A proud past

In each issue of USI Magazine, we regard it as our mission to tell you what is happening now or going to happen in the future—new people, new programs, new buildings. But in this issue, we take a trip down memory lane. Administrators, faculty members, alumni, and friends tell us what it was like back in the University’s early years and about the vision that has unfolded over time to bring us to the University of Southern Indiana’s 40th birthday.

While we know we have only scratched the surface of stories that could be told, we hope you will find in these articles and photos some familiar reminiscences and reminders of your campus connection.

Our thanks go to Gina Walker in University Archives and all those who were interviewed for stories in this issue. We also thank the contributors who shared their memories. You can read more contributor stories and see other content related to USI history on the anniversary Web site at www.usi.edu/1965.

I think you will appreciate reading how far the University has come in 40 years. Happy birthday, USI!

Betty R. Vawter
The University has begun partnerships with both General Electric and Vectren for cooperative learning programs. According to faculty members, both are in their early stages, but are expected to be beneficial to both partners, by bringing students to the plants, and professionals to the classrooms.

“The project with Vectren can really get started the first of September,” said Dr. David E. Schultz, an assistant professor of engineering. “And it will offer several advantages. It gives faculty an opportunity to get students involved in real-world experiences—you can take what is going on in the real world and apply it in the classroom.

“Students also can take the things they are learning in the classroom and apply them to real, hands-on applications.”

Couple such opportunities with the notice that comes with success in the sporting arenas—from a 1995 NCAA Division II basketball championship to several Great Lakes Valley Conference championships—and what was once a commuter student’s destination for education has become a student-centered, comprehensive residential university for students throughout Indiana.

* * *

The University of Southern Indiana opened its doors September 15, 1965, under the name “Indiana State University Evansville.”

The first class boasted 412 students—244 full-time and 168 part-time—hailing from “as far away as Tell City,” according to an Evansville Courier article at the time.

In 1966, Southern Indiana Higher Education, Inc. (SIHE) started a community fund drive—a drive that would raise nearly $1 million. SIHE used the money to buy a 1,400-acre tract of land off Highway 62, in western Vanderburgh County.

In 1967 the Indiana legislature approved the first buildings on that land. A year later, the funds were in place.
40 YEARS 1965–2005

and shows the campus model concept. Dr. David L. Rice explains plans for the future was officially named president. He and got a picture when I walked across in evening. It rained earlier that day, and it was I remember correctly, I think it had graduation being outside, and if But it didn't rain… and I've still had to really develop in order to be. industries, many jobs. "I recall being on a research study for the legislature, and Evansville had about the lowest portion of participation in going-to-college of any section in the state," Rice said in a 1995 interview. "As a result, Evansville had gone through the trauma of losing many "It was the most arrogant use of nuns," said the late Robert Faughn, who was an Indiana state senator at the time. "I’ll never forget the Education Committee's hearing. It became very obvious among the discussion of the members of the committee that we had enough votes to pass it. A nd Eldon Lundquist was the chairman of the Education Committee, and I'm sure his instructions were that it should not pass. "So the only thing he could do to avoid the vote—and he did it in a very high-handed manner—was to adjourn the meeting, and not allow a vote on the bill because he knew we had the votes to pass it. University of Southern Indiana. [The governor said] I had been selected because of my experience in higher education, as well as my having joined the corporate world, plus the fact that I came from "north of state road 40." Having been told that the legislature had passed a bill authorizing the establishment of such a board, I called the Legislative Services Bureau and asked for a copy of the bill. I was told they would send one to me if I would send a check in the amount of 10 cents! I suggested that they call the Governor's office about this since the Governor had indicated that he would call back on Monday for my answer. They sent me the bill. —John J. Pruis, Chair, U.S.I. Board of Trustees; President, Ball State University, 1968-78. More memories at www.usi.edu/1965

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A nd in 1969, the first building opened on what would become USI’s campus. The new campus was dedicated in April 1970, with honorary degrees conferred to those who had played roles in its conception. But it wasn’t until more than a year later—June 2, 1973—that the first degrees were conferred.

"That was one of the most exciting days of my life—it was a major accomplishment that I had finished my college degree," said Harolyn Torain, a member of that first graduating class and eventual USI Board of Trustees member. "I remember the graduation being outside, and if I remember correctly, I think it had rained earlier that day, and it was threatening rain the rest of that evening.

"But it didn’t rain… and I’ve still got a picture when I walked across in front of that single building that was at the new campus at the time. Later that year, Dr. David L. Rice was officially named president. He and his family had come to Evansville from Muncie so he could direct the new campus.

Meanwhile, ISUE’s academic credentials continued to grow. In 1972, the Evansville Center of the Indiana University School of Medicine opened, offering training for first-year medical students. Shortly after, the Bert Twig Outdoor Education Center opened, winning a national Sears Environmental Award for the Westwood Garden Club. By 1974, the University Center was open, providing the Pyramid Lounge as a popular hangout for students. The University opened a Children’s Center that year, to care for the children of students and employees. ISUE was becoming a force for education in Southwestern Indiana. But continued development wouldn’t happen without a few pains—as the coming struggle for independence from Indiana State would illustrate.

