

BLAIR M. LORD

OFFICE ADDRESS

Office of the Provost and
Vice President for Academic Affairs
Old Main
Eastern Illinois University
600 Lincoln Avenue
Charleston, IL 61920

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. University of California at Davis, Economics, 1975
Dissertation: An Analysis of the Market for Medical Expense Insurance:
Some Implications of Contractual Relationships
- B.A. University of California at Davis, Economics, 1970

POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION

- Postdoctoral Fellowship, S.S. Huebner Foundation, University of Pennsylvania, 1976.
Intensive study of risk management and insurance.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Eastern Illinois University, 2001-present

Responsible to President Louis V. Hencken for the effective operation of the Academic Affairs Division. EIU is a public comprehensive university with an enrollment of approximately 12,300 students, an FTE faculty of 570 and an annual general fund budget of almost \$90 million. The institution's all funds budget totals approximately \$170 million. Supervisory responsibilities include the deans of four undergraduate colleges (Arts and Humanities, Sciences, Education and Professional Studies, and Business and Applied Sciences), the dean of the Honors College, the dean of the School of Continuing Education, the dean of the Graduate School, and the dean of the University Library. Supervise the work of three associate/assistant vice presidents with delegated responsibility for academic technology services, undergraduate education and research. Additional reporting relationships include the Director of Minority Affairs, the Director of Admissions, the Director of the Center

for Academic Support, and the Registrar. Manage a divisional budget of \$58 million. Make recommendations to the President on all personnel matters. Serve as the primary liaison between the faculty and the administration.

Selected Administrative Accomplishments:

- **Accreditation.** Supervised preparation of the institutional Self-Study for regional accreditation (North Central Association in 2005) and managed the team visit. The institution was continued in accreditation for ten years with no concerns or follow up required.
- **Budget Management.** Instituted a centralized “recapture” policy of positions and salary savings from position turnover. Annual position and budget allocation requests now are prioritized based on strategic objectives. An ancillary benefit has been the ability to accommodate mid-year rescissions by the state and declining overall revenues due to cuts to the institution’s state appropriation levels which have totaled approximately \$11 million over the past five years.
- **Faculty Union Relations.** Manage and provide direction for contract negotiations with our faculty union (University Professionals of Illinois which is affiliated with the Illinois Federation of Teachers). During the last cycle (2006), a four-year contract was achieved and job actions were avoided.
- **Study Abroad.** Established a separate study abroad office and hired a director who has overseen the complete restructuring of our study abroad initiatives. The objective is to achieve the highest participation rate in such programs among the Illinois public comprehensive universities.
- **Faculty Development.** With Faculty Senate support re-established the Office of Faculty Development and hired a director. Programs now include a new faculty mentoring program, an outside speaker series on teaching and learning, and bi-weekly “brown-bag” lunches devoted to discussions of selected issues on teaching.
- **External Funding.** Oversaw the modernization of the Office of Sponsored Projects including the formalizing of procedures to ensure meeting all compliance requirements. Enhanced activity in this area resulted in extramural funding increasing to approximately \$10 million.
- **Honors.** Enhanced honors programming by establishing an Honors College. We now have the highest participation rate in such programs among Illinois’ public comprehensive universities.
- **Development.** Working with the Vice President for External Relations to restructure the development relationship with Academic Affairs. Established and funded a structure of college development officers who report to the Director of Development but work on college-related development activities. Also, working with the VP and

the President on the themes and priorities for the university's upcoming, first-ever major capital campaign. Routinely make presentations to college advisory boards, host visitors on campus and have accompanied the President on donor visits to major donors.

- **Enrollment Management.** Adjusted admissions procedures to manage a substantial increase in the flow of applications and move toward a more intentional selection process. Overall enrollments have increased approximately 15% since 2001 to an all-time institutional high. In addition, we restructured summer sessions and reversed a multi-year decline in summer enrollments. Instituted a four-year graduation guarantee program (EIU4).
- **Credibility.** Re-established the credibility of and respect for the Office of the Provost.
- Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, University of Rhode Island, 1991-2001 (and Acting Vice Provost for Information Services, 1996-97, and Acting Registrar, 1995-96)

Responsible for a broad array of fiscal, curricular and administrative responsibilities for the academic affairs division of this 14,500-student land-grant, sea-grant and urban-grant university. Specific duties and responsibilities included:

Direct responsibility for the following units: Registrar's Office, Admissions, Student Financial Aid, the Honors Program, and the Instructional Development Program (the institution's faculty development program). Led establishment of an integrated Enrollment Services Unit for the University.

Provided primary division-level oversight for the University's eight degree granting colleges, the Faculty Senate, and the Board of Governors of the State of Rhode Island on curricular matters. Institutional contact for all accreditation issues.

Oversaw academic planning and faculty workload assignments. Created an academic program fiscal analysis to assess the financial impacts and contributions of each individual academic program.

Chief negotiator for the management team in the 1997, 1999 and 2000 contract negotiations with the University's chapter of the AAUP.

- Senior Assistant to the President for Resource Allocation, University of Rhode Island, 1990-1991

Served as the institution's long-range planning officer and Director of the Office of Institutional Research. Coordinated and served as staff support

for the University Planning Council, the chief long-range planning group at the University. Directed the activities of the three-person Office of Institutional Research.

- American Council on Education Fellow, University of Bridgeport, Bridgeport, CT, 1988-89

Served as and Executive Assistant to the President and Provost. Coordinated preparation of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges Self-Study and edited final version; served as consultant for academic planning activities; wrote reports, letters and memos. Served as a member of the President's Cabinet and Council of Deans.

