

Connections with VP/Dean Orr
May 2, 2008

Colleagues,

Can you believe that Monday is the last day of classes and that we are into the late night hours again soon? April has flown by and before we know it, summer will be here. I have a lot of good news to share with you today.

I am reaching my one year anniversary and really feeling "at home" here at Baylor. Today I attended the National Day of Prayer event at Barfield. It was an excellent event and a great opportunity to pray for the leaders of our country, our families, our educators, and the media.....yes the media. Lori Fogelman and John Morris did a part of the program where they talked about the needs of the media and the sacrifices that they often make to deliver the news to us by being in very dangerous locations. They talked about the influence that Christians in the media can often have on other reporters. John Morris mentioned a situation where one of the media said to him, "I know you pray....can you pray for this situation for me" and said what a compliment it was to be asked to do so. We are really blessed to have Christian media professionals here at Baylor. They have done so much for the libraries and IT this year by writing great stories about the wonderful work we do. Hearing them made me very grateful for the media. Thanks to Kathy Hillman who serves on the committee that plans this event. I really enjoyed it.

In this update I'd like to share information for all of the division on the following topics:

- 1. Renovation and Moving Things Around**
- 2. Sherry Cook is Moving Upstairs**
- 3. Great Board of Advisors Meeting**
- 4. Osofast is Osogreat!**
- 5. Keep Waco Beautiful Award**
- 6. Diadeloso Success**
- 7. Work with Donors and Travel + CIO Meeting**
- 8. Student Advisory Committee**
- 9. Vice President's Evaluation**
- 10. Town Meetings-- Update and Redo**

1. Renovation and Moving Things Around

Riley Digitization Center: Well, the race is on! Books are flying around, the secret store room is getting cleaned out, and final preparations are underway for what I call phase zero --getting ready to renovate. A BIG THANK YOU to those who have helped move books and prepare for the renovation. Under Tim Logan's direction, the renovation of the Riley Digitization Center has begun. Plans are drawn and the work will begin shortly after graduation. We hope the work can be complete by October 1, 2008. This is going quite well and we look forward to phase one where they begin the work to renovate the digitization center and the adjacent area. We have made arrangements for those using study carrels on the garden level to move upstairs to other carrels because those have asbestos and will have to be removed to do the work for the center renovation. As part of this first phase, we will be creating a large collaboration room that Libraries or ITS can use during the day and others can schedule for projects etc. In the evenings it can be used by student groups. It will serve as a showcase to show donors and

others what we are hoping to do. We want to create many of these technology equipped rooms (in various sizes) for collaborative work on the garden level. We'll also renovate the area where the study carrels have been and create various zones for study space for students including individual study/casual space/table space/etc. Tim will be sharing more as information becomes available.

2. Sherry Cook is Moving Upstairs

As you know, Jeff Steely will be leading the Moody renovation. The preparations in phase zero are a good indicator of what will be involved as we renovate other parts of our building. It is a significant amount of facilities work, planning, and coordinating. This will be a huge amount of work for Sherry Cook and so I have asked her to move upstairs near to Jeff's office in order to provide better coordination for the renovation. Sherry does a tremendous job for all of us by coordinating the facilities work. She will have the same exact role, but will report to Jeff. For those in ITS that may not know Sherry, she began working at Baylor in 1976 as a Gov. Documents Assistant with the University Libraries, where she remained until 1995. Since June of 1995 she has worked in the Dean's Office in personnel and in facilities coordination. Her work has been invaluable to me this year and I appreciate her flexibility and willingness to help us prepare for the renovation. Sherry's office is beside Jeff's near the Leach Conference Room.

3. Great Board of Advisors Meeting

Thanks to all of you who participated in our recent Library Board of Advisors meeting. It was really terrific. We matched up the board members one on one with various faculty and staff members. The board had a chance to experience "a day in the life..." of our employees. They learned a lot about cataloging, the data center, ABL research, the archives in Texas collection, how to work with BCPM materials, etc. We tried this approach based on training that John Wilson and I had this spring from development workshops. It was amazing to see how engaged that the members became and great to hear them tell us what appealed to them in their own words. This really engaged them and was great. I have asked that each board member host a small dinner party for John and I to ask potential donors to attend. After our meeting, several of them lined up their event and others are saying they will do it and will set a date with us. Our training on development pointed out that it is these small intimate dinners and events that are most productive for engaging people and ultimately getting support. Joe Nesbitt was elected chair of our board for next year and Peggy Powell will serve as vice-chair and then become chair the following year. We are well positioned to do the development needed to fund our renovation.

