

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

To: Purdue University and Indiana University Mission Faculty at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne

From: Deba Dutta, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Diversity

Date: January 14, 2016

On Friday January 15, 2016, Chairman Michael Berghoff of the Purdue University Board of Trustees and Dr. Michael Mirro of the Indiana University Board of Trustees presented a report containing twenty-two findings and recommendations regarding the management of the Fort Wayne Campus. The formation of the working group and the resulting report was specified and required as part of House Enrolled Act 1001 (the state budget bill) that was approved by the Indiana General Assembly and signed into law by Governor Pence last spring.

The most significant recommendation is the proposed transition to Purdue University of schools, programs, course offerings, faculty, staff, and students that are currently defined as Indiana University Mission by the current IPFW management agreement, and the undergraduate nursing program to IU. Because this change impacts many academic areas, we will allow ample time for stakeholders – faculty, staff and students – to provide input on the proposal and the development of an implementation plan. In the near term, I want to make all IPFW faculty aware of Purdue University's position regarding the proposed transitions:

- 1. The Purdue University Fort Wayne campus will continue to enjoy the level of independence and autonomy regarding issues of budget, faculty promotion and tenure, academic policies, and administrative procedures that have been previously established by the management agreement that has defined the past governance of IPFW.
- 2. The Purdue University system welcomes all Indiana University programs currently offered on the Fort Wayne campus. Importantly, this welcome includes Indiana University mission programs on the Fort Wayne campus that are not currently offered elsewhere within the Purdue University system.
- 3. All academic programs transitioning from Indiana University to Purdue University will be maintained at their current levels of resources and staffing at the time of transition. Any future changes in resources or staffing of these programs will be made within and as part of the standard policies and procedures for resource allocation and staffing conducted by the Purdue University Fort Wayne campus.
- 4. Purdue University accepts and embraces the provisions of item twenty of the recommendation. Faculty that are currently members of Indiana University mission departments on the Fort Wayne campus will retain their academic rank and tenure status. Likewise, those faculty will retain the opportunities for tenure and promotion appropriate to their current status.
- Purdue University strongly encourages our colleagues at Indiana University to extend the same rights and privileges to any academic departments and faculty that transition from IPFW to an independent Indiana University health campus in Fort Wayne.

I recognize that transitions often cause discomfort and uncertainty. I encourage all members of the Fort Wayne campus community to be patient and remember that change often leads to new beginnings and positive results. I believe the working group's recommendations present new opportunities for the Fort Wayne campus and I hope you will embrace them as I do.