- Chairperson, Department of Finance and Insurance, University of Rhode Island, 1981-87

A department of 9 FTE faculty in a "high turnover" discipline, conducted annual departmental recruiting and searches; counseled and assisted the new faculty in developing their research programs and teaching skills; served as primary departmental and college advisor for incoming College of Business Administration freshmen; assured maintenance of AACSB standards for the department; secured scholarship and research funds from the State's insurance industry for the department's insurance program.

- Co-editor, The Northeast Journal of Business and Economics, 1982-88

An academic publication (circulation approximately 2000) focusing on regional business and economic issues. Administered the refereeing and selection of manuscripts; supervised the typesetting, proofing, printing and distribution processes.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Associate Professor of Finance, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL, 2001-present (tenured)
- Associate Professor of Finance and Insurance, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI, 1981-2001 (tenured)

Taught risk management and insurance, commercial property-liability insurance, social insurance, financial institutions, and security analysis at the undergraduate and MBA levels.

- Assistant Professor of Finance and Insurance, University of Rhode Island, 1976-81

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- American Council on Education Fellowship, 1988-89
- Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowship, Lilly Endowment, University of Rhode Island, 1978
- Phi Kappa Phi (URI), 1981
- N.D.E.A. Fellow in Economics, University of California at Davis, 1971

PUBLICATIONS (a selected listing)

"Student Styles and Learning in Two College of Business Courses," in To Improve the Academy: Resources for Student, Faculty, and Institutional Development. Edited by J. Kurfiss, L. Hilsen, S. Kahn, M.D. Sorcinelli and R. Tiberius, (POD/New Forums Press, 1988), pp. 57-61

"Unisex Retirement Benefits and the Market for Annuity 'Lemons'." Journal of Risk and Insurance, September 1986, pp. 409-18 (with S. Carlson (URI))

"Inflation-Caused Wealth Transfer: A Case of the Insurance Industry." Journal of Risk and Insurance, December 1985, pp. 627-43 (with R. Chang and S.G. Rhee (URI))

"A Distributional Assessment of Rhode Island's Catastrophic Health Insurance Plan (CHIP)." Health Care Financing Review, Fall 1984, pp. 51-60

"It Is Time to Teach Problem-Solving." Journal of Risk and Insurance, June 1983, pp. 315-322

PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS (a selected listing)

"Strengthening Undergraduate Teaching and Learning in Vertically and Horizontally Integrated Partnerships." 1999 AAHE Faculty Roles and Responsibilities, San Diego, CA (with D. Grossman-Garber (URI) and D. Bengtson (URI))

"An Analysis of the Multi-Dimensionality of the NAIC 'IRIS' Ratios." 1988 Annual Meeting of the American Risk and Insurance Association, Reno, NV (with G. Dash (URI))

"Do Industry-Wide Net Monetary Positions Matter for Inflation Hedging?" 1986 Annual Meeting of the Eastern Finance Association, Nashville, TN (with R. Chang and S.G. Rhee (URI))

"The NAIC 'Early Warning' Ratios: A Factor Analysis." 1983 Annual Meeting of the Eastern Finance Association, New York, NY (with G. Dash (URI))

"A Non-linear Goal Programming Model for Optimizing Property-Liability Insurance Portfolios." 1982 Annual Meeting of the American Risk and Insurance Association, Denver, CO (with G. Dash (URI))

GRANTS AND SPONSORED RESEARCH

- Jewelry Center Committee of the Governor's Jewelry Council (State of Rhode Island), 1982
 "Jewelry Center Feasibility Study," \$30,000
- Rhode Island Health Services Research, Inc., 1979
 "A Study of the Distributional Effects of 'CHIP' and Other Catastrophic Health Insurance Programs," \$2,500

PROGRAM REVIEW AND ACCREDITATION WORK

- Member, North Central Association Evaluation Team (comprehensive visit), 2006
- Member, North Central Association Evaluation Team (comprehensive visit), 2006
- Member, North Central Association Evaluation Team (comprehensive visit), 2003
- Member, North Central Association Evaluation Team (focused evaluation), 2002
- Member, New England Association of Schools and Colleges Evaluation Team, University of Maine, 1999
- University Accreditation Liaison Officer to the New England Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, 1991--2001
- Institutional coordinator for the University's ten-year accreditation review by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (includes preparation of self-study materials, coordination of visit, etc.), 1995-1998
- Member, New England Association of Schools and Colleges Evaluation Team, Central Connecticut State University, 1998
- Member, New England Association of Schools and Colleges Evaluation Team, Framingham State College, 1994
- Member, New England Association of Schools and Colleges Evaluation Team, Salem State College, 1992

- Member, New England Association of Schools and Colleges Evaluation Team, Southeastern Massachusetts University (now University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth), 1990

CONSULTING

- Municipal Insurance Advisor for 12 cities, towns and school departments in the State of Rhode Island, 1980-2001

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Supervisor/Presenter, "Rhode Islanders' Consumer Confidence." Six public opinion polls for the Research Center in Business and Economics (URI), 1984-88
- Board Member, American Universal Insurance Company, 1984-88
- American Risk and Insurance Association:
 - Chair, Awards Committee (for best insurance book of the year), 1989
 - Chair, Awards Committee (for outstanding article of the year in the Journal of Risk and Insurance), 1988
 - Member: Awards Committee (for best insurance book of the year), 1984 and 1987; Long Range Planning Committee, 1987; Program Committee, 1985
- Board Member, Northeast Business and Economics Association, 1982-1988

CIVIC AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- Board Member, Rhode Island Conference of the United Church of Christ, 1987-1996
- President, Rhode Island Conference of the United Church of Christ, 1993-1995
- Chair, Capital Campaign, Kingston Congregational Church, 1996-1999