

MEMORANDUM

TO: WSU Faculty and Staff

FROM: Donald L. Beggs, president

DATE: November 19, 2009

RE: Office for Faculty Development and Student Success

I am pleased to inform you of the creation of the Office for Faculty Development and Student Success. This new office is a product of the Reshaping process that many of you have already contributed to by attending informational sessions and sharing your ideas and questions.

This important initiative is intended to advance our progress on three important goals:

- Support students, especially those new to WSU, by focusing on their positive adjustment to academic requirements and life on campus. This was recommended by last year's Foundations of Excellence study on student success.
- Support faculty members by offering professional tools to aid their classroom effectiveness and increase their satisfaction in teaching.
- Increase the university's success in attracting and retaining students who are well prepared for college-level work and making steady progress toward graduation.

The new office will be formed by re-tasking The Center for Teaching and Research Excellence to focus more closely on teaching and learning, and placing the current offices of Undergraduate Success Programs and the Emory Lindquist Honors Program under its purview. Combining three existing offices with related missions creates efficiencies, while also promoting academic success for WSU students.

Ongoing discussions at the Board of Regents about retention, combined with recent revenue forecasts, have accentuated the need for us to align resources with efforts to enhance student success and secure enrollment. This initiative is fundamentally important to Wichita State University's future and I am excited about the positive role that it will play in the years to come.

More details about this Reshaping initiative can be found at wichita.edu/reshaping