

Vice Chancellor for Administration  
July 19, 2002

**Vision**

In 2019 the VCA Office will function as an integral part of the University's mission by creating and maintaining an attractive, safe and supportive environment within which the campus community lives, works and learns. VCA's employees will be customer-oriented, providing effective services in a responsive, efficient manner. Personal contacts with students, staff and the community will assist with recruitment and retention efforts and enhance the University's overall image.

**Mission**

To support the student oriented, academic and research missions of the University by providing high quality services and support to the students, faculty, staff and public. To update and maintain the physical facilities and campus environment in order to enhance the quality of life and university experience for the entire campus community.

**Context**

A well-trained workforce that constantly seeks to improve service will assist the University in the further development and implementation of the Land Use Plan and the systematic reduction of deferred maintenance issues, enhanced Information Technologies, improved business practices, and heightened public security.

All employees will value and participate in one-on-one interaction with students and will seek to better themselves through additional education and training.

A mutual respect and appreciation between all entities in the organization will foster an environment of cooperation in striving for the betterment of the university.

**Challenges**

An aging campus will present additional deferred maintenance issues.

Increased technology requirements will present challenges in updating infrastructure to create flexible classrooms and in maintaining a well-trained workforce.

Budget and fiscal constraint issues will continue to be a concern as long as we are dependent on state funds. Outside funding sources must be developed to assist with the maintenance and capital programs of the University.

**Priorities**

Priorities for the year 2019 in each of the units comprising the VCA division would include the following:

1. **Information Technology**

Our Information Technology system will be completely wireless with high-speed fiber optic connectivity a thing of the past. All students will be equipped with their own laptops and have virtually the same Internet accessibility as the professorial community. Student computer labs will be less of a necessity to maintain.

Research capacity afforded by Internet II will have expanded greatly due to wireless capacity and collaborative efforts among major research universities.

Building and maintaining our own switching station will enable us to operate the most up-to-date telecommunication system with the very latest in voice and data technologies.

All system-wide business practices utilizing ORACLE or any other software application will be managed as a part of our regular IT department and not as a separate stand-alone unit.

2. **Plant and Service Operations**

Our Plant and Service Operations will be operating under a brand new power plant, producing energy more efficiently and cheaply for the University.

Several new academic, athletic, as well as student housing and administrative buildings will be completed as outlined in the Land Use Plan.

An advanced energy conservation program will be implemented and maintained.

Deferred maintenance projects, particularly electrical distribution, heating and air conditioning, and classroom renovations will be completed at least at an 80% level and maintained as such.

An organization and production management agreement will be in place which will maximize productivity in the work environment.

3. **Human Resources and Payroll**

To have completed the implementation of a state-of-the-art management information system to provide administrators with the tools needed to capture information critical to the effective and efficient management of this institution. Human Resources and Payroll will be housed in a modern, well-equipped office complex, which will provide easier access for university employees and would better enable it to provide service to its customers. Finally, Human Resources and Payroll will take a proactive approach to human resource administration, and to have the resources necessary to recruit and retain faculty and staff. The primary challenge to achieving any of these goals is the availability of adequate financial resources.

**Labor and Employee Relations**

To have all members of the campus community working together for the common good. To deal honorably and fairly with all parties in order to build trust between the university administration and organized labor. To negotiate contracts without work stoppages; handle all grievance and employees issues as expeditiously as possible; participate with unions and employer groups to support apprenticeship training; and provide supervisor training to management personnel always emphasizing the importance of the individual effort in the accomplishing of the university's larger goals. The challenge will be to get people to set aside their selfish objectives and inspire them to accept the concept that by mutually seeking the overall good of the institution an environment will result that will ultimately be better for the individual.

**General Accounting**

To have one financial accounting system designed specifically for Colleges and Universities. All vendor and employee payments will be made electronically. Likewise, all collections will be electronic. The number of fiscal officers will be significantly reduced. Business Managers will be assigned as fiscal officers to campus departments. All business offices will be contained in a central location. This will enhance cooperation between departments and improve the level of service provided to the University's business partners. The challenge is the availability of University resources to accomplish these goals.

**Purchasing**

To have a fully automated financial system whereby the required goods and services of the University is processed utilizing predefined business rules based upon Federal and State statutes, regulations and Board of Trustees' guidelines and policies. This will include the development and supervision of the electronic procurement processes such as purchase orders, contracts, direct vouchering and procurement cards. University business policies, practices and procedures will more closely correlate with those of public corporations. The financial information system will be more robust and all users of the information will have need access with the ability to extract the data in many formats (graphs,

worksheets, etc.) as required. The primary challenge will be that the University's financial system and the individuals supporting this system will always be competing with other University priorities for a fair and sufficient share of the University's resources.

4. **Public Safety**

The Department of Public Safety is working on a strategy to make SIU the safest campus in Illinois. Using technology, electronic card access readers will be located in all buildings along with real-time video cameras. Such technology will allow DPS to provide the highest level of security for our students, faculty, and staff.

Our officers will be housed in a joint use facility with the Carbondale Police Department. This unique model of cooperation and collaboration will be the standard for others to duplicate.

As a model for disaster preparedness resulting from the BERT program, SIU will have a lead role in responding and assisting all of southern Illinois in times of extreme emergencies.

SIU will enjoy one of the lowest crime rates of all campuses in the Nation as we expand upon our Saluki Safe Program.

Parking will no longer be an issue as traffic is moved to the perimeter of campus. A safe, convenient, and time efficient shuttle service is used to transport students, faculty, and staff to and from campus.

**Center for Environmental Health and Safety**

The Center for Environmental Health and Safety, through the Building Emergency Response Team (B.E.R.T.) program, will be leading the nation in how to train volunteers to respond to emergencies and prevent accidents.

CEHS will be continuing its work to make SIUC the first university to be designated as a Keep America Beautiful campus in recognition for a successful clean up campaign.

As a result of the CEHS safety training, SIUC will have the lowest lost workday-to-injury rate in the State.

As a result of CEHS safety inspections, SIUC will be designated as a fire-free academic and housing campus.

**Arena**

The Arena will showcase a complete renovation with chair seating, and state of the art technology that complements both athletics and special events, along with implementing a single Ticket Box Office for the campus, thereby enabling visitors, students and staff easy access to all venues.

**Shryock Auditorium**

Shryock auditorium will be 104 years old and boast a new interior. As a state and national treasure, Shryock continues to be the beacon for the arts and entertainment for the university and the region by hosting prestigious performances, such as the Chicago Symphony and Royal Winnipeg Ballet, and major entertainers and artist of the highest caliber.

**Summary**

The VCA Office exists to provide the services necessary to support the University's mission of delivering quality educational programs and research. We must always strive to improve our ability to provide quality, customer oriented services. Our staff must become ambassadors of the University through personal contacts with students, faculty, staff, and the community. By creating a safe, attractive, and well-maintained campus, VCA will continue to be an integral part of the overall success of Southern Illinois University, Carbondale.