But selling the legislation on independence—and selling them on the spending money for such independ- ence—would prove to be another story. By 1975, ISUE had 86 full-time faculty members, and 149 staff members. It provided academic programs in 31 areas, including engineering technology, with a Technology Center that opened earlier that year. Locally, officials had become vocal about independence. And, according to one former state senator, there was significant support in Indianapolis to make it happen. Unfortunately, making it happen was too bitter a battle for the time. "A gut that time, the House passed a bill declaring a separate higher education institution in Evansville, and it came to the Senate," said the late Robert Faughn, who was an Indiana state senator at the time. "I’ll never forget the Education Committee’s hearing. It became very obvious among the discussion of the members of the committee that we had enough votes to pass it. A nd Eldon Lundquist was the chairman of the Education Committee, and I’m sure his instructions were that it should not pass.

"So the only thing he could do to avoid the vote—and he did it in a very high-handed manner—was to adjourn the meeting, and not allow a vote on the bill because he knew we had the votes to pass it.

"It was the most arrogant use of power I ever saw in the legislature." The legislative defeat didn’t stop the University’s growth in acclaim. The University’s respectability became even more apparent in 1979, when the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools awarded 10-year accreditation to the campus.

In 1962, the men’s cross-country team raced to third place in the national NCAA Division II tournament. By then, those and other sporting events could be heard on the University’s radio station AM 820, WSWI.

The station was donated by South Central Broadcasting in 1961, for use as a learning tool by University students. By 1984, the University had its own student housing, built by SIHE. A bout that time, officials decided it was time for another pass at separation,

"[Indiana State] wanted to keep us as a satellite, but they wouldn’t support us in the things that we needed down here to do the educational job that was needed," said the late Joseph E. O’Daniel, a member of USI’s Board of Trustees and Southern Indiana Higher Education, Inc. “Fortunately, we had a governor from Evansville, and he was favorable toward the idea of giving us independence. "We talked to him over a period of four or five years, and he said, ‘Don’t worry about it—we’ll get it done before I leave office.’"

In 1985, both houses of Indiana’s legislature passed bills officially creating the University of Southern Indiana. And, in a ceremony at the University, Governor Robert Orr signed the bill into law on April 16, at 12:07 p.m. That same year, USI undertook the management of Historic New Harmony—a partnership that has allowed educational and cultural opportunities for USI, while helping the New Harmony community thrive.

"The management of Historic New Harmony has given USI an opportunity to engage faculty and students in a special learning opportunity," Hoops said.

 Historic New Harmony visitors center is located in the A'Chenum. "A nd I think our involvement has been good for them. It has stabilized the restoration, and we have brought a marketing expertise to this historic town. "So I think we’ve been instrumental in making this area one of Indiana’s true cultural jewels.” By 1986, the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools was calling again—this time to award USI 10-year accreditation for its graduate and undergraduate programs. The recognition wasn’t going un-noticed by potential students.

Governor Robert D. Orr signs the bill creating the University of Southern Indiana. Students promoted the campus with USI E-t-shirts.

Students promoted the campus with USI E-t-shirts.

"I feel that the University of Southern Indiana is well-positioned to continue its growth in the years to come," said Hoops. "We have the leadership to make it happen, and we have the facilities to support that growth. We want to continue to build on the success we have had in the past years, and I believe we are on track to do just that."

Memories

Board of Incorporators

My first real memory of my USI experience is a telephone call from then-Governor Bob Orr, asking me to chair the Board of Incorporators, whose duty would be to make certain specific recommendations to the General Assembly for the establishment of an independent, state-assisted university in southern Indiana. [The governor said] I had been selected because of my experience in higher education, as well as my having joined the corporate world, plus the fact that I came from "north of state road 40."

Hearing that the legislature had passed a bill authorizing the establishment of such a board, I called the Legislative Services Bureau and asked for a copy of the bill. I was told they would send one to me if I would send a check in the amount of 10 cents! I suggested that they call the Governor’s office about this since the Governor had indicated that he would call back on Monday for my answer. They sent me the bill.

—John J. Pruis, Chair, USI Board of Trustees; President, Ball State University, 1968-78

More memories at www.usi.edu/1965
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USI's excellence in academics was helping the University grow. Dr. Howard Dunn, professor emeritus of chemistry, said, "In the early '70s, my first major push was to develop a strong undergraduate research experience for our students. The biggest challenge was to find dedicated laboratory space. I remember the only place we could find to do research was in a corner of the physics stockroom. We also found some space in the chemical storage room. Despite these difficulties we had success.

"When we did become USI, I felt research was even more important, if we were going to compete against other state universities for funding," said Dunn.

"During my last four years at USI, the students synthesized over 50 new chemical compounds," he said.

"This was a phenomenal achievement for undergraduate students. Over the four years they presented a total of 23 papers at professional meetings in Mlsau, Michigan, Illinois, Kentucky, and Massachusetts. Our students brought national and international recognition to the University," Dunn said.

As a result of the University's mounting academic reputation and increasing enrollment, the need for student housing was growing. In 1968, SIUE purchased the Campus A apartments complex and converted it into student housing.

President Scholar alumna Carry Embry Rudder '10, left, talks with donor Herb Rudder, and David Bower from the USI Foundation. Since 1991, more than 160 presidential scholars have earned baccalaureate degrees.

Professor of the Year, the Near East, and American studies were leaving the state because they weren't receiving competitive scholarship offers," Hoops said. "It brings us talented students who are potential stars inside the classroom. Their talented friends, after exploring the University, followed them here.

"USI has become a college of choice for some of the best and brightest," Hoops said.

