Transmittal Letter from the Steering Committee

To:  *Blueprint for Student Attainment* Leadership Team

The *Blueprint for Student Attainment* (BSA) is enthusiastically submitted by the BSA Steering Committee, on behalf of the six Priority Action Teams, for your consideration and recommendation to President Michael A. McRobbie.

In accepting your charge to develop a plan to achieve the shared goals of the IU regional campuses, 72 faculty and administrators from all six regional campuses came together in a powerful example of effective shared governance. Over the course of just a few months, these individuals worked collaboratively to discuss challenges, successes, and best practices related to retaining and graduating students on their campuses. Based on their spirited and collegial discussions, the teams designed strategies and action steps for improving student attainment, and established metrics for measuring progress toward the goals set forth in this document. This collective effort has drawn upon the expertise of faculty and administrators from all levels. The recommendations contained herein are truly the result of a “bottom-up process”—they come from faculty and administrators who are closest to the work of the regional campuses.

Team members collectively invested thousands of hours and generously shared their knowledge and experience, reviewing current literature related to best practices, soliciting input from campus colleagues, and identifying the needs and interests of the campuses. Although we recognize that every regional campus is engaged in committed efforts to help students achieve their educational goals, we also believe we are capable of achieving more. The time has come for a collaborative approach to the challenge of increasing student attainment. The teams have found the multicampus discussions to be richly rewarding and are eager to find ways to maintain cross-campus collaborations. Just as a blueprint provides guidance and a framework for constructing a building, this *Blueprint* provides the guidance for the regional campuses to work together to build a comprehensive framework for supporting and serving our students.

We recognize that some *Blueprint* strategies and actions will require investment by IU and the regional campuses. We believe such investment is warranted, and team members are optimistic that this *Blueprint* will result in Indiana University’s regional campuses becoming national leaders in student success and degree attainment. We particularly want to stress the need for reliable and timely data that track the implementation and success of the strategic initiatives.

On behalf of the Priority Action Teams, we the Steering Committee appreciate the opportunity to participate in this important work and look forward to moving ahead quickly with the implementation phase of the *Blueprint for Student Attainment*.

Respectfully submitted,

*Blueprint for Student Attainment* Steering Committee