

Guest Column

Ivy Tech - A College for Our Communities

By Steve Howard, President,
Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce

Don't expect this column to be unbiased. In spite of having once flunked out of what at that time in California was called a "junior college," I am an enthusiastic supporter of the two-year institutions now called community colleges. *How* I managed to flunk out involved a 1941 Chevrolet, Katherine Ross (later to star in *The Graduate*), and sloe gin. But, that's another story.

Why do I hold community colleges in such high esteem? There are many reasons, including:

- *They provide essential workforce development services.* Nurses, electronics technicians, computer specialists, accountants, and many other skilled workers vital to our evolving economy, get initial and developmental training at community colleges. Workers displaced by plant closings are retrained for new types of work. Employees take job-related courses to improve job skills and performance.
- *They provide an academic experience.* A community college, through its two-year associate degree programs, can do two things: First, it can provide students with a terminal degree, making them immediately employable. Second, a community college can indeed be a "junior college" where a student can transfer credits to four-year institutions to pursue a more advanced degree.
- *They give people another chance.* While the classic "elementary school-high school-college-job" sequence often is promoted as *the* process to success – and it is for many – it does not work for everyone. People drop out of high school, flunk out of college, and do all manner of other things that eject them from the classic path to fame and fortune. Community colleges, because of their user-friendly schedules and relatively low costs, offer second, third, fourth and more chances for late bloomers and victims of circumstances.
- *They enrich people's lives.* Community colleges can teach Grandma how to use the Internet to stay in touch with her grandkids, help Mom learn to paint in watercolors (as she has always wanted to), develop Dad as a family web-page designer, teach Daughter how to start her own small business, and Son to rebuild his computer.



Steve Howard, our guest column author this month, has been at the helm of the Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce for the past eight years.

Our local two-year college, Ivy Tech, is a very successful institution. Since 1991, when I became aware of its existence, the Bloomington campus has grown and prospered. The statistics are impressive: student growth, 1200 to 3000; building growth, 48,000 to 148,000 square feet; adjunct and full-time faculty growth, 86 to 202. Ivy Tech Bloomington has matured and added many new general education courses. It is *much* more than the technical training institution it was at the start.

Indiana has – very, but not too, late, I think – announced its intention to morph Ivy Tech into a community college. Given this late start, the inertia of the system, and resistance to change, it will take a while to get there, but I have developed confidence that we will. I hope that our state education and government leaders continue to support and fund this transition.

One of the issues facing Ivy Tech as it transitions to be a community college is the "articulation" of courses between Ivy Tech and other institutions. I was delighted to hear recently that Indiana University Bloomington (IUB) and Ivy Tech administrators are meeting to discuss ways to increase the number of courses that can be transferred those few miles between the two campuses.

I understand there are some challenges and obstacles in developing greater articulation. But, from my perspective as a representative of the business community and a person who has seen first hand the successes of the California system, an increasingly close partnership between these two wonderful institutions is a win for everyone involved: students, businesses, parents, the region, the state and the Bloomington campuses of Indiana University and Ivy Tech.

I hope administrators on both ends of town actively and enthusiastically pursue this partnership. I believe it will be an extremely valuable outcome for our community, region, and state for Ivy Tech to become truly a "College for Our Communities". Ivy Tech's growing partnership with IUB offers a real opportunity to help realize that vision.

Ivy Tech State College Celebrates 40 Years

Ivy Tech State College has come a long way since its humble beginnings in 1963. Indiana Vocational Technical College, as it was called, was established March 15, 1963, to make college-level, job oriented training available to all Indiana residents.

Today, Ivy Tech is the state's fastest growing and second-largest institution of higher education with 23 campuses across the state and a total enrollment of over 90,000 students.

To kick off a year-long celebration commemorating the College's 40th Anniversary, Ivy Tech is hosting an alumni reunion weekend March 14-16 in downtown Indianapolis. All College alumni, students, staff, faculty and retirees are invited to join the festivities at the Radisson Hotel City Centre Indianapolis. Guests will have the option of attending several events, including Indiana Pacers and Indianapolis Ice games, a marketplace of displays from each Ivy Tech region, informative breakout sessions, a special luncheon, and a breakfast commemorating President Gerald Lamkin's 20th year as head of the College.