The next six years would be a landmark time in USI's sports history — as well as a passing of the torch in University leadership as, after 26 years with the University, Rice announced his plans for retirement.

"Dr. Rice's imaginative yet realistic leadership shaped USI into a dynamic institution," said USI alumnus Dean Webber, in a documentary about the University's history. "It's a University that not only meets the needs of the people of this region, but it is an integral part of public higher education throughout Indiana.

"The library, the central core of the University campus, was named for Rice in honor of his steady and wise leadership. Rice Plaza was named for USI's first major push was to develop a Presidential Scholars program, said, "In the early '70s, the University supported a new core curriculum. Dr. John Gott, professor of English and director of the University's core curriculum, said the overall goals of the core are to develop skills in critical thinking and information processing. The core includes courses designed to help students understand themselves and the society so that they can be responsible citizens and leaders.

USI has institution-wide accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. It also has program-specific accreditation from 14 other accrediting bodies, and engineering is pending accreditation until the first class graduates in 2005.

"Any institutions have regional accreditation that covers the whole University," Hoops said. "But we place a great deal of emphasis on national and by-program accreditation. I think that gives us a much higher institution, and it is a way of giving quality assurance to people who were making quality decisions about an institution they didn't know much about.

"That's not as big a deal now, but still, accreditation remains the way to ensure quality programs and education to the public.

So where to from here? USI's enrollment by-year continues to grow at a record pace from 7,531 in 1993-94 to more than 10,000 in 2004-05. More than 2,000 people are now employed by the University — up from fewer than 50 when it opened in 1965.

The sports programs continue to dominate. In 1998, USI became the first Division II school to have both the men's and women's basketball teams ranked Number One in the nation. In 2004, the men's basketball team finished second in the NCAA Division II tournament.


The 1995 men's basketball team and staff celebrate the NCAA Division II National Championship.


In 1995, faculty reviewed the original First Family. David and Betty Rice. Ms. Rice's hospitality was legend for campus special events, donor fund raisers, community receptions, and faculty and staff lunches and open houses.

"After a national search, Hoops was chosen to succeed Rice, becoming the University's second president in 1994. Hoops was met at the gate by the 47.4 million expansion of the University Center, the opening of the Health Professions Center, and the completion of the overpass from Highway 62 into campus. He oversaw the creation of www.usi.edu, the campus's official Web site.

The 1995 men's basketball team and staff celebrate the NCAA Division II National Championship.

To receive a welcoming gift from the athletic department: a Division II National Championship from the men's basketball team in 1995.

Hoop's 11 years in the president's office have produced dramatic growth at USI.

New buildings, larger enrollment, and new degree programs have continued to establish USI as one of the valued higher education options in Indiana. And they have helped shift the focus of the school from a commuter institution to a more residential campus — a development that has fueled the expansion of campus housing and student development programs.

"Is there anyone who could have predicted 10 years ago what we've become," Hoops asked. "I can't say that everyone has accepted every change we've been through, but we remain flexible and agile.

"Since 1994, USI has added new undergraduate majors, ranging from engineering and exercise science to international studies, computer programming, and food and nutrition, to give the University more than 70 undergraduate majors. And it has added new master's programs in health administration, therapy, and public administration.

In 1995, faculty reviewed the general education elements of the curriculum and proposed and approved a new core curriculum. Dr. John Gott, professor of English and director of the University Core Curriculum, said the overall goals of the core are to develop skills in critical thinking and information processing. The core includes courses designed to help students understand themselves and the world so that they can become responsible citizens and leaders.

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And Hoops has no intentions of slowing down any time soon.

"I am looking forward to being a part of the growth and maturation of this institution," Hoops said, when he

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EXECUTIVE RECRUITER
Stephen A. Dezember

Stephen A. Dezember, ’71, marketing, is vice president and managing director for the Atlanta office of A.T. Kearney Executive Search. Recruiting top-level talent for major companies, he interfaces with executive-level management, many of whom he knows personally from a distinguished career in marketing. Dezember was associated with a number of pharmaceutical companies, including Upjohn, Searle, Kimberly Clark, and Everett & Jennings. He served two stints with Bristol-Myers Squibb, one as director of new business development for pharmaceuticals and the second as vice president for marketing and sales for the Jobst Division. As part of his work in pharmaceuticals, he applied his expertise to acquiring products and building them into national brands. He was an active member of the board of directors of Mobil Corporation.

BANKING LEADER
Steven J. Schenck

In a 32-year career in banking, Steven J. Schenck ’72, accounting, has advanced from the internal audit department of Indiana National Bank to his present post as chief executive officer of the Midwest Banking Group for Regions Bank—without leaving the building at One Indiana Square in downtown Indianapolis. Schenck, who has been there as the bank name changed through mergers and acquisitions from Indiana National to NBD to Union Planters to Regions, counts his 1985 appointment to the post of chief financial officer for Indiana National as a pivotal moment that made him a key part of the management team as banking opportunities emerged in the following years. A native of Evansville, Schenck worked full-time at Kroger as an assistant manager during his college years, picking up street smarts in working with people and learning how to motivate them. Regions’ Midwest Group includes 262 branches in 130 communities in Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, and Kentucky.

