



Dr. Nicholas Neupauer Convocation Speech Fall 2014

Welcome back! I appreciate you all being here for the 2014-2015 Convocation. I am proud – Pioneer Proud – to give the annual "State of the College" address as we enter into the College's Golden, 50th Anniversary!

Best of all, the news is all good! We have lots to celebrate. And rather than hear everything from yours truly, I am going to rely on several colleagues to share the information.

Today's agenda includes:

- a. Linda Dodd, who will introduce new hires.
- b. Ruth Purcell, who will discuss our Pioneer Proud Campaign.
- c. Brian Opitz, who will discuss College capital projects.
- d. Susan Changnon, who will go over our academic years plans to celebrate the College's 50th anniversary.
- e. Dr. Case Willoughby, who will share some incredible data from the 2014 Noel Levitz (national) survey and Welcome Day.
- f. Alex Gladis and Sherry Mack, who will discuss our coming together as an institution to complete the Middle States Self-Study.
- g. Dr. Francie Spigelmyer, who will present her annual Best Practices in Teaching and Learning Awards and present recently tenured and promoted faculty.
- h. And I will close this session with some announcements and points of information.

I don't have to tell you about what's going on around us in the world of higher education. Thankfully, while others are retrenching, laying off and closing programs, we are hiring at BC3.

With cuts from our funding sources over the years, I've discussed the importance of private giving and appropriate grants. I am pleased to introduce Ruth Purcell to discuss our strategic efforts in the Pioneer Proud Campaign.

View Ruth Purcell's [powerpoint presentation](#) (pdf format).

Beautification has served as well as one of the College's strategic goals. As we continue to leverage state support with careful planning and now private giving our entire operations staff has kept busy. Here is their leader, Brian Opitz, to discuss the College's capital projects.

View Brian Opitz's [powerpoint presentation](#) (pdf format).

Fifty years! I can hardly believe that this wonderful institution is about to celebrate our Golden Anniversary. Here's Susan Changnon to go over our plans for the upcoming academic year.

View Susan Changnon's [powerpoint presentation](#) (pdf format).

Our efforts as a College over the last several years have been intentional and strategic. Our approach to assessment, planning and measurement of College goals will be discussed in great length during our Middle States report, but how do we know we are improving as an institution? Here is Dr. Case Willoughby to discuss the College's recent Noel Levitz survey and tomorrow's Welcome Day.

View Dr. Case Willoughby's [powerpoint presentation](#) (pdf format).

Many of you have already been involved in Middle States Self Study meetings and planning. Sherry Mack and Alex Gladis are here to briefly discuss the game plan for the academic year.

The cornerstone of our institution of higher learning, of course, is our faculty. Dr. Francie Spigelmyer is proud to introduce our recently tenured and promoted faculty in addition to giving her annual Best Practices in Teaching and Learning Awards.

Finally, some other important points before we close (in no particular order).

- a. 2014-15 Presidential Goals.
- b. October 7, Professional Day.
- c. From BIT to CARE.

BIT, the Behavioral Intervention Team, is part our campus defense against potential threats. The team has changed its name to CARE, Campus Assessment, Response and Evaluation. The new name reflects the team's expanded mission. Once focused primarily on threats, it now includes intervening when students may be experiencing serious personal difficulties. The second is a PR reason. You may remember the first incarnation of this team was BRAT, and then BIT. Neither name sends a warm message. It's our hope that the new, CARE will inspire more members of the community contact the team when concerned about a student.

- d. Pat will be conducting further safety trainings in respective divisional and departmental meetings.
- e. Importance of wearing IDs.
- f. Another note about IDS. At the end of the fall semester, BC3 will be replacing all copiers on our campus sites. Your new ID will allow you to logon to the copier and/or release print jobs. Stay tuned for more information on how to obtain your new BC3 ID card.
- g. School Closing information. We are introducing a noon start as part of our delay options.
- h. Review of Mission, Vision and Goals (create a committee).
- i. Payment Plan.
- j. Enrollment.

We are on the dawn of a magical year. Please know how much I appreciate your efforts. There's no question, as your president, I am 100 percent "Pioneer Proud!"