

Goal #1
Initiative #5

Parents, siblings and other family members serve as major stakeholders and sources of support for our students. The implementation team has targeted the strategies listed below as a way of increasing and centralizing the University's interaction with these stakeholders and making them true "parent partners" for the upcoming year.

- We work closely with the Office of First Year Programs in coordinating a parent reception during new student orientation which is hosted by one of the Deans, with support from the Parent Advisory Council. This event will give the parents an opportunity to ask questions and network with other parents.
- Family Day 2010 is being organized by a cross section of staff, faculty, and students. The sibling activities have been expanded to include two of the colleges (Bayh College of Education and Scott College of Business). The events are purposefully planned to offer a variety of experiences to those attending.
- The handbook for parents and families has been initially updated. The second round of updates will be done this summer and will be available in a printed format during the fall semester move-in weekend. There will be an on-line version of the handbook which may be accessed through the parent website.
- The Parent Advisory Council concept has been flushed out and we are recruiting members for the upcoming year. The members of the Council will serve as ambassadors for the University for other parents and family member. Council members will provide feedback on issues of interest. We are also soliciting for parent volunteers (parents who want to be involved but do not have the time to commit to the council).
- We continue to support the mailing of a letter from President Bradley to the families of the new first-time students. The letter invites them to be an active participant in their students' collegiate experience. As a resource for the parents, a magnet with contact information for the Parent Advisor and parent website will be included with the letter this fall.
- We have had an initial discussion of a pilot program targeting older siblings (grades 9-12) of students attending new student orientation in the summer of 2011. Work will continue to develop this prospective program.
- An initial survey was done of parents inquiring about their needs and opinions as related to their students' enrollment at ISU. The survey produced very useful feedback and insight. For this reason, we plan to keep the survey active on the Parent and Families website to gather data and feedback on an on-going basis. We have shared the initial results of survey with others.
- The parent and family website has been updated (<http://www.indstate.edu/parents>). The site serves as a one-stop shop for parents. A Parent and Family Facebook page is currently being developed.
- *ParentLink* is distributed to the families of newly admitted students and families of undergraduate students below the age of 21 three times a year. The issues are also available on the parent website.

Strategic Work Budget Request Description
Goal #1 – Initiative # 5

Action #1
Line #50
Request: Continue to enhance parent and family orientation program
Amount: \$2,000
Description: Provide materials, resources and light refreshments for parent reception.

Action #4
Line #50
Request: Support for Parent and Family Weekend (10/30/10)
Amount: \$3,000
Description: Enhancement of activities for Family Day which would include additional sibling programming and events that would engage faculty/staff of the various colleges.

Action #7
Line #50
Request: President's letter to new incoming student's parents with information magnet included.
Amount: \$1,000
Description: Printing of letter and production of a magnet that advertises the Parent Advisor's contact information and parent website.

Action #8
Line #50
Request: Parents and families handbook
Amount: \$2,000
Description: Printing and production of handbook that will be distributed to new parents and families

Action #9
Line #50
Request: Materials and operational costs for sibling orientation program
Amount: \$3,500
Description: A piloted older sibling orientation program that would be held in conjunction with one new student orientation program. Program would focus on engaging siblings in the ISU community which may lead to future enrollment.