NEW YORK ATTORNEY
Jane L. Hanson

Jane L. Hanson, ’74, political science, received a juris doctor from New York University and is of counsel in the litigation department of Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP international law firm’s New York headquarters. Her practice emphasizes employment and immigration counseling and litigation in federal, state, and local courts, and before governmental agencies and arbitration tribunals, and also includes providing employment advice in mergers and acquisitions, outsourcing, and financial restructurings. In 2002, she was recognized for her participation in the American Bar Association’s Pro Bono Challenge. She worked on 10 different pro bono matters for clients such as the International Planned Parenthood Federation, the National Mentoring Partnership, and Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund. At the request of U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY), Hanson helped a girl from Kosovo who had lost both legs to a land mine get immigration approval to stay in the United States long enough to receive proper medical assistance and prosthetics. Milbank was named “Pro Bono Publico and Public Service Law Firm” by the Legal Aid Society in March 2005, and Hanson was honored for her extensive representation to the Legal Aid Society during its restructuring period in 2004.

PIONEERING SPECIALISTS

John W. Fehrenbacher
Michael R. Niemier
Daniel Beckman

Three USI graduates are physicians with Clarian Health Partners, one of the largest health systems in Indiana. Methodist Hospital, Indiana University Hospital, and Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis are the hospital partners. The physicians are pioneers in cardiac care, pulmonary disease and critical care, and surgical electrophysiology. They contribute to patient care, medical research, and innovation.

A thoracic surgeon, Dr. John W. Fehrenbacher ’72, biology, performed the first lung transplant and the first heart-lung transplant in Indiana in 1981. In 1989, he performed the state’s first bilateral lung transplant. Fehrenbacher specializes in cardiothoracic surgery with sub-specialties in thoracic aortic aneurysm surgery and heart-lung transplantation. He has earned international recognition for work in thoracic aortic aneurysm repair; he is a recent past-president of Circulation, one of the three largest cardiovascular groups in the nation, and is a member of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons. He earned his medical degree from Indiana University in 1976, and was awarded an honorary degree from USI in 1990.

Michael R. Niemier, a cardiothoracic surgeon, was recognized for his participation in the American Heart Association’s Pro Bono Challenge. He worked on 10 different pro bono matters for clients such as the International Planned Parenthood Federation, the National Mentoring Partnership, and Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund. At the request of U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY), Hanson helped a girl from Kosovo who had lost both legs to a land mine get immigration approval to stay in the United States long enough to receive proper medical assistance and prosthetics. Milbank was named “Pro Bono Publico and Public Service Law Firm” by the Legal Aid Society in March 2005, and Hanson was honored for her extensive representation to the Legal Aid Society during its restructuring period in 2004.

Daniel Beckman performed the first multi-vein off pump coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) in Indiana in 1997 and the state’s first endocardial balloon mapping system for ablation of ventricular tachycardia in 1988. He is a member of A*Alph Omega Alpha. Beckman is a cardiothoracic surgeon, a member of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons, the American College of Cardiology, and the American Heart Association. He is board certified in thoracic surgery and vascular surgery.

B A N K I N G L E A D E R
S t e v e n J . S c h e n c k

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Jane L. H an s o n

Jane L. Hanson, ’74, political science, received a Juris Doctor from New York University and is of counsel in the litigation department of Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP international law firm’s New York headquarters. Her practice emphasizes employment and immigration counseling and litigation in federal, state, and local courts, and before governmental agencies and arbitration tribunals, and also includes providing employment advice in mergers and acquisitions, outsourcing, and financial restructurings. In 2002, she was recognized for her participation in the American Bar Association’s Pro Bono Challenge. She worked on 10 different pro bono matters for clients such as the International Planned Parenthood Federation, the National Mentoring Partnership, and Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund. At the request of U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY), Hanson helped a girl from Kosovo who had lost both legs to a land mine get immigration approval to stay in the United States long enough to receive proper medical assistance and prosthetics. Milbank was named “Pro Bono Publico and Public Service Law Firm” by the Legal Aid Society in March 2005, and Hanson was honored for her extensive representation to the Legal Aid Society during its restructuring period in 2004.

Dr. Michael R. Niemier, ’75, biology, is the founder and president of Respiratory and Critical Care Consultants. He is also the medical director of Critical Care and co-chief of Pulmonary/Critical Care at Methodist Hospital. His specialty is pulmonary disease. He is director of Inpatient Acute Care Services, and he is on the Board of Directors for Clarian West Medical Center and chairman of the Clarian West Medical Center Board Committee on Quality. He is a clinical assistant professor of medicine for Indiana University School of Medicine and a 1979 graduate of IU School of Medicine. Niemier is an associate with Fehrenbacher and Daniel Beckman. Niemier said, “I interact with patients before surgery and monitor the recovery of patients after surgery. Since I’m not in surgery, they rib me saying I don’t like the sight of blood.”

Dr. Daniel Beckman, ’75, biology, is surgical director of cardiovascular critical care at Methodist Hospital. He is the third surgeon in the world to perform microvave ablation minimally invasive surgery for the treatment of atrial fibrillation, an abnormal heart rhythm. He has performed this surgery for more than a year and now trains other nationally reputa-

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HEALTH CARE EXECUTIVE
Barbara Butler

In 1989, Barbara Butler, ’81, respiratory therapy, ’85, health occupation education, joined the new HealthSouth Tri-State Rehabilitation Hospital in Evansville as respiratory therapy director. Nine promotions later in 1999, she was named chief executive officer of the facility, now called HealthSouth Deaconess Rehabilitation Hospital. She also has responsibility for the HealthSouth facility in Terre Haute. Together, the two hospitals provide rehabilitation services for 2,750 inpatients each year and log 15,500 outpatient visits annually. “When the patients come in, they are debilitated. Some have been told they never will walk again due to a spinal cord injury or lead a productive life due to a brain injury. Seeing them go out of here walking and able to lead productive lives is the most rewarding thing about my job,” she said. “We’ve had weddings in our courtyard. And we’ve had patients who could not walk when they came here dance with their doctor on their day of discharge.”

