



May 8, 2008

Greetings:

I am pleased to provide news about all that your university community has accomplished during this academic year and about exciting plans to come. Student numbers increased during this past academic year, one of the largest increases ever. Residence halls are filled to capacity. We are proud of the many awards that students, faculty, and the University itself were accorded. They are apt recognition of the contribution you make to the world-at-large.

Governor Granholm, U.S. Senator Levin, several Congressional representatives, and dozens of industry executives have visited campus recently to learn of the work students and faculty are doing in alternative energy, on sustainability projects, and in finding new uses for new materials.

We seek to continue to build an environment on campus that broadens your professional and personal goals to lead and contribute to society as a learned citizen. Several new initiatives were launched this past year and I want to update you on next year's tuition and fees:

- ***Proud Heritage -- Bold Future:*** Lawrence Tech celebrated its 75th anniversary this year. The dreams of the founders, the Lawrence brothers, have become a reality that even they would have had difficulty imagining. We have nearly 30,000 graduates and some 4,600 students representing 25 states and 26 nations in over 80 undergraduate, masters and doctoral programs. The University is cited among *U.S. News & World Report's Best Colleges* and Intel's "Top 50 Unwired Campuses".
- ***Leadership Program:*** A Leadership Curriculum for all undergraduates at Lawrence Tech is being phased in. The curriculum started with freshmen this past fall and ultimately, all Lawrence Tech students will be exposed to what leadership entails and the rewards it provides. As the program is integrated into all curricula, all undergrads will have experiences that allow them to practice and develop leadership skills and enhance their contributions to society and their professional lives.
- ***Sustainability focus:*** Lawrence Tech is a leader in sustainable design and energy efficiency through its Colleges of Engineering and Architecture and Design. Again this year several students won awards for outstanding sustainable solutions in architecture. The Element One student team won first place in design for the Formula Zero hydrogen fuel cell-powered racer competition that begins this summer.
- ***Applied Research that impacts our students:*** The University is making a concerted effort to form government, corporate, and industry partnerships to advance research in leap-ahead technologies, provide applied research opportunities for students and faculty, and

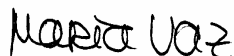
contribute to the effort to diversify Michigan's economy. One recent partnership includes Michigan's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Job Fund to develop, implement, and commercialize new materials and engineering practices to double the lifespan of Michigan's box beam highway bridges.

- ***New and Innovative degree offerings:*** New programs Lawrence Tech reflect agility and a flexible, interdisciplinary approach to better prepare students for new economic opportunities. Two programs approved by the Board of Trustees started last fall:
  - ***Bachelor of Science in Transportation Design***
  - ***Bachelor of Arts in English and Communication Arts***
- ***New and Improved campus activities:*** Members of SPAM, Students Programming Activities Monthly, returned from their annual national conference and developed another terrific year of activities. Students participated in a welcome back concert with nationally recognized recording artists. Club sports in volleyball and cricket were added to augment the successful hockey and soccer programs. Lawrence Tech hockey games have made Friday and Saturday nights very special. Our revived mascot, Blue, leads fans in cheering, and adds spirit to campus events. We closed the season with a hard fought game against Detroit Red Wings alumni. Other new programming aims to increase student awareness of diversity and social responsibility.
- ***Tuition and Fee Increase.*** Lawrence Tech's Board of Trustees has approved changes in the structure of the tuition and fees and has agreed to hold increases to a minimum. For summer and fall 2008, tuition and fees will increase an average of 7.3 percent, with blended rates depending on the course level and program. Nonetheless, the cost of attending Lawrence Tech is expected to remain among the lowest of private colleges and universities. We continue to increase the size and number of scholarships for students and both the Financial Aid and Business Services Offices look forward to working with you to help you access all possible forms of aid available.
- ***Communication is the key.*** Numerous ways to communicate can now help you stay up-to-date. Through our Website portal, through the Blackboard system, through email, and the bulletin boards in each building, we're seeking to inform and educate you about policies and procedures. Be sure to keep abreast of educational and career opportunities.

All of these plans seek to enhance your future. We continue to strive to develop your University as one of the premier private universities in the country. We want to enhance and improve your opportunities for success by providing additional learning opportunities and greater access to new technologies. We are committed to achieving the mission of *Leadership through Theory and Practice* and above all, strengthening *your* competitive edge.

Best wishes for continued success. I look forward to seeing you this fall!

Sincerely,



Maria J. Vaz, PhD  
Provost