Dear Colleagues,

Here is the first Provost’s Bulletin for this fall semester.

Enrollment

Our fall academic semester is well underway and we now have our final census numbers. Here are some key figures:

• Undergraduate total headcount—1,905

• Graduate total headcount—1,611

• Institutional headcount—3,516 (35 less than fall 2012)

• Freshman number—323 (65 less than last year)

• FTE compared with fall 2012—drop of 78.76
- Percentage credit drop from fall 2012 – 3.12%

- Greatest School increases – School of Business Administration with an increase of 16.45% and School of Education with 6.46%

Please note that our budget for the year assumed an enrollment of 98% of last year’s total. That means that we are 1.12% behind our budget projections, which will mean a tight budget year ahead. However, while our enrollment is not as we had hoped and what earlier figures this summer had suggested we might expect, if it were not for the concerted work of Enrollment Management, Student Financial Services, academic advisors and Student Life personnel these figures could be much lower. We have heard several stories already of students who ended up at Andrews due to the personal and professional communication from the campus. We have also heard multiple stories, supported by news releases throughout the country, of falling freshman applications and/or enrollments in all categories of schools, including many of our sister schools. So thank you to everyone who was part of bringing our freshman class and transfer students (numbers up around 12) to campus. We are presently in a challenging higher education environment and our united efforts will continue to be the answer to that environment!

An enrollment think tank started its work this week as around 30 individuals from across campus came together to strategize ways to positively position the University within the current academic environment in North America, the Midwest and the Church. More on that later as we widen that conversation.

**Academic Department Chair Changes**

We had a range of department chair changes this year. Many of these were introduced to you in the spring. Since then we have had three additional appointments, so here is the official welcome to these individuals:

Clive Holland has replaced Tom Chittick as chair in the Department of Agriculture. He comes to us with significant and broad ranging experience in business and agriculture and we are grateful for the expertise he brings to the department, the farm and the University.
Darah Regal has decided to return to the classroom and to research after two years of energy and creativity as chair. Due to her resignation late in the summer, an interim chair has been appointed. Heather Ferguson has accepted that position. Heather comes to this job at a critical time, as the Department of Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology prepares for accreditation for a new master’s program. She will build on the strong foundation set by Darah. Thank you, Heather.

Winston Craig has also decided to move back into teaching from the position of chair of the Department of Public Health & Wellness. He has chaired this department through multiple accreditations and changes. The program has grown under his leadership and a strong team of professionals now teaches in that area. Gretchen Krivak has accepted the responsibility of interim chair and we appreciate her willingness to take on this role at the time of the introduction of the new online MPH, which has just started its first cohort.

While we start the new semester with some concerns, we look forward to a strong year ahead and have many opportunities to explore as we move forward with God’s blessings.