Butler said that USI has been a conduit for her continued growth. A first earning two degrees at USI, she completed the master’s in public administration in 1994 when Indiana State University offered the program at USI. She serves on the advisory board for USI’s master’s in health administration program and has been an adjunct faculty member.

HEART HEALTH TRAILBLAZER


Joey V. Barnett, Ph.D.

Dr. Joey V. Barnett, ’81, biology, is associate professor of pharmacology, medicine, and microbiology and immunology at Vanderbilt University. His research focuses on the genes and molecules that regulate the formation of the cardiovascular system. In addition to treatments for congenital and acquired heart disease, a molecule recently discovered in his lab could lead to the development of new anti-cancer drugs. He is past chairman of the American Heart Association’s Study Section on Cardiovascular Development, which reviews and funds grants directed at understanding the causes of congenital heart disease. He also served as a member of the National Peer Review Oversight Committee that defines the policies by which the American Heart Association funds over $130 million dollars in research annually, and has served in similar capacities for the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. His research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, the American Heart Association, the March of Dimes, and the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America Foundation. He is an active member of the USI Foundation Board of Directors.

SHORT-STORY WRITER
Barbara Haas

The first short story that Barbara Haas ’80, English, had published was written for a class at USI. “Literally, one moment I was sitting in a USI classroom and the next thing I knew, I was publishing in my field,” said the associate professor of English who teaches creative writing at Iowa State University. She describes her style as imagistic and lyrical — influenced by some of her early USI writing instructors who were poets. Since that first story in 1981 in The North American Review, Haas has continued to have work published regularly in such journals as Glimmer Train, Hudson Review, and Virginia Quarterly Review. In May, a story about a family on a whale watch expedition appeared in The Hudson Review. In January, she will have a story in The Virginia Quarterly Review. She describes her creative writing at Iowa State University. She describes her style as imagistic and lyrical — influenced by some of her early USI writing instructors who were poets. Since that first story in 1981 in The North American Review, Haas has continued to have work published regularly in such journals as Glimmer Train, Hudson Review, and Virginia Quarterly Review. In May, a story about a family on a whale watch expedition appeared in The Hudson Review. In January, she will have a story in The Virginia Quarterly Review.

WOOD ARTIST
Kevin Irvin

When Kevin Irvin ’82, art, walked into his first art class at USI, he thought he was in the wrong place. What was an art class doing in the wood shop? But when faculty member John McNaughton showed slides of his wood sculpture, Irvin was hooked. He earned an M.F.A. at Arizona State University in 1985 and then worked out of a friend’s garage for two years before establishing a sculpture studio in Phoenix. For the last 10 years, he has strictly done furniture — signature pieces that combine art with function. “I want to make something that doesn’t look like anything else I’ve ever seen,” the artist said.

He completes 14 to 17 finely detailed items a year, many with sculpted bronze highlights and overlapping veneers that form intricate geometric patterns. His furniture has been in exhibitions from New York to Los Angeles and is seen in Phoenix at Bentley Projects. Irvin was featured in 2000 on the HGTV series “M odern Masters.”

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EXEMPLARY EDUCATOR
Cathlin Gray

“A school is a place where people can grow up together. And not just through academic achievement, but also through emotional growth and social development.”

Cathlin Gray

Cathlin Gray ‘85, elementary education. A seasoned principal of federal projects and director of the School Community Council for the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation, Gray has over 15 years of experience in education. She was once a kindergarten teacher and principal at EVSC’s Cedar Hall Elementary School when she recognized that many of the children and their families had unmet needs. Under her direction, Cedar Hall became EVSC’s first full-service community school, providing a wide range of services to families, children, and youth. Gray’s work has been recognized at both the state and national levels. She has also written a column for Community College of Indiana, and serves on many state and local boards.

MICHIELE SCHROEDER

Michelle Schroeder ‘96, accounting. Schroeder has always been a numbers person, but when she was a student at USI, she wanted to do more than just use numbers. She wanted to make a difference. Schroeder’s work at Kimball International involves both administrative and financial duties. She is responsible for the company’s internal financial reporting and compliance with various laws and regulations. To handle administrative duties, Schroeder works with her preparation and focus as a student. She was a summa cum laude graduate of USI and earned the second-best score in the state when she took the CPA licensing exam in November 1996.

Ilo M. Mutombo

People look up to Ilo Mutombo ‘92, communications, in more than one way. He is a unique piece and a history in its own. He is the son of a shepherd and a farmer, and a former USU student. Ilo has traveled to the Congo regularly, staying months at a time to handle administrative duties involved in the development of the hospital. If construction continues, on schedule, the Congo’s first new fully equipped medical facility in 30 years will open in October 2006. Back in the states and close to home, Ilo recently established a business, Special People Transportation Limo Service, in Washington, D.C. He lives in Silver Spring, Maryland. Since his student days at USI, Ilo has also worked for Comcast Corporation, dealing in overseas imports, and appeared in the 1994 movie “The Air Up There” with Kevin Bacon.

