$5000 a year. Now compare that with other schools! Plus we have very student-friendly staff and faculty, and students get to see my cats free of charge!

HAPPENINGS AT THE LAKE

The Lake Campus continues to offer screenings of the series, *Art: 21 – Art in the Twenty-first Century*. Next Tuesday, October 6, at 6:00 p.m. in Room 229 Dwyer Hall, we’ll present the second episode of that series: “Fantasy.” That will include four artists whose works or personal stories transport viewers to imaginary worlds and altered states of consciousness.

The fourth episode of the series, “Systems,” will be shown at 6:00 p.m. on October 22 at St. Marys Community Public Library.

Of course, both showings are free and open to the public.

And keeping with this fine arts theme:

On Saturday, October 17, 7:30 p.m., the Grand Lake Symphony, under the direction of Mr. Jim Huckemeyer, will offer a free concert in our brand new James F. Dicke Hall on our campus. This will be a great

opportunity for you to see our great new multipurpose room and to see a wonderful concert.

Finally, the next day, Sunday, October 18, “Muleskinner Band” will offer a collection of bluegrass, gospel, and traditional country music at Memorial Park in St. Marys. The pickin’ will start at noon, so bring your lawn chair and enjoy some good music!

THE SEMESTER CONVERSION

You have read and been hearing about Wright State, along with the University of Cincinnati, Ohio State and Ohio University, switching academic calendars from quarters to semesters for fall 2012. This switch will put all Ohio’s state universities and most other higher-education schools on the same calendar. Having nearly everyone on the same calendar will make it easier for students transferring from one school to another, and I believe it will lead to a better, more in-depth educational enterprise.

We are committed to making this switch as smooth and as seamless as possible, making certain that students are not negatively affected by this calendar conversion.

With three years to plan, to make the necessary changes in curriculum, and to prepare for all contingencies, there should be no difficulties. Other schools, like Toledo, Bowling Green, and Miami have made the switch without causing the end of Western Civilization, so I see no reason why we cannot do the same.

The faculty at both your Lake Campus and at WSU Dayton are working very diligently right now to grease the transition wheels so that, when the change takes place three years from now, it will be a piece of cake.

Enrollment is at an all-time high, the campus looks sparkingly great, and my cats are excited about eating for 15 weeks on semesters instead of just 10 on quarters. It’s great at the Lake!