Liberal Studies Program at CAS Takes Shape…

For over five years now the University has been in the planning phase for the total revamping of its general education program on the Baldwin City campus of CAS.

Faculty from numerous disciplines and members of the administration have researched, discussed and planned for a new Liberal Studies model that has recently taken on near full form and is being partially unfolded this academic year.

Designed primarily with the traditional four-year student in mind, the program will be innovative and cutting edge in many ways. In the first year of study, students will be encouraged to “IGNITE”... to discover themselves. Classes within this first year will be an introduction to Liberal Studies with themed courses focusing on abilities and linked courses that help the student better understand self, faith and values.

In the second year students will “INVESTIGATE” and discover modes of thought and human expression through scientific inquiry and through ideas and expression based upon courses focusing on abilities and understandings of the history of ideas and creative expression and aesthetic values.

By the third year, students will begin focusing on the “INTEGRATION” of information as it relates to the discovery of global cultural and community issues. Linked courses may delve into ecosystems; social, political and economic and cultural systems. Overseas travel will be developed and encouraged during this year of study.

In the final year, “IMPACT”, students will be encouraged and motivated to discover ways to change the world. Courses focusing on abilities and quantitative reasoning will be blended with classes that use and study the effects of technology. Students will further be encouraged to create “original” works and to make formal presentations to outside bodies.

It is an exciting and imaginative program. I only wish I could be starting all over as a freshman again!!!
Baker Trivia for February...

What is the Current Mission Statement for the entire University???

Snow Piles up...Closes Campuses...

We had become rather spoiled over the past few years as the few snows we received would, for the most part, just sort of come and soon be gone. Enter February 2011... and what a change! In the 30+ years I have made the daily commute to my Baldwin City office there have been fewer than 10 total days missed due to the campus being closed due to weather. Just this year alone we have already had the campuses closed throughout the entire University for up to 3 days/evenings for snow accumulation, accompanied by near zero temperatures, and winds that on one day were estimated in excess of 40 mph making snow drifts in some locations as high as 5 feet!

I don’t know about the students, but I for one am really ready for spring! As I arrived on campus this past Monday morning there were parts of the campus finally uncovered from snow drifts and there were actually hints of spring in the air with a few birds chirping and singing! Now if we can just avoid one of those late winter blizzards the plains states are famous for!

Spring Numbers for Greeks...

Here are the most current numbers for Greek houses for the spring semester:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PANHELLENIC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Chi Omega = 48</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Phi Mu = 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zeta Tau Alpha = 44</td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td>Delta Tau Delta = 49</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kappa Sigma = 29</td>
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<td>Sigma Phi Epsilon = 50</td>
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<td>Zeta Chi = 21</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MULTICULTURAL GREEK COUNCIL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kappa Alpha Psi = 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeta Phi Beta = 2</td>
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</table>

Study Reveals Enrollment Trends Across all of Baker...

Baker’s Office of Institutional Research headed by Jean T. Johnson, Ph.D. recently completed and released its most current Fact Book which has been prepared annually for nearly 15 years. The Fact Book assembles various data the University finds useful in planning and for comparative purposes. Some of the information is reported to outside agencies who require the information to study, compare and report such information about educational institutions across the country.

While going over the most recent Fact Book I found some interesting trends to report in this issue of the Arbor.

For the previous five years, the overall University enrollment has been able to maintain support (as in speaking of stocks) at a student headcount level for the fall semester above 3800 students. While the head count has maintained a range from slightly over that number in both 2009 and 2010 to over 4100 students in 2008, the FTE number (this is based upon the total number of academic hours being taken by enrolled students divided by a constant number which then results in a number that is referred to as a “Full Time Equivalency” number of students) ...that number has fallen slightly over the course of the past five years. There have been numerous reasons for the downturn in FTE enrollment, several of which are: the overall economy, the number of local school districts who made significant cuts in teaching positions, which affected our SOE masters level program, and finally, having lost many graduate level business students due to a large corporation that discontinued tuition support of students in the University’s MBA program. A number of new initiatives and programs that address each of these areas have been and will soon be put in place to reverse these recent enrollment trends.

The School of Nursing has through this same time been able to reverse these university-wide trends and has added significantly to its student base. Going back to 2001, the School of nursing had a headcount of approximately 100 students with a FTE of 94. During this most recent ten year period, the schools’ enrollment has trended upward every year.

This most current fall semester saw the School of Nursing with a headcount and FTE of right around 170 students.

It appears and is envisioned that as the economy continues to improve, and I realize that this alone is still a somewhat debatable topic, that the new programs and recruiting practices being implemented in CAS, SOE and SPGS will begin paying dividends and providing an increased stream of students who enroll on the various Baker campuses.

Please contact our office of admission if you personally are aware of a student that we should know about and be recruiting for any of the University’s programs. Phone 800-873-4282!
Top Ten Colleges with Alumni Donations...

I read an article on-line recently that originated through research produced by a US News and World Report. The topic of the article was a listing of the top 10 national educational institutions with respect to the percentage of their alumni that annually make a donation to the school. The list of the top 10 as reported on Yahoo News:

- Webb Institute 70.9
- Carleton College 61.3
- Princeton University 60.3
- Middlebury College 60.1
- Amherst College 59.5
- Williams College 57.6
- Centre College 56.7
- Indiana Institute of Technology 55.1
- Davidson College 54.0
- Thomas Aquinas College 52.5

According to Patrick Mikesic, Baker’s Director of Development, the corresponding figures for the University the last time the numbers were calculated were: (if measured across the entire University)... the percentage was between 22 and 23%. If the calculation included only alumni of CAS the percentage rose to nearly 27%. While it may be true that we have a long way to go to get to the percentages enjoyed by these top-ten institutions, Baker continues to have higher numbers than many like-type or peer institutions...but, we’d like to do a lot better too!!

Please consider making a gift to the University the next time you receive that Phon-a-thon call or a mailing that speaks to the needs within the University’s Annual Fund. Thanks in advance for your future support!!

Green Bay Wins Super Bowl...Baker’s McCarthy in National Limelight...

Unless you have been on a safari, on a trip across Antarctica or have been under a rock for the past two weeks you undoubtedly have heard that the Green Bay Packers won Super Bowl XLV (45- for those of you without Roman heritage :) ). The Packers were led by their head football coach, Mike McCarthy ’87, former Baker Wildcat tight-end and team captain.

Both prior to and following the game, Coach McCarthy was the subject of numerous articles and interviews on radio and TV. His graduation from Baker was often mentioned and mentioned prominently. In addition to all three major network stations in Kansas City covering the fact that Coach McCarthy was indeed our alumnus, NPR’s “All Things Considered” actually did a story on Coach and his route to the Packer position that went from a suburb of Pittsburgh, PA through Baker and Fort Hays, Kansas, to several stops in the NFL before landing at Green Bay in 2006.

The University’s students, staff, faculty and administration sent Mike congratulatory cards and notes both before and after the Super Bowl. This past Sunday, February 13th, the Kansas City Star had a full page ad sponsored through the University that was used to not only congratulate Coach McCarthy and the Packers but to raise local awareness of his relationship and continuing financial support for his alma mater. Go to www.bakerU.edu/mcCarthy to read articles and watch video about Baker’s Super Bowl winning coach! I can hardly wait for next year to yell again...GO PACKERS!

Trustees Meet/Discuss Budget and More…

The annual winter meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on the Baldwin City campus on Friday, February 11th. The main items of the day-long sessions were the budget, discussion and interactive participation in a strategic planning session, committee meetings and recognition of newly promoted and tenured faculty. The final meeting of the Board will be on Friday, May 6th.
Alumni Activities for the Spring…

February:

24th-After Hours Social/Riverside Brewing Co. Loft 150, 150 Mosley St. Wichita, KS 5:30-7:30

25th-KMEA Hospitality Room/Century II, Wichita 5-6 pm. (Music Educators)

March:

2nd-3rd...Dinner (Pasadena-2nd) After Hour Social (3rd)/Southern California

16th-18th...Dinner/Luncheon: GreenValley (16th) and SunCity, Arizona (17th)

April:

21st...After Hours Social/ Trezo Vino, Leawood, KS. 5:30-7:30

May:

20th...Golf Tournament/Prairie Highlands GC, Gardner KS 6:45 a.m.

5:00...50 year graduating class (CAS) medallion presentation, Doubletree Hotel, Overland Park

6pm...Alumni Reunion Classes Dinner & Social at the Overland Park Doubletree Hotel

Baldwin Campus tours/former student-alumni banquet and award ceremony/society meetings/Endowment-Memorial service/Greek house Stag Dinners/After Hours Party

Watch for your issue of the Baker Pride which will provide additional information and opportunities to make reservations for the weekend.

Facebook Friends Continue to Grow…

Keep in the know” with all things BU by joining with hundreds of other former students and alumni on Facebook!

January’s Trivia Answer…

The question was: What and when was the project known as the “Botswana Project”

The answer is: In the mid-late 1960’s Baker sponsored a number of faculty, staff and students to go to Botswana, Africa for a social outreach program to work in numerous capacities in cities and regions all across the country. Some of the individuals assisted in communities with schools and hospitals while others provided a number of other critical roles in the program. If you participated in the project and have a memory to share, please send it to me by e-mail.

Baker Wrestling Attains National Ranking…

In just its second year of competition, the Baker wrestling team has vaulted into the top 20 of the nation’s best programs within the NAIA. After a dual match win over Hastings College of Nebraska, who was at that time the 20th ranked team, Baker gained the points in the poll necessary to move up and into the 20th spot. The Wildcats will be wrestling at the NAIA Central Regional Tournament that will be held in Marshall, MO beginning on February 19th. Best wishes to Coach Jimmy May and the entire grappler team for a successful conclusion to a great season!!!

Have a Great Month of February …I’ll write again in March...

Jerry L. Weakley ‘70/’92

Vice President for Endowment and Planned Giving
P.O. Box 65, Baldwin City, KS 66006
1-785-594-8332 jerry.weakley@bakeru.edu
Planning for a Testamentary Gift to the University???
Consider Gifting a Paid-up Life Insurance Policy...

Each year the University receives on average 20-25 estate gifts from alumni, former students, parents, former faculty or staff members and other donors and friends. Many of these estates come with little or no notice until I am contacted by the estates’ personal representative or an attorney for the estate. Baker is both thankful for the gifts at the end of one’s life and appreciate the love and level of caring that these gifts represent.

Other individuals choose to contact me or other institutional representatives to share their plans and to make definite and specific plans for the usage of the estate gift, once received by the University. Many of these gifts are formed into scholarship endowments or other specific endowed gifts of support.

But, when I am asked “what is the most important type of gift that I should consider” I always answer in this order: 1). Endowment and, 2). “Unrestricted-Endowment”.

What is the difference? Unrestricted endowment is the most flexible and most important gift that the University can receive. By making the gift earmarked to endowment, the corpus will be preserved in perpetuity and will not be “spent” in any current or future budget year. By further making the endowment “unrestricted”, the donor then is allowing the University and its governing Board and administration to use the earnings on that specific fund in an un-ending number of useful ways every year.

For example: In any given year, an unrestricted endowment could allow the University to offer more scholarship dollars to students who display a high “need” factor, or they could offer more scholarships to students who display a high degree of merit. Outside of scholarships, such proceeds could be used in a building program on campus or to begin a new major, hire a staff or faculty member not originally budgeted for or perhaps help out in an emergency situation that was not envisioned during the budgeting process. In all ways of thinking, unrestricted endowment is a true “life-blood” for any institution and it can infuse important resources in a most timely manner.

One potential way to fund such an “unrestricted-endowment”….either during life or as a testamentary gift is the gifting of a paid-up whole life insurance policy. Many people find that as they mature, they have accumulated one or more modest sized whole-life life insurance policies, that due to other financial planning opportunities no longer play any significant role in a person’s retirement plans. Such a policy can be donated to a charity with the donor receiving a potential tax-deduction and the knowledge that they have made a sizable gift with little or no impact upon future estate gifts to heirs or impact upon daily living expenses.

Jerry

Jerry L. Weakley
Vice President
Endowment/Planned Giving

P.S. Call me at 785-594-8332 if you would like more information on ways to create an unrestricted endowment or how to make a gift with a paid-up life policy.

* The Above information is provided only for your consideration and should not be construed as “Legal or Tax Advice”. You should always consult your own professional advisor before acting