MICHELLE SCHROEDER

Michelle Schroeder ’96, accounting. In her current role, Schroeder is responsible for both administrative and financial duties. She works with her preparation and focus as a student. She was a summa cum laude graduate of USI and earned the second-best score in the state when she took the CPA licensing exam in November 1996.

FINWOODCWOOKER
Kenneth Fisher

Kenneth Fisher has interpreted the lambing chair for modern-day use. His chair is made of osaxafra and is in a private collection in France.

TALENT AGENT
Jackie Knobbe

Jackie (Miller) Knobbe, ‘93, communications, lives in a small town in Nebraska with her husband Kent, a farmer, and their baby daughter, Chloe, but works for the Agency for the Performing Arts in Los Angeles. She represents actors, writers, producers, and directors, and has a music division. Knobbe works with comedians, getting them jobs at college campuses, corporations, theaters, and television and film. Knobbe’s involvement with USI’s activities Programming Board led directly to her career. As a vice president of programming for A.P.B., she negotiated with agents, booking talent for University events. She attended conferences of the National Association for Campus Activities and met college talent buyers. After graduating from USI, she worked for a small talent firm in New Orleans before moving to Los Angeles in 1995. Her agency represents some of the biggest names in comedy, including Steven Wright, Larry the Cable Guy, Adam Sandler, Jamie Kennedy, and Drew Carey.

AC COUNTING
Michelle Schroeder

Michelle Schroeder ‘96, accounting. Schroeder has always been a numbers person, but when she was a student at USI, she wanted to do more than just use numbers. She wanted to make a difference. Schroeder’s work at Kimball International involves both administrative and financial duties. She is responsible for the company’s internal financial reporting and compliance with various laws and regulations. To handle administrative duties, Schroeder works with her preparation and focus as a student. She was a summa cum laude graduate of USI and earned the second-best score in the state when she took the CPA licensing exam in November 1996.

EXEMPLARY EDUCATOR
Cathlin Gray

“A school is a place where people can grow up together. And not just through academic achievement, but also through emotional growth and social development.”

Cathlin Gray

Cathlin Gray ‘85, elementary education. A seasoned principal of federal projects and director of the School Community Council for the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation, Gray has over 15 years of experience in education. She was once a kindergarten teacher and principal at EVSC’s Cedar Hall Elementary School when she recognized that many of the children and their families had unmet needs. Under her direction, Cedar Hall became EVSC’s first full-service community school, providing a wide range of services to families, children, and youth. Gray’s work has been recognized at both the state and national levels. She has also written a column for Community College of Indiana, and serves on many state and local boards.

Ilo M. Mutombo

People look up to Ilo Mutombo ‘92, communications, in more than one way. He is a unique piece and a history in its own. He is the son of a shepherd and a farmer, and a former USU student. Ilo has traveled to the Congo regularly, staying months at a time to handle administrative duties involved in the development of the hospital. If construction continues, on schedule, the Congo’s first new fully equipped medical facility in 30 years will open in October 2006. Back in the states and close to home, Ilo recently established a business, Special People Transportation Limo Service, in Washington, D.C. He lives in Silver Spring, Maryland. Since his student days at USI, Ilo has also worked for Comcast Corporation, dealing in overseas imports, and appeared in the 1994 movie “The Air Up There” with Kevin Bacon.

Kenneth Fisher

Kenneth Fisher has interpreted the lambing chair for modern-day use. His chair is made of osaxafra and is in a private collection in France.
The USI Foundation’s assets have leapt from a pre-Campaign USI level of $7.7 million in 1996 to more than $50 million in 2005. Million-dollar charitable gifts, as well as long-term fund-raising, investment, and spending strategies have helped fuel the amazing 10-year growth.

USI President H. Ray Hoops said, “This is an exceptional growth in assets for an institution of our size and age. Without the extraordinary support this University receives from its friends and alumni and the business community, the level of excellence we are able to provide for our students would not be the same.”

USI Foundation tops $50 million in assets in 2005

What the USI Foundation provides for the University...

Million-dollar legacies

Million-dollar charitable gifts and pledges have averaged $6.5 million in fiscal year 1995 to a high of $9.49 million in fiscal year 2002. Average annual gift and pledge totals increased to $7.7 million over the five-year period since fiscal year 2000. Unrestricted gifts to the USI Annual Fund have shown a steady increase from $210,670 in 1994-95 to nearly $400,000 in 2004-05. The Foundation’s board of directors works with its development staff to develop long-term fund-raising strategies; annual goals are adopted each year. With substantial numbers of scholarships designed to meet students’ financial needs, primary emphasis is placed on attracting endowments for the University’s top merit scholarships, which include the Presidential Scholarships and Deans Scholarships. A ditto emphasis is placed on attracting greater numbers of unrestricted gifts through the USI Annual Fund, which provides the University with the flexibility to meet its highest priorities and most urgent needs.

The Foundation’s endowment—permanently restricted net assets (a group of funds established by donor-restricted gifts) invested by the Foundation to support the University’s mission in perpetuity—also has grown since 1996, when the endowment was valued at $1.7 million. Today, the endowment exceeds $20 million.

In 1998, immediately following the University’s successful first capital campaign, the Foundation board, working through its finance committee, adopted its first investment policy, outlining its investment and spending strategies and hiring a professional investment manager. The finance committee credits the Foundation’s investment growth to the diversity of its investment portfolio and its conservative 4.5 percent spending policy. The USI Foundation’s investment pool is a diversified portfolio governed by the board’s investment policy. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, the annual rate of return in the pool was 15.23 percent with a 47.74 percent increase in market value.

Leadership gifts to Campaign USI during 1996-98 included commitments for most of the million-dollar gifts which have been fulfilled over the past decade. The USI Foundation also is indebted to alumni, friends, student and alumni families, and employees of the University with the University neighborhoo...
Colloquium to explore cradle of civilization
The second annual international interdisciplinary colloquium sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts will explore shared cultural motifs from Ur, the cradle of civilization. Titled “Ram in the Thicket,” the event will be held September 23 in Carter Hall.

Faculty from nine departments of the College of Liberal Arts will give 20-minute lectures and poetry and prose readings. The symbol for the colloquium will be the Ram in the Thicket, an object made of gold, lapis, and shell circa 2600 B.C.

Pastria L. A. Akhus, instructor in English and director of the interdisciplinary major in international studies, is coordinating the event, held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The public is invited.

Susan Wolfe receives Cooper Award
Susan Smith Wolfe, associate professor of German, has been named winner of the 2005 H. Lee Cooper Curriculum Award. She joined the USI faculty in 1988.

The award includes a generous stipend, a plaque, and additional monies for travel and related faculty development.

Wolfe holds a Ph.D. from the University of Oregon. She joined the USI faculty in 1988. The Cooper Award honors a faculty member whose work in University Core courses has been especially creative and successful in furthering University Core Curriculum goals. It is named in honor of H. Lee Cooper, an Evansville philanthropist and longtime USI supporter.

Rotary Club honors President Hoops with civic award
University of Southern Indiana President H. Ray Hoops received the 2004 Rotary Club Civic Award, one of Evansville’s most prestigious awards recognizing public service.

Hoops was praised in the citation for having “led a decade of dramatic growth in enrollment, in new degree programs and in new classroom buildings and student housing.”

“Under Dr. Hoops’ leadership, the University of Southern Indiana has been transformed into a nationally recognized institution of higher learning that has made significant academic, as well as economic, impacts in Southern Indiana and the region.”

Expressing appreciation for the recognition, Hoops said it was “an award for the entire University,” reflecting the way the community has taken the institution to heart. The award was presented in February.

USI Theatre

In the beginning
Beginning in a accredited College League 40 years ago, the teams in the USI DI Department of Athletics learned to walk as Spartans before the athletes took flight as Eagles.

The program started in 1965 when Indiana State University-Evansville sponsored a men’s basketball team as a club sport in the accredited College League. The nickname for the next five years would be the Spartans.

In 1970, the athletic programs assumed an appropriate new moniker, “Eagles.” Since a majority of our students came from the greater Evansville area, we did not want to pick colors closely associated with one of the local high schools,” said Bob Roeder ’71, then president of the Student Union Board.

“My aim was for the students at USI to be seen as a unique school,” Roeder said. “We became different from the local high schools, and we wanted to show our support for the soldiers.”

The feeling on this campus was 180 degrees different from other campuses across America.”

Red, white, and blue colors were chosen for the University. The decision was influenced by the patriotic feeling of support for the Vietnam veterans and the location of USI in the Mid-America University Center, also figuring into the decision. The nation’s symbol, the bald eagle, was the choice for the mascot.

The first true intercollegiate programs were men’s basketball in 1970-71; baseball and men’s golf in 1971-72; and men’s tennis in 1972-73.

Men’s golf was the first USI athletic team to step onto the national stage by placing 15th nationally in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics in 1973 after winning the NAIA District 21 championship.

Men’s basketball would make its first appearance in the NAIA Division II Tournament in 1977-78. The Eagles won their first game by defeating Northern Kentucky University but fell in the regional final against Eastern Illinois University.

The women’s programs emerged in 1973-76 when the women’s basketball team, followed by softball and women’s tennis in 1976-77.

In the late ’70s, USI and its Faculty Athletics Representative Charles Bertram continued on next page
helped create the Great Lakes Valley Conference, and that inception coincided with the emergence of men’s cross country and men’s soccer, two of USI’s most successful programs.

In the ’80s

During the ’80s, nobody did it better in the GLVC than USI men’s cross country and soccer. Men’s cross country won 10 conference crowns between 1979 and 1991, including eight in a row (1980-87). Men’s soccer was just as successful, taking 10 conference titles between 1980 and 1991, winning six in a row (1980-85) and four in a row (1988-91).

USI’s legendary cross country Head Coach Bill Stegemoller said, “We always expected to win in the GLVC. The team was third the first year before winning 10 straight. When we lost the first time, people said ‘What happened?’ Nolan and those guys were very special and they set the standard for everyone after them.”

Soccer made its only appearance in the NCAA II Tournament in 1982, hosting Oakland University, but remained one of the top 20 teams in the country. At that time only 12 teams advanced to the NCAA II Tournament. In the GLVC, USI was the dominant force, padding a perfect 7-0 mark in the league and outscoring its opponents 37-7 in 1990.

Tony Colavechia, former USI head coach and for the last 10 years the head coach at the University of Louisville, said, “We had a combination of local talent and international players that set a nice balance. This combination also created interest in the community. Evansville grew to know not only about the local players, but who a Shane Gibson [from England] was.”

“The University made a major commitment to the program in the late ’80s and early ’90s with lights and a new field. To resurface the field was nearly $70,000. This gave the public not just a new home, but a new ‘palace’ to watch our home games.”

The propellant for the men’s basketball program to skyrocket arrived in 1992 in the form of Bruce Pearl.

Bruce Pearl, men’s basketball coach, 1992-2001

In the ’90s

The continued success by men’s soccer and cross country did indeed give the USI programs momentum in the ’90s. In 1992, the men’s soccer team moved to the NCAA Division I, where it competed for three years. “USI got to rub shoulders with some big time Division I programs like Bradley and Kentucky,” said Colavechia. “It was a fun time and showed the potential the department had.”

The prophet for the men’s basketball program to skyrocket arrived in 1992 in the form of Bruce Pearl. With Pearl, now head coach at the University of Tennessee, the men’s basketball program improved from an average 15 wins a year to more than 25 a season. The nation took notice of the USI athletic programs when the men’s basketball team was the 1994 tournament finalist and the 1995 national champion.

“The community, there was always a great respect for the quality of Division II basketball,” Pearl said. “Winning the national championship brought that respect to the surface and gave USI the recognition it deserved.”

The women’s team fed off the men’s success. Under Head Coach Chuck Dugan, now head coach for women’s basketball at Florida Atlantic University, the USI women’s team earned its first appearance in the NCAA II Tournament in 1995 and advanced to the finals in 1997. The women’s team improved even more significantly than the men’s team, going from an average of nine wins a year to more than 20 wins.

“Women’s athletics at USI took off in the mid-’90s, starting with our tournament run,” Dugan said. “Since that appearance nationally on ESPN, the female student athletes at USI have been standing center-stage with the men.”

Taking the steps for women’s athletes to be successful was not easy. It required leadership. President [David] Rice, Dr. [Donald] Bennett, and Dr. [Charles] Bertram encouraged the development, giving the women’s team a chance to show its potential and competitive spirit.

The ’90s also saw the re-emergence of women’s cross country, a sport that was dropped in the mid-’80s, and the birth of women’s soccer and women’s golf. Women’s soccer made an immediate impression, reaching the 1998 NCAA Division II Tournament quarter-finals in just its third season.

After ’00

Entering a new century, the Eagles have continued to move forward.

Women’s basketball advanced to the NCAA II Elite Eight in 2001 under the direction of Head Coach Rick Stein. Since 2000, Stein’s Eagles have won the GLVC Tournament twice. The men’s basketball team made a return to the national scene by advancing to the NCAA II Tournament National Championship game in 2004. Although the Eagles fell in that game, 3.9 million households saw the televised game.

Under USI men’s basketball Head Coach Rick Herdes, who took over for Pearl in 2001, the men’s basketball team has averaged 25 or more wins a season, the eighth most among all three divisions of the NCAA. The Eagles also have won 20 or more games in a season for 13 straight seasons.

Women’s track is making the most recent progress. In 2004, the team was seventh at the NCAA II National Championships, led by Heather Coksey, who became the University’s first female national champion. Candace Perry picked up the second national title for women’s track, winning the 2005 NCAA II outdoor long jump. The women’s track program has posted three straight top-10 finishes between 2003 and 2005.

Men’s tennis and volleyball have emerged as regional contenders in the last five years. Men’s tennis has won the GLVC Tournament five times since 1998 and has advanced to the Great Lakes Regional six straight times.

Women’s basketball team, 1997 NCAA II Women’s Basketball National Finalist

Volleyball has averaged 24 victories per season since 2000, winning the GLVC twice and making two NCAA II Tournament appearances.

“As a we proceed, each program will strive to make USI Athletics a model program,” said USI Director of Athletics Jon M. Kirk. “Over the past few years the student athletes have done the job in the classroom with a grade-point average of 3.0 and in the athletic arena by earning numerous NCAA II Tournament appearances and honors. ‘Our goal is to be nationally competitive across the board, excelling academically and athletically.’”

Heather Coksey, outdoor track, 2004 national champion

Tony Colavechia, men’s soccer coach, 1989-95

Bill Stegemoller, cross country coach, 1979-98, with Ely Runo, 1991 national champion

Cross country also had USI’s top finish on the national scene during the ’80s. The squad was third nationally at the 1980 NCAA Division II National Championships. USI also hosted the GLVC Tournament five times since 1987.

“Our goal is to be nationally competitive across the board, excelling academically and athletically.”

Women’s cross country, 1991-99

Heather Coksey

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1970s

Paul E. Reising '72, social science, has joined Mulberry Center, Inc., as executive director in Evansville.

Jack L. Van Wey '72, marketing, is the vice president of sales at Pioneer Packing, Inc., in Santa Ana, California.

Robert J. Gannon '74, accounting, is second vice president at Monumental Life Insurance in Baltimore, Maryland. He recently assumed a corporate role to develop a national sales distribution channel.

A. Allen M. Mounds '74, management, '91, Mater of Business Administration, is the executive vice president and chief human resources officer for Old National Bank in Evansville.

Dennis R. Cash '75, accounting, is a teacher at Reitz High School in Evansville.

Gilbert K. Johnson '75, political science, is a payroll supervisor for United States Enrollment Corporation in Paducah, Kentucky.

Robert E. