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Vol. 26, No. 12 July 10, 1995

MEMO TO: The University Community

FROM:

SUBJECT:

Nancy Belck
We're On Our Way To The 21st Century, UNLIMITED

Excitement continues as we speed along toward the 21st Century UNLIMITED! As you know, about 100 representatives of eight campus constituency groups participated in a university-wide "Advance" on January 20. The purpose was to coordinate planning energies across the University in identifying goals for our 50th anniversary in 2007.

We began by considering 353 vision statements completed by those who attended our University Convocation last October. From these statements, a list of themes was developed to serve as a starting point to guide our thinking as we identify what we want SIUE to be by 2007.

From the initial Advance Group, a Task Force of 18 was named to coordinate the overall 21st Century UNLIMITED process. In late March, the Task Force presented draft statements of vision, values and goals to the President's Council for review and comment. On April 7 another "Advance" was held with the original group. Discussions continued among Task Force members and sub-groups during spring and summer to finalize a vision, values and major goals for sharing with the University community at the August 30 Convocation.

Simultaneously, the President's Council is developing a calendar for implementation, beginning September 15. Each unit of the University will be involved, with facilitators from the original Advance Group assigned to work with unit heads to implement the plan. Focused workshops will be scheduled to consider questions at all levels, including:

- 1. What do the Vision/Values/Goals areas mean to the University and to your unit?
- 2. What are specific implications for your unit, both short term and long term?
- 3. What specific steps should your unit take to realize Vision/Values/Goals?

Facilitators will lead discussions about these types of topics: internal/external opportunities; internal/external obstacles, threats, challenges; specific strengths and processes for getting past obstacles; and implementation plans, including a time frame and schedule. One final question: What specific measures will your unit identify to evaluate SUCCESS?

Ultimately, a final plan will be drafted. By early next year, the Advance Group participants will meet again to place the finishing touches on our dream for SIUE in 2007. Everyone will have an opportunity to climb aboard--it's not too late to catch the 21st Century, UNLIMITED! Next stop: University Convocation, Vadalabene Center, 11 a.m., Wednesday, August 30!