Executive Summary

Goal 1: Increase Enrollment and Student Success

Goal 1 of the strategic plan has nine initiatives that each focus on the goals of increasing enrollment and student success. Each of the initiatives will be briefly described below.

Initiative 1 - Develop a First-Year Student Residential Village

This initiative is focused on creating a unique, distinctive environment for first-year students that supports both social and intellectual development. Additionally, the initiative seeks to bridge learning in the classroom to students' living environment. The Implementation Team has focused on the following primary objectives during FY10:

- Hire an associate director whose primary functions are to coordinate themed housing, develop programming, and serve as a liaison with faculty partners.
- Engage in dialogue with themed housing partners in order to assess current practices and to establish framework for expanding the themed housing program.
- Visit campuses that have employed best practices in residential life in order to better understand how those practices can be implemented at ISU.
- Identify additional disciplinary units that would be interested in participating in themed housing.
- Revise the Academic Peer Advocate job description to include a stronger focus on student academic success, career exploration, and experiential learning.

Initiative 2 - Further develop cooperative programs with Ivy Tech to provide multiple points of entry to ISU

This initiative is focused on working with Ivy Tech to strengthen dual enrollment and increase the number of articulation agreements that exist between the two institutions. Furthermore, the initiative seeks to enhance Ivy Tech students' level of comfort in a university environment. The implementation team has focused on the following primary objectives during FY10:

- Develop and/or revise articulation agreements between several of the colleges at ISU and Ivy Tech.
- Develop a "transfer back" program that allows ISU students to transfer credits back to Ivy Tech to earn an Associate's Degree.
- Evaluate the dual admission policy to better serve and inform Ivy Tech students about ISU.
- Increase the number of scholarships available for transfer students.

Initiative 3 - Create a unified undergraduate student success program

This initiative focuses on improving student success by consolidating services and developing programs to support students as they progress toward graduation. Additionally, the initiative seeks to improve academic advising. The implementation team has focused on the following primary objectives during FY10:

- Clarify and more fully develop an administrative/organizational structure for the first-year experience.
- Further develop learning communities.
- Further develop University 101 to improve student learning outcomes.
- Develop an early warning system for students at risk for academic failure in the first year.
- Develop a system for the improvement of academic advising, including a method of evaluating academic advisors, training academic advisors, and recognizing good academic advising.
- Improve services for commuter students to enhance their academic success.

Initiative 4 - Create "Sycamore Express" one-stop centers

This initiative is focused on the development of one-stop centers that will increase student convenience by allowing access to multiple services through a single location. This initiative also seeks to enhance the customer service offered to students. The implementation team has focused on the following primary objectives during FY10:

- Implement electronic check payment option and electronic student authorization for third parties via e-commerce.
- Implement parking permit purchase functionality via e-commerce.
- Implement academic transcript purchase functionality via e-commerce.
- Implement ID card manufacturing capability at an alternative site with extended hours.
- Enhance customer service.
- Implement Sycamore Express website, including extensive list of FAQs and cross-training of staff who will be connected to the system.

Initiative 5 - Develop program for the parents and families of students

This initiative is focused on centralizing and increasing ISU's interaction with parents and siblings. The implementation team has focused on the following primary objectives during FY10:

- Survey parents regarding their needs and desires related to their students' enrollment at ISU.
- Establish a Parent Volunteer Program.
- Integrate the Parent Fund with Parent and Family Programs.
- Redesign the Parent and Family website.
- Continue production and distribution of ParentLink newsletter.
- Distribute annual new parents letter from President Bradley.
- Coordinate annual Parents and Families Day Event.
- Enhance parent programming at New Student Orientation.
- Develop a parent and families handbook.
- Develop a Sibling Orientation

Initiative 6 - Increase early outreach to students in region

This initiative is focused on reaching out to high school students earlier in their high school career and establishing closer links with guidance counselors and high school teachers. Additionally, the initiative also seeks to enhance the College Challenge Program, which provides dual credit opportunities for high school students. The implementation team has focused on the following primary objectives during FY10:

- Identify middle and high schools considered to be primary feeder schools to ISU.
- Review and develop communication plans and publications.
- Expand data sources for communication and outreach.
- Enhance the College Challenge Program and develop a steering committee and on-campus development day for teachers involved with the program.
- Provide opportunities for senior administration to interact with key middle and high school personnel.

Initiative 7 - Achieving greater impact on student success through residential life

This initiative is focused on increasing programming within residential life that is focused on student retention and increasing opportunities for partnerships between academic and student life personnel. The implementation team has focused on the following primary objectives during FY10:

- Hire an Associate Director for Residential Student Success.
- Increase Area Director positions from 10 months to 12 months
- Increase the number of Academic Peer Advocate positions and explore changing their title and job description.
- Develop new job description for Resident Assistant positions and increase the number of RAs working in Lincoln Quad.
- Implement the University Learning Outcomes Assessment with residential students.

Initiative 8 - Enhance graduate education at ISU

This initiative is focused on establishing new graduate programs and establishing services to assist graduate students in completing their degrees and progressing to the next phase of their lives. The implementation team has focused on the following primary objectives during FY10:

- Developing new graduate programs in Doctor of Nursing Practice, Doctor of Physical Therapy, and Physician Assistant.
- Work with the Career Center to establish a liaison that will work with graduate students and develop resources for graduate students.
- Create and enhance web resources for graduate students.

Initiative 9 - Enhance the gathering and use of information to advance ISU's strategic priorities

This initiative is focused on enhancing data-based decision making, improving the information that is provided to students, and monitoring progress toward achievement of strategic plans. The implementation team has focused on the following primary objectives during FY10:

- Identify and implement strategies that support the capture and reporting of co-curricular data activities.
- Identify and implement data warehouse and reporting tools to support data-driven decision-making related to student data.
- Identify and implement a set of performance metrics and reporting tools to support the strategic planning process.
- Design and implement student information alerts.
- Utilize the portal system to provide information to students about issues that can affect registration.
- Conduct analyses to better predict and understand student outcomes.