4. Osofast is Osogreat!

We won! We won! Our Interlibrary Loan Services Group was named as the TexShare Academic ILL Department of the Year! Congratulations to Ken Carriveau and the entire team. You may not realize that this is the second time they have won this award and they are the only University or College to ever win this twice. Go by and congratulate them.

5. Keep Waco Beautiful Award

We won! We won! (again). On Thursday, May 1 the University Sustainability Committee (USC) was awarded the Best in Category Recycling Award from Keep Waco Beautiful. Beth Tice, Ami Hartsock, and Donna Kennedy joined me along with Vicki Pierce from Housekeeping and the Staff Council Representative, Betty Bradley, to accept the award. The event was held at the Palladium and was really fun. The libraries and IT began our own sustainability committee long before there was a USC. I was so proud of our library/IT group and all of those who have worked so hard to make such great strides this year.

6. Diadeloso Success

Lots of "thank yous" in this note. I really appreciated the work that was done to have such a great ITS/Library booth at Diadeloso. I hear the Frisbees were a hit!

7. Work with Donors and Travel + CIO Meeting

I have done a ton of travel recently and several very important donors have visited us. In April I made three trips to Dallas. I attended the Highland Park Browning Club with Stephen Prickett, Rita Patteson, and Cyndie Burgess; spoke at Texas Library Association; and participated in a Baylor University Development dinner. Last week I went to San Marcos for the Texas Women in Higher Education conference and was asked to serve a three year term on their Board. Sunday and Monday of this week Becky King and I flew to Nebraska to participate in the Big 12 CIO meeting. This meeting was held in combination with the Chief Academic Officers for the Big 12, so Provost Randall O'Brien traveled with us. We had a great session with our CIOs and the most interesting thing was having each group list their most important concerns and then comparing notes.

The CIOs listed:

Future Role of the CIO

Cyberinfrastructure

Alignment of IT and University Strategic Goals

Supporting Mobile Technology

The CAOs listed:

Resources and Costs

Compliance and Security

Changes in undergraduate education which will result in small group (8 to 10 students) collaborative learning instead of the types of classes we have now.

Libraries and scholarly communication

I found this fascinating and the discussion was excellent. Great to see Libraries listed and also the concern on funding. IT and Libraries need a lot of funding! Also, it makes me feel we are right on track by creating these new collaborative spaces for our renovation. The discussions and advice from our fellow CIOs was very helpful to Becky and me. And we had fun traveling with the Provost....he's a great story teller and has a sense of humor. We laughed a lot as we drove by corn fields.

I will be traveling to Austin to see the Rileys on Saturday and to Houston on May 12 and 13. The regents will be here on May 15 and 16. Then of course, I'll be participating in graduation on May 17. Busy month.

8. Student Advisory Committee

I asked Bill Hair to establish a student advisory committee this year which was composed of undergraduates and graduate students. They just met for the final session and discussed the renovation. Tim and Jeff attended along with Bill and got great ideas and input from these students. This has been a source of good advice for us all year as we have rezoned the library or wanted to get input on materials we were creating etc. They also gave us wonderful advice on what students really want in 24 hours study space. We plan to continue this committee next year. Be thinking of things you've always wanted to know from students and forward those to Bill, or even better ask to set up a time to talk with the students at their meetings next year.

10. Vice President's Evaluation

As if one evaluation was not enough, I am blessed to have the chance for two evaluations. Seriously, I do benefit by having an annual evaluation with both the Provost and the President. Last month I mentioned my evaluation with the Provost. This month I have been preparing for my talk with President Lilley. Both the IT Directors and the Library Directors have provided me with goals and volumes of information to use to prepare for this meeting. Having one on one time with the President to tell him about our plans and needs is priceless and I consider it to be an honor to do this on our behalf. Thanks to everyone who dug up information for me.

9. Town Meetings-- Update and Redo

I truly enjoyed the town meetings I conducted this spring with all of you. I conducted seven town hall meetings in December and the Spring in six locations. It was such a rich source of information and wisdom for me. People were candid and came up with great ideas. I enjoyed it and the feedback was good. Hattie traveled around with me and has created a categorical chart for you to see all the things that came up. Most of these are just suggestions and feedback that people gave. It is not digested or clarified, but I thought you might just enjoy seeing the raw data. If there is anything you wonder about, stop by to see me and let's chat. I'll be glad to answer questions and talk. It has been hard for me to do my office hours for the past couple of months because of my extensive travel schedule and mind numbing job. However, I am hoping that will get better for summer. Also, I do plan to do a series of town meetings again starting this summer. Many of you have encouraged me to do so, and I look forward to the next round.