Electronic textbooks are here to stay

I love my iPad and Droid because they keep me connected to colleagues across campus enabling me to conduct business from anywhere virtually any time of day. Frankly, I don’t know how I got along without them back in the dark ages of telephones and fax machines. Still, if anyone sends me an attachment to an e-mail message that is more than two screens in length, I print it on paper before I read it. Don’t get me wrong, I love the way technology has changed—and continues to change my life, but I still like to be able to open a new book, smell the ink and new paper, hold it in my hands, and turn the pages with measured deliberation. It’s a generational thing I am sure. Recently, my wife gave me a current best seller as a present that she had loaded on her Kindle. Handy, convenient, light in weight, easy to transport, I wasn’t 100 pages into the read before I went to the local bookstore and purchased a hard copy of the same book. I am enjoying it much more, thank you.

Electronic texts are gaining in popularity on college campuses. Students who opt for electronic textbooks can avoid trips to the bookstore to buy textbooks at the beginning of the semester, and avoid returning them at the end of the semester only to learn what they purchased just four months earlier is now worth about half as much in resale value. Electronic texts mean students can carry the equivalent of a full backpack of hard bound textbooks on a single 8” x 11” size tablet that still has sufficient space remaining to load their favorite Zumba fitness video, a copy of the Black Eyed Peas Experience, and every hit song Lady Gaga has ever made. If I were looking to buy stock in a company, it would almost assuredly be a company involved in the electronic text book business. I predict in five years—no, make that three years—nearly every college textbook purchased will be electronic. It’s the wave of the future and a direction in which today’s student is perfectly comfortable and happy to be headed. As for me, well, I am still happiest sitting in an overstuffed chair with a good book in my hands.

John Beacon
Vice President, Enrollment Management, Marketing, and Communications
New John W. Moore Welcome Center to open mid-May

Visitors to Indiana State University will soon receive a new high-tech welcome upon their arrival to campus.

Nearly a dozen new interactive screens capable of projecting a variety of images, movies and graphics will encircle the interior of the new John W. Moore Welcome Center. The new center, in the former Family and Consumer Sciences Building, will house the Office of Admissions and be one of the first places prospective students, their families and others visit when they arrive on campus.

“We take our role as being the welcome center seriously, so faculty, staff, alumni and visitors who come to campus will see us right next to the Hulman Memorial Student Union,” said Melissa Hughes, director of recruitment and admissions. “We want people to feel invited in, and that it’s a comfortable environment.”

The screens will utilize new technology and feature videos highlighting students’ experiences and other information about Indiana State. People will be able to walk up to any screen and select additional videos or information on their particular screen as the footage projecting on the other screens around the room continues to play uninterrupted.

“When the families are sitting there, whether they’re waiting for a tour or their next appointment, we want the screens to be able to tell a story about ISU,” Hughes said. “We’re developing six to eight different videos that our staff can program to run.”

The entrance area, which is affectionately referred to as the “living room,” includes an earth-tone motif and features areas intended to encourage small group meetings.

“I think it reflects who we are as a campus as well, that people can see that this is a place where they can come in and meet in small groups in small meeting arrangements throughout, as well as interact casually one-on-one,” Hughes said. “I think this setting reflects what visitors see in our campus when they walk around.”

Relocation plans began in earnest about two years ago, once it was determined that the welcome center’s current location, Erickson Hall, would revert to a residence hall. Admissions members began seeking other potential locations, though they sought to stay close to the center of campus.

They considered several options before determining that the new location could best fit the welcome center’s needs. Additional campus renovations are planned, which includes changing the pay lot near the building to reserved parking for admissions.

The changes mean that ISU’s iconic fountain near Hulman Memorial Student Union and new Welcome Center will be visible as visitors drive into campus from U.S. 41. In addition to the Office of Admissions, families visiting the center will also be able to speak with staff members from financial aid, academics, student housing and residential life.

“We know alumni and other visitors who happen upon campus will find us,” Hughes said. “We want to be that first stop for them to get wherever they need to go.”

The center has been named for John W. Moore, who served as ISU’s ninth president from 1992 to 2000. During President Moore’s tenure, ISU initiated the President’s Scholars program, Student Academic Services Center, Lilly First-Year Experience program and reading and math centers, among other initiatives.

The center will open in mid-May, with a formal dedication scheduled for August 22.

“President Moore brought to this campus a service leadership environment and mentality,” Hughes said. “Naming our new welcome center after him is very appropriate.”
When Shane Bouman discusses Indiana State University’s softball program, he states one word often, “Opportunity.”