Those wishing to stay at the Radisson Hotel for the weekend are encouraged to make reservations at the hotel as soon as

possible. Rooms are available to Ivy Tech guests at a special rate of \$109 per night. Call the Radisson at 1-800-333-3333. In addition, tickets to both the Indiana Pacers vs. Utah Jazz and Indianapolis Ice vs. New Mexico Scorpions games need to be booked in advance. Indiana Pacers vs. Utah Jazz tickets need to be booked by February 21. Tickets are \$45, \$32 and \$21. Call (317) 917-2896 for information. Indianapolis Ice vs. New Mexico Scorpions tickets are \$12 and need to be purchased by March 10. Call 317-925-4423 for information. The registration fee for the 40th Anniversary/Alumni Reunion Weekend is \$60 for early birds and \$65 after February 28. This cost includes a T-shirt, costume dance, breakout sessions, lunch and the President's breakfast.

For more details and registration forms for the 40th Anniversary Celebration and Alumni Reunion and related activities, contact Sherris Johnson at (317) 921-4299 or email her at sajohnso@ivytech.edu, or contact Ivy Tech Bloomington Alumni Coordinator, Christie Gordon at (812) 330-6001 or email her at cgordon@ivytech.edu. Make plans to join us and your fellow alums for this very special weekend.

Watch for details about the 40th Anniversary Celebration at the Bloomington campus. This special event will take place after the spring semester.

About Steve Howard

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- President of 1000-member Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce since September 1994.
- After flunking out of a community college in California at age 17, joined the Navy. Spent nine years as an enlisted electronics technician. Commission Ensign in 1966.
- Retired as Captain, United States Navy in August 1994 after a 36-year career as technician, engineer, and engineering manager.
- Commander Crane Division, Naval Surface Warfare Center from 1991-1994.
- 1984-1991 Commanding Officer of three Navy engineering centers.
- Pre-1984 served in various technical and management assignments at sea, ashore and overseas including tours on an aircraft carrier, in Japan, the Philippines, and Washington D.C.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

- Taught electronics engineering at the United States Naval Academy.
- Developed courses and taught at a Navy management development school.
- Taught mathematics and electronics at community colleges.
- Taught course in association management at Indiana University SPEA.

EDUCATION:

- BSEE, MSEE Purdue, 1966.
- Advanced management courses at Duke and University of Tennessee.
- Master's in Public Administration (MPA) at the School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University in May 1998.
- Graduate of Leadership Bloomington – Monroe County.

OTHER CURRENT AND RECENT ACTIVITIES:

- On boards of Bloomington Economic Development Corporation, United Way, Monroe County Redevelopment Authority, Bloomington Advancement Corporation, Convention and Visitors Bureau, Commission for Bloomington Downtown, The Franklin Initiative, Community Alliance for Lifelong Learning, Sycamore Land Trust, Bloomington United, and others.

PERSONAL:

- Born in Santa Cruz, California. Lived in eighteen places and two foreign countries.
- Widowed in May 1999 after 40-year partnership with Nancy. Son Mark, 22, is a student. Son Jason, 31, a graduate of UCLA, is a businessman in Sacramento, CA. Daughter Missy, 38, lives in California with granddaughters, Jessica (15) and Brittany (16), and works at Stanford University.
- Married October 2001 to Cassie. Enjoying an extended honeymoon.

SPARE TIME:

- Hiking, backpacking, kayaking, staying fit, and reading.

Win an "All Expenses Paid" Weekend in Indianapolis!

Yes, that is correct! Ivy Tech Bloomington students stand the chance of winning an all expenses paid weekend to Ivy Tech's 40th Anniversary Celebration and Alumni Reunion! This includes FREE tickets to both the Pacers and Indianapolis Ice games, a FREE room at the Radisson Hotel, and covers the Ivy Tech registration fee as well! To enter the drawing for this awesome treat, contact Christie Gordon at (812) 330-6001 or email cgordon@ivytech.edu, or stop by Room A108.

Don't Wait! Enter Now!

Events Calendar

Dual Credit Articulation Fair

Thursday, February 27, 2003, 3 – 6 p.m., Ivy Tech.

An afternoon for area schools to review course curriculum for expansion of dual credit opportunities for students.

Science and Engineering Fair

Saturday, March 8, 2003, 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., Ivy Tech.

A science fair competition designed to engage the active minds of students in grades 6 - 12 from area schools.

40th Anniversary Celebration and Alumni Reunion

Friday, March 14 - Sunday, March 16, 2003, Radisson Hotel City Centre, Indianapolis. Make plans to join us and your fellow alums for this very special weekend.

Career Expo

Thursday, April 3, 2003, 1 - 4 p.m., Ivy Tech.

A perfect place for employers and job seekers to connect!

Business Expo

Thursday, April 17, 2003, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m., Bloomington Convention Center.

A great way to meet students and partners!

Transfer Fair

Tuesday, April 22, 2003, 4 – 6:30 p.m., Ivy Tech.

An annual opportunity to find out how Ivy Tech credits transfer to other educational institutions.

High School CAD Competition/TeenTech Day

Friday, April 25, 2003, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Ivy Tech.

A chance for high school students to show off their drafting skills and win lots of prizes at the same time!!

CO₂ Dragster Contest/TeenTech Day

Friday, April 25, 2003, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Ivy Tech.

See area middle and high school students give it a go!

Honors Day Ceremony

Friday, May 9, 2003, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., Ivy Tech.

A celebration of academic excellence!

Senior Expo 2003

Friday, May 16, 2003, 12 Noon - 4 p.m., Bloomington Convention Center.

The theme is "So Very Vaudeville!"

Associate of Science in Nursing Pinning Ceremony

Friday, May 16, 2003, 5 p.m., Indiana University Auditorium.

A tradition for nursing students and faculty!

Commencement Ceremony and Reception

Friday, May 16, 2003, 7 p.m., Indiana University Auditorium.

Celebrate the achievements of our new graduates!

On the Home Front

New Full-Time Faculty:

Jeanette Dix is an Assistant Professor in the Computer Information Systems Program. She has a B.S. from Indiana University.

Gary Dunn is an Assistant Professor and the Program Chair for the Criminal Justice Program. He has an M.S. from DePaul University.

Steve Englert is an Instructor in the Accounting Program. He is a CPA and has a B.S. from Indiana University.

New Assignments:

Jim Smith is now the Business Division Chair and continues to serve as the Accounting Program Chair.

Kay Leach is now the Health Sciences Division Chair, and continues to serve as the Practical Nursing Program Chair.

Kevin Ratcliff is now the Project Management Specialist for Computer Technology Services.

New Staff:

Jason Zapf is the Project Coordinator for our Region's Pathways to College program.

Retiring:

Retiring after 13 years of service to Ivy Tech is **Jerry Scoggan**.



Above: A typical sight over the past 13 years that we will miss!
Above right: Finally, Jerry gets his cake and eats it too!

Jerry Scoggan was honored by his fellow employees on Tuesday, February 11, at a surprise retirement party arranged for him by his friends and colleagues in the Facilities department. A very touching video presentation of scenes from Jerry's lifetime set to music was shown to Jerry and a copy of the video was given to him for posterity! (The video was produced by Dave Johnson.) After words of thanks and well wishes, Jerry cut his cake (and hopefully made a wish!) and mixed and mingled with the many faculty and staff who attended his surprise party! We wish you the best, Jerry!

Monroe Bank Awards Scholarship to Ivy Tech Student



From left to right: John Whitehart, Chancellor; Ivy Tech State College-Bloomington; Penny Meche, scholarship recipient; Mark Bradford, Monroe Bank, President and CEO; Danise Alano, Monroe Bank Vice President of Marketing.

Mark Bradford, President and CEO of Monroe Bank, and Danise Alano, Monroe Bank Vice President of Marketing, presented a check for \$1,250 to Ivy Tech State College Bloomington student, Penny Meche, in December 2002. This scholarship is the first of a series of scholarships Monroe Bank is underwriting, totaling \$7,500 over a period of three years, and is in keeping with the bank's continuing contributions to a variety of nonprofit organizations throughout the Bloomington community.

Scholarship recipient Meche is a 4.0 student enrolled full-time in the Business Administration degree program at the College. She contributes to the support of her family by working twenty hours a week in the Bursar's Office at Ivy Tech, through the College's work-study program. Meche told Bradford in a letter that the scholarship would make a tremendous impact on her and her family: "When I decided to attend school, it placed a very heavy burden on my husband and my family. While I know that it will all be worthwhile in the end, going through school and juggling all my responsibilities is sometimes a challenge. This scholarship will go a long way in helping to relieve some of the burden."

In recognition of Monroe Bank's continued support through scholarships for students in Ivy Tech's Accounting, Business Administration and Office Administration programs, Ivy Tech State College Bloomington has named the Region's Accounting Chairperson's office suite in honor of Monroe Bank. Chancellor John Whitehart unveiled the plaque after the scholarship presentation ceremony.

Celebrate Diversity

Activities to celebrate the importance of diversity in our daily lives and in our collective culture are well on their way. The months of February and March are set aside to take a closer look at our African American heritage as well as the role women have played in history. Mark your calendars with the dates below and watch your email and mailboxes, or Campus Pipeline for more information as our Diversity Celebration continues! If you have any questions, or wish to participate in these activities, contact Pat Dolly at (812) 330-6062 (email pdolly@ivytech.edu) or contact Christie Gordon at (812) 330-6001 (email cgordon@ivytech.edu).

Diversity Calendar

February 19 First Annual Africana Festival
Indiana University, IMU Alumni Hall,
10 am-3 pm

• Free activities include storytelling, panel discussions, lectures, music and dance workshops. • Soul Food Dinner and Celebration with performances by The African American Choral Ensemble, the International Ensemble and IU Soul Revue, 5:30 pm. Ticket cost is \$12 for non-students and \$5 for senior citizens and students. Call (812) 855-9271 for more information.

February 19 Mini Film Festival: Imitation of Life
Ivy Tech State College Bloomington,
Alumni Hall, 4-6 pm

John Stahl transforms author Fannie Hurst's warhorse tearjerker into a serious and original statement on the sexual self-containment and child-absorption of certain American women who are by-products of Depression independence. A black maid (Louise Beavers) and a white widow (Claudette Colbert) team up to manufacture pancake batter. The pair's common bond is self-manufactured suffering at the hands of their daughters.

February 26 Mini Film Festival: The Long Walk Home
Ivy Tech State College Bloomington,
Room C100A/B, 4-6 pm

A perceptive and powerful drama about the life and changing times in 1950s segregated Montgomery, Alabama. When her black maid (Whoopi Goldberg) takes a stand in Martin Luther King, Jr.'s bus boycott, an affluent white woman (Sissy Spacek) does what she can to help despite the disapproval of her husband.

February 26 Celebrating our African-American Culture
Ivy Tech State College Bloomington,
Venue tba, 6-7:30 pm

This activity consists of an evening of back-to-back presentations of music, poetry reading, and displays. Soul Food will be served!

Proposal Submitted

Dr. Patricia Dolly, Academic Dean at Ivy Tech Bloomington and David Bathe, Academic Dean at Ivy Tech Lafayette, recently wrote a proposal entitled *Building International and Intercultural Communities (BIIC): Strategic Curriculum Integration*. The purpose of this proposed project would be to make international and intercultural perspectives an integral part of the teaching and learning process throughout the Ivy Tech State College system in Indiana. If accepted, it will be a joint effort between the two campuses to pilot the project. A decision is expected in late March.

Students, Pizza and Pride

A Campus Pride Meeting will be held on Wed., February 26, at 12 noon in Room C138. Pizza will be served.



Congrats Katie!



Assistant Director of Career and Employment Services, Katie T. Anderson, recently received a Human Rights Award from the Bloomington Human Rights Commission. She received the award with fellow committee co-chairs Chuck Osborn and David Carter for their work as

members of the Council for Community Accessibility. The Council for Community Accessibility was nominated for a Human Rights Award for the significant contributions it has made over the past 12 years to make the Bloomington community more accessible for people with disabilities.