



Office of President

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To concerned ILC students:

A number of questions have been addressed to me regarding decisions that have been made and a seeming inconsistency in the operations at ILC. This letter is intended to answer some of these concerns.

Why did we have to make changes in room assignments?

- ▶ The budget at ILC is under serious stress. Our enrollment has dropped and therefore our income has dropped. However, expenses in many areas cannot be changed. Therefore, we are trying to reduce expenses in those areas that can be changed.

Students living in private dorm rooms have been asked to share rooms. This enables us to turn down the heat in certain places. Although we do not promise private rooms to students, we are happy that we can at times do this. With the present budgetary problems, it is not possible to do this at this time.

Why don't the adults on campus have to make sacrifices, too?

- ▶ The adults at ILC have been making many sacrifices throughout the years. For the Lord and for the students they have been willing to live on salaries that are lower than what they could be making at public schools and colleges.

Every year the faculty has been sacrificing a lot of family time and personal time in order to be involved in co-curricular activities.

Last year and this year, the faculty and staff have been asked to make cuts in their budget lines, as well as reducing the demands on utilities (heat, electricity, water) in the professorages. The office thermostats are set at 65°, which means that individual offices are often colder than that.

The students should be aware that the faculty is making another substantial sacrifice due to the present budgetary difficulties. When Prof. Sydow retires at the end of the school year, we will not be replacing him. The faculty will be reduced to 12 professors and 3 part time teachers. 7 of the remaining faculty members will take Prof. Sydow's courses. This means that they will have to give more of their time to prepare for courses that are new to them and more time to correct homework. Since there are only 24 hours in the day, they will have to take this time away from their family time, their recreational time, their sleep time, their home-upkeep time, or some time once dedicated to other things. — This they are willing to do for you, the students, and for the Lord.

Why is money being poured into Ingram remodeling, when ILC has budget problems?

- ▶ The Ingram remodeling is not being done by ILC. It does not come out of the budget of ILC, so discontinuing it would have had no impact on our budget. The project is being done at the direction of the CLC convention. The president of the CLC appointed a building committee, which makes the decisions regarding this project. Their money comes from the ILC building fund. The money in this fund is not available to ILC for budgetary purposes. Neither the Board of Regents nor the ILC administration has any control over this fund.

As far as the purpose of the remodeling is concerned, it was done in an effort to make more classroom space available to the college department and to make Ingram more energy efficient. In this way money is saved both by lowering energy consumption and by reducing the size of the new academic building. Money will be saved also by the demolition of the Cottage and eventually Northwest Hall; these buildings are inefficient and demanding more and more repair and upkeep.

Why is money being poured into a maintenance/storage building, when ILC has budget problems?

- ▶ The city of Eau Claire mandated that the gym attic is no longer to be used for storage. That ruling, combined with the loss of square footage in the Ingram basement because the remodeling, necessitated the construction of a storage facility. We had no choice. The new building will serve the purpose of relocation of this storage.

The money for this project comes not from the ILC budget, but from the IIF (ILC Improvement Fund), to which many people gave special contributions especially for this purpose. Some time in the future, we hope to expand this building so that it can be used by the maintenance department.

The IIF budget cannot be used for the ongoing budgetary needs of ILC. That is a convention ruling.

Why is money being poured into South Hall windows, when ILC has budget problems?

- ▶ The replacement of the South Hall windows has been on our IIF budget for many years. The old windows were contributing to heat loss and cold rooms in South Hall. Therefore, the decision was made by the Regents to install the new windows. This also satisfies an aesthetic issue that concerned many parents. Much thought went into the best stewardship of the IIF money for this project.

Why is money being poured into paper towel and toilet paper dispensers?

- ▶ Paper towel and toilet paper dispensers were provided by a supplier at no charge. This is a cost savings effort to stop waste in the lavatories.
- ▶ Hand sanitizer dispensers were provided by a supplier at no charge. This was an effort to reduce reduce the spread of germs and thus improve class attendance. We are testing it out at this time.

Why don't we close the Cottage and hold college classes in Ingram now?

- ▶ The Cottage is indeed a very inefficient building, when it comes to heat loss. However, moving the college classes to Ingram will not eliminate the need for the Cottage. Many high school classes are held there. These classes cannot be held in Ingram, because of their size.

Comments on the budget:

- ▶ It is important to separate General Budget expenditures from Special Offering expenditures. The Ingram, storage building, and South Hall window projects are funded through the ILC Improvement or ILC Building Funds. Designated offerings from the membership come in to fund special projects like this. The CLC has determined that these dollars cannot be used to pay the utility bills or any general budget expenditure.

With enrollment down we do not have the student revenue to support all the necessary expenditures. We have tightened our already tight belts and are looking at all available options for savings and still provide a good educational environment for our students.

- ▶ Another factor that is difficult for people to understand is this: ILC cannot receive individual donations directly to our general operating budget. There have been a number of people who have tried to help out ILC by giving money to our budget. We appreciate their concerns and efforts. However, the CLC has determined that all receipts are to come from tuition/room & board/fees and from the CLC subsidy (a few receipts come from such things as ticket sales).

Once a school year begins, our budget is set. This means that the disbursements side of our budget remains unchanged. However, the receipts side often does change. The recent drop in enrollment has resulted in the loss of \$30,000 to \$35,000. The only way to make up this loss is through efforts to reduce spending. Each effort may seem small, when considered by itself. However, when the individual efforts are totaled, the impact is much greater. — Last year, partly because of many little reductions (mostly because of the mercy of God), we were able to end the year without a deficit (we were anticipating a deficit of \$90,000+). Whether or not we end this year with a deficit is in the hands of the Lord. We will continue to try to do what we can and leave the rest to Him.

I hope this answers some of your questions.

In the service of Christ,
John K Pfeiffer