That’s the word he uses to describe why he wanted to coach at ISU. He also uses it to discuss the players, the team and the season.

“There’s a huge opportunity to build a program,” Bouman said. “There’s the opportunity to build something special. I think anybody’s looking for winners every day in life and on the softball field or for the rest of their lives, and really, that’s what I’m trying to do.”

Bouman, who played quarterback for South Dakota State University, grew up playing multiple sports with his two younger brothers.

“There was always competition in the household. We played every sport,” Bouman said. “You played softball, basketball, football, track and any other game you could come up with on the farm while doing all your farm chores.”

Beginning in his sophomore year of high school, the two loves of softball and football often converged.

“I remember I would play in a national tournament or a state tournament and going right to football practice on a Monday after a Sunday huge tournament,” he said.


Then his alma mater called, giving him the opportunity to begin his coaching career.

“They called me and the opportunity arose,” he said. “I started their program during their transition from Division II to Division I.”

After six years at South Dakota State, he then moved to the University of Iowa, where he worked as the pitching coach. In that role, he guided pitchers to national recognition. He also coached one year at Iowa Lakes Community College, leading the team to a 27-12 record before coming to ISU.

Bouman sees the opportunity to restructure ISU’s softball program to his coaching philosophy.

“Anytime you have a new coach, you have a rebuilding of the culture you want,” he said.

Bouman wants his players to follow three guidelines: to foster a positive culture, to compete every day and to give back to the community.

“We’re trying to do a lot of things to empower these young females for the rest of their lives,” he said.

That involves doing what’s right, being the best they can and treating others well.

“We’re trying to instill it in them for every day and for the rest of their lives,” he said. “I talk a lot about winning, but it’s not always wins and losses in your record. It’s winning every day in life to be a life-long champion.”

That includes the players making good grades as well. In the fall of 2011, the team earned a 3.53 GPA average, one of the highest in athletics. But they want more. The team set a goal to be in the top 10 in the country with its cumulative GPA.

“It’s one more stat we keep track of as well,” Bouman said. “A lot of times it’s more important than their batting average because that’s going to affect them for the rest of their lives.

From grades to behavior while traveling on softball trips, Bouman wants to provide his players opportunities for life off and on the softball field.

“There’s a value in being part of a team, especially, I think, for young females. It’s very empowering for them to have voice no matter what their role is, to feel good about themselves and what their accomplishing.”

Bouman invites everyone out to see the team take the field.

“You’ll see high energy in a positive environment,” he said. “We look to a bright future with our program, there’s no doubt about that.”

**Remaining Sycamores Home Schedule**

**Saturday, April 14**
- vs. Bradley, 12:00 p.m.
- vs. Bradley, 2:00 p.m.

**Sunday, April 15**
- vs. Bradley, 12:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, April 18**
- vs. Illinois State, 2:00 p.m.
- vs. Illinois State, 4:00 p.m.

**Saturday, April 21**
- vs. Wichita State, 12:00 p.m.
- vs. Wichita State, 2:00 p.m.

**Sunday, April 22**
- vs. Wichita State, 12:00 p.m.
State police staked out the main roads, electrical company employees erected new poles and strung electrical wires to houses roofed with blue tarps as life assumed a new normal for Henryville residents after a deadly tornado swept through the town, destroying buildings, homes and reducing the public school to its skeleton.

A few miles away at the Country Lake Christian Retreat Center, Indiana State University students, faculty and staff contributed to the rebuilding process as they carried chairs, end tables and foosball tables from lounge rooms past tables piled with blankets, shampoo and pillows to make way for boxes of stuffing, cans of soup and boxes of crackers.

“We’re helping with the logistical aspects of the recovery,” said Greg Bierly, director of the University Honors program. “We’re organizing food stores and bedding, both to serve those coming in later waves as they help with the recovery and the people subject to the event themselves.”

Occasional heavy rain pounded on the tin roof as ISU volunteers worked with others as emergency services prepared to transition for long-term assistance in Henryville and other tornado-affected areas. The moving and organizing is what it takes to prepare for the weeks of clean up and rebuilding to come. ISU’s Center for Community Engagement plans to send at least two additional groups to aid the area on March 23-24 and April 13-14.

“This is a process that will take many months, probably even a couple of years for the town and the community around here to fully recover so it very well may be that we’ll have some other groups coming for quite a while,” said Nancy Rogers, associate vice president for community engagement and experiential learning.

About 15 members of the ISU community headed to Henryville on Thursday (March 8) while others arrived to volunteer on Friday (March 9) and Saturday (March 10). In all, Rogers estimated about 40 people would contribute hundreds of man hours to helping the recovery in one weekend.

“It’s always important work and it’s always meaningful work, but there’s just something a little more special when it’s here with fellow Hoosiers and neighbors,” Rogers said about the center’s volunteer efforts, which has sent ISU community members throughout the U.S. to help after disasters.

For some volunteers, they returned to home ground to help out neighbors.

Jordan Adams, a junior aviation major from Borden, said the tornado hit his hometown as well as Henryville.

“I figured I’d come help people who need it,” he said, adding his family was unhurt by the tornado. “There’s been a ton of people that were affected by the tornados. I think it’s important that ISU and other people in general get involved and help those who are less fortunate and had damage from the storms.”

Bierly also grew up in southeastern Indiana and as a climatologist watched closely as the furious storm targeted his home area.

“I decided to come today because this particular event was etched pretty dramatically on everyone’s consciousness over the past week,” he said. “Viewing the devastation of the tornado, it’s clear that any sort of help will be useful.”

Faith Fear, a freshman dietetics major from Terre Haute, gave up an end of spring break trip to Chicago with friends to volunteer.

“This is just like a movie with the way the town looked with a school bus in the middle of a building, metal bent around light poles and the way things were tattered

(Continued next page)
and scattered,” she said describing the tornado damage. “This is barely a week after what happened and the fact that people are coming to volunteer in a short amount of time is just more of a blessing to them.”

The F4 tornado, with winds hitting 175 mph, stayed on the ground for about 50 miles, reducing to rubble all in its path, including much of Henryville. “Anytime there is an EF-4 tornado, the damage is nearly complete and extensive in terms of the areal coverage of it as well as how complete the destruction is,” Bierly said. “There’s a very small statistical number of them approach this strength. When it strikes fully up on a town, it’s hard to compare it to anything really. It’s wholesale destruction.”

Now, ISU has committed itself to helping the students and the communities in southeastern Indiana repair that destruction. “Indiana State remains committed to serving its region and its community,” Bierly said. “There are incoming scholarship students who went to this high school. I think it’s an excellent way to further connect to the communities that are connected to us through our academic programs.” “We’re also committed to the university being a positive force for community development and economic development and responding to a situation like this, to help get a community back on its feet is certainly an important part of that role,” Rogers said.

Breanna Jewell wants to complete her bachelor’s degree early so she can get a head start on graduate school. Toward that end, the criminology major, who is minoring in recreation and sport management, has taken an English class online and plans to take a sport management class online this summer—even though she is an on-campus student.

“I really like online classes because I can do the work on my time. That’s what I really enjoy about it,” said Jewell, a junior from Pendleton who plans to graduate in December 2012 after three and one-half years at ISU.

With the growing popularity of distance education, the university plans to offer nearly 300 sections of classes online this summer, an increase from 273 last year. "Half of all credits awarded during the summer are for online classes," said Ken Brauchle, dean of extended learning. "It’s a great way for students to catch up if they are behind or to work ahead.”

Foundational studies classes account for much of the increase in this year’s online offerings, Brauchle said. “We have tried to make more classes available online to help students graduate on time,” he said. “We also want to reduce the number of ISU students who take classes at other institutions.” While some students may be concerned about the cost of taking what they might initially view as an “extra” class during the summer, they find it can often reduce the overall cost of completing a four-year degree, Brauchle said.

“It’s cheaper than staying an extra semester or two to earn a degree and delaying a degree means a delay in earning a salary in your chosen field,” he said. The flexibility of online classes can also help students hold down a summer job, he added. “In most of our online classes . . . everyone isn’t online at the same time so your assignment does not have to be done between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

They can work around other summer commitments,” he noted. Both Brauchle and Jewell point out that distance classes may not right be for every student. “Students must be disciplined and make time for the course,” Brauchle said. “The workload tends to be more than in the classroom because teachers want to make up for you not being in the classroom,” said Jewell. “If you're willing to put the work into it, online classes are an advantage because you can do them on your own time. If you go into it thinking you can slack off because it's online, that's the wrong approach and it can actually hurt you.”

Students can search for available online summer classes by clicking on “Class Schedule” on the “ISU A-Z” list on the university home page, www.indstate.edu, or the Summer Sessions page at www.indstate.edu/summer.
Performing and exhibiting are facts of life for Indiana State University art, theater, and music students. But this semester, students have been engaged in diverse experiential activities.

Seven students from Nancy Nichols-Pethick’s intermediate painting class are working with local artist and emeritus faculty member David Erickson in creating a colorful, larger-than-life mural at the Terre Haute Children’s Museum.

The mural, titled “Flightful Fantasy: We can Fly, We can Fly!,” depicts the evolution of flight through time. Located on the third floor of the museum, the mural is more than eight feet high and more than 40 feet long.

This project will challenge students with new ways of working and approaching the act of painting.

“I’m excited but nervous because it’s not my design,” said Michelle Visker, a third year studio art major. “It’s more difficult to work on someone else’s design because everyone works differently. I hope he likes my work. I’m excited to work with David; to learn from someone who used to teach here.”

This will be the third mural created as part of the Gilbert Wilson Memorial Mural Project.

The goal of this project is to bring public art to the Terre Haute community and honor the memory of Gilbert Wilson, a Terre Haute native and mural painter in the 1930s and 40s. The previous two murals were created at the Terre Haute Boys and Girls Club in 2006 and the Booker T. Washington Community Center in 2008. Energize Downtown, one of the initiatives of Indiana State University’s strategic plan, is funding the current mural project.

Elsewhere on campus, six Indiana State students enrolled in the theater department’s puppet-making class created puppets and other props for an the production of a spring semester play. Each student created a large paper Maché head representing a political or historical figure to be worn by actors in “The People’s History.” Instead of looking to realistic images of the figures, most students designed the form of their heads from caricatures of the individuals, including George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and an astronaut, among others.

The ISU theater department performed “The People’s History” in association with Quest Theater Ensemble of Chicago. Quest’s Andrew Park, who earned a bachelor’s degree in theater from Indiana State, is director of the production.

Back in December, Quest brought several puppets to the class so that the students could get a close up view of what they would be making. Also prior to puppet construction, the students watched videos of Bread and Puppet Theatre, a Vermont based theater with which Andrew Park has worked. Bread and Puppet Theatre visited ISU in 2007. The company has a unique production style that is high on spectacle and low on dialogue, similar to the production style of “The People’s History.”

“This is a whole new world to me; it’s nothing like I’ve ever done,” said Jenna Kelly, a junior theater major.

Kelly, who has a design and tech concentration, has never felt very confident with drawing but said working in three dimensions has given her a better understanding of form, especially of the human face.”

She said the skills she is learning in the class will be beneficial for theater design as designers often need to be familiar with a lot of different materials that may be used for props, scenery, or other construction.

As a class, the students crafted a puppet of the villain of the play, Moloch. Moloch is a large puppet, around 10 feet tall, which, due to his size, will be controlled by four
actors using a rolling platform. This character was also constructed from paper Mache', and was created in pieces – torso, legs, arms, and head. Each student worked on various components of the puppet during the down time from their individual projects.

The students agreed that one of the largest challenges they face is time. “It’s more work than you expect. You are working with a wet and malleable material that can rip and set you back,” said Kelly, who is also stage manager for the production.

After its ISU run, the production was performed in Chicago at Quest’s performance venue.

Music students have also experienced unique, hands-on learning experiences. Fifty-five members of the Wind Orchestra, under the direction of Roby George, performed a diverse repertoire of works on the stage of the Chicago Symphony Center on February 26. Special guest participants included Paul Bro, ISU music faculty and member of the Chicago Saxophone Quartet and conductor Col. Timothy Foley of the U.S. Marine Band.

Music business students, together with students from Spotlight Entertainment are currently recording Sycamix Volume 2, a CD featuring music by ISU musicians. Nearly 40 submissions were entered, and 16 selections ranging from rock, country, heavy metal, hip-hop and folk were accepted to be part of the album. A contest was also held for the design of the CD package, which will be for sale in mid to late April.

Twenty-four members of the Sycamore Singers, under the direction of Scott Buchanan, will perform May 13-21 in Florence, Italy. In seven days, the group will have four performances—Santa Maria De’Ricci Church, Teatro di Cestello Theater, and at St. James American Church. The trip is the culmination of Buchanan’s sabbatical project of early Baroque music by lesser-known Italian composers.

The chorus will perform five or six works by those composers, complemented by English madrigals and Americana music.
Summer Sizzles @ ISU

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