



A Letter from Your University

By Jim Sayer, Dean

October 17, 2009

Greetings from your Halloween-ready Lake Campus!

One of the biggest celebrations we have each year that our students really enjoy is our Halloween extravaganza. This year we'll be doing our spooky thing on October 28, and folks here go all-out for this event. We have pumpkins, costumes, stacks of hay, etc., but the special is Halloween-type food! If you can imagine Tim Burton preparing our food choices that day, then you know what I mean.

Folks like Pat Howard, Brenda Kerfoot, and Ron Kremer put in lots of time and effort to make our Halloween gig special for our students. So, if you've got a little spare time on the 28th, I invite you to drop by to see your really spooky Lake Campus.

HAPPENINGS AT THE LAKE

As election time draws near, students in our Organizational Leadership program are sponsoring an "Issues Forum" on October 27 at 6 p.m. in James F. Dicke Hall. Guest speakers, including reps from Veterans Services, the Humane Society, Ohio Farm Bureau and Ohio Learn and Earn Program, will address both sides of the 3 issues on the November 3 ballot, so that you can cast a smarter vote.

And more smart choices... It's hard to believe, but we've already started registration for the winter term! As usual, we have a huge array of courses for all our majors, and, given our all-time high enrollment, I encourage you to register early to get the classes you want at the times you want.

One of the changes I'm looking forward to when we switch to semesters in the fall of 2012 is a reduction in the number of registration cycles. Semesters will make all this cleaner and blessedly more simple.

And I'm happy to report that we're continuing to see registered students in our new programs: criminal justice and our four-year bachelor's degree in

mechanical engineering. The students in both programs are enjoying their courses, and even the cadets in the law enforcement academy seem to enjoy the physical training they have to endure. It's neat to see them out running several miles around the campus; I especially enjoy watching them from the comfort of my modular office!

Plus, area companies have been stepping up to the plate in offering internships for our mechanical engineering students when they're ready to get out in the field. Not only will these internships be invaluable to our students, they will provide needed assistance to our local companies and provide a pool of graduates for those companies for permanent employment. This will be a great win-win for both the students and the companies.

Drs. Christine Wilson and Hope Jennings have started a new support group on campus, Women Supporting Women. WSW is designed to provide a forum for mentoring and discussion, and this group is open not only to campus women (faculty, staff, students), but also to women in the community. I greatly appreciate Christine and Hope volunteering to do this important service, and your Lake Campus will do everything necessary to support their efforts.

It doesn't seem possible, since the major league baseball season is not yet over, but our basketball teams are cranking up for another season. Both our men's and women's teams will be playing a full schedule of home and away games, and, thanks to the cooperation of our friends at the YMCA, all our home games will be right next door at the "Y". Games are free, so come cheer our Wright State Lakers!

Fall classes end in four weeks, followed by a week of finals. Then it's less than a week to Thanksgiving! Who put fewer days in 2009? This year is going much too fast, but my cats are salivating about turkey.

It's great at the Lake!