

## Chancellor's message regarding UW-Eau Claire Foundation fundraising initiatives

**Jan. 29, 2008, e-mail message from Chancellor Brian Levin-Stankevich to UW-Eau Claire students, faculty, staff, emeriti faculty and retired associates**

To the UW-Eau Claire Campus Community,

At the close of 2007 I was proud to join our Foundation's Executive Director Kimera Way to announce the successful completion of our first comprehensive campaign. Not only did we reach, but we exceeded our goal, with a final tally of nearly \$54 million, truly a landmark achievement for a university of our size.

The Foundation's efforts did not stop when the goal was reached, however. Initial plans for a second campaign are in the works, completion coinciding with our centennial in 2016. The Foundation Board currently is beginning to develop a strategic plan that will align with our university strategic plan.

In addition, there are several initiatives underway now that promise to benefit UW-Eau Claire tremendously.

- The All-Steinway campaign has set a goal to make our university an all-Steinway campus, enhancing the quality of our music programs and benefiting our students with the best musical instruments available.
- On Thursday, I will join representatives from our Foundation, the City of Eau Claire, Eau Claire Youth Hockey, the Eau Claire Figure Skating Club and the Eau Claire Area School District to announce an innovative public-private partnership to renovate and expand the Hobbs Ice Center. The partners will launch a \$2 million fund-raising effort to finance an addition that will include dedicated locker rooms and space for our Athletic program. Our Foundation will coordinate the fundraising campaign. Like our community partnership to update Carson Park, this initiative continues our ongoing efforts to explore creative, mutually beneficial relationships with public and private partners. It is a win-win for Eau Claire and for the university.
- A new initiative to develop Faculty Opportunity Funds for every department also is underway. The goal is to generate annual support for faculty to engage in research and professional development opportunities through reassignment or release time during a semester or summer term. The Vicki Lord Larson Research Fellowship already has been developed in the department of communication sciences and disorders and will serve as a model.

The UW-Eau Claire Foundation has been and continues to be a strong partner for our University, and I am looking forward to working with our friends and supporters to strengthen our university.