

# FROM THE PRESIDENT

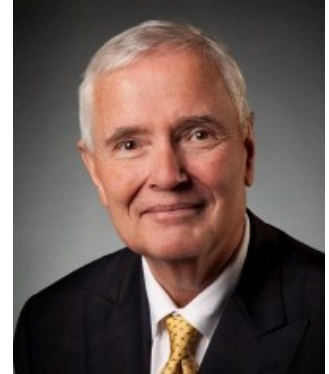
WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY

## IT'S A GREAT SUMMER TO BE A SHOCKER

As the fall semester approaches I encourage all areas of the university to focus on being the best they can be. Students should know they are investing in and receiving a world class education. They can only be assured of that through the diligent and thoughtful planning and actions of all 2,625 WSU employees.

There are only a few short weeks until we see the completion of Shocker Hall and the Rhatigan Student Center renovation. These two buildings will soon be the heart of the campus. Both completions will be cause for celebration, and it will be a great way to welcome students to the fall semester.

An exciting year awaits us. WSU is ready for expansion both physically and intellectually, and there are plenty of very smart and intelligent individuals to help grow its future.



John W. Bardo

### FORESIGHT 2020

A redesign of the Kansas Board of Regents overall strategic plan of *Foresight 2020* in 2012 reduced the overall number of strategic goals to three, but retained many of the original measures.

The three strategic goals of *Foresight 2020* are to increase higher education attainment among Kansans, improve alignment of the state's higher education system with the needs of the economy and ensure state university excellence.

### THE BARDO FIVE

Upon completion of the strategic plan five elements rose to the top and became university goals that needed to be pursued immediately. These goals were dubbed "The Bardo Five" and include the following:

- Improve overall quality
- Increase enrollment
- Enhance basic research
- Pursue technology transfer
- Improve the quality of student life

Tremendous progress has been made toward the completion of each goal.

## ONESTOP

The creation of WSU's [OneStop](#) is an important development for overall student success and satisfaction. It is about giving students the help they need to succeed from the very beginning, taking them through degree completion and all the years in between.

OneStop has five important components that make it ideal for obtaining help by all students. This includes returning adults, who take evening and weekend-only classes, as well as online students. Take advantage of its services beginning in August. They are:

- 24/7/365 student

support and service.

- Real-time technology.
- Immediate and personalized assistance.
- Self-service options via website and phone service. 316-978-7440.
- In-person service in Jabara Hall, Room 122, 8 a.m. – 7 p.m., M-Th and F, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. [wichita.edu/onestop](http://wichita.edu/onestop)



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WICHITA STATE  
UNIVERSITY

The mission of Wichita State University is to be an essential educational, cultural and economic driver for Kansas and the greater public good.

July 2014

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## ENROLLMENT

Increasing enrollment has been a key focus of the university and is an important part of the strategic plan for Wichita State. To support this focus, WSU contracted with a consulting firm that works with universities to develop “best practices.” Many field visits by its experts ensued. As a result of the firm’s report, restructuring of several units within WSU were recommended and have been incorporated.

Additionally, the university contracted with a firm whose sole purpose is to increase enrollments. The company did multiple mailings within specifically targeted geographic regions that had the potential to be strong recruiting areas for WSU. The results are remarkable. Increases in applications and confirmed enrollment are significant. Final numbers will be shared during the fall semester.

WSU is fortunate to have a substantial international population. Of the more than 14,550 students attending WSU 1,533 or nearly 10.5 percent are from countries outside the U.S. International students comprise 7 percent of our undergraduate and 24 percent of our graduate students. That population is expected to increase significantly as well. International students are important to the university. They bring diversity and another learning experience to the campus. WSU enrolled its first international students

in 1917, and has seen a steady increase since then.

Recently, an internal committee rolled out the first completely online degree program offered at WSU. It is the [RN to BSN program](#) which offers advanced placement to registered nurses seeking a BS in nursing. Expect more complete online degree programs to follow.

The adult learner committee meets on a regular basis to discuss curriculum that is conducive to adults obtaining a degree while still working and caring for a family. It is expected that enrollment will increase substantially as development of plans unfold and are implemented.

Student retention is of particular interest. Keeping students interested and engaged is everyone’s commission. Many of WSU’s employees interact with students at some point throughout the day. Often, just a few words of encouragement or an act of guidance will help a student decide to continue his or her formal education. [See OneStop.](#)

The future of WSU’s learning options look very bright. Many avenues for obtaining a degree have become available and enhancing those options are a priority. WSU’s growth expectation feeds into the campus becoming a vibrant, active and fun place to be.

Twentieth-day fall enrollment numbers will be announced in September.

## NOTEWORTHY

### Classified Staff Make an Important Changeover

On June 18, 2014, the Kansas Board of Regents accepted the proposal to move WSU [classified employees to university support staff \(USS\)](#), joining the University of Kansas, Kansas State University, Emporia State University, Pittsburg State University and Fort Hays State University. This decision localizes administrative responsibilities and provides for greater flexibility and more cooperation between the university and USS employees. All WSU classified staff were eligible to vote from April 30 through May 2. The proposal passed 290 to 162 (64 to 36 percent). A total of 73 percent of WSU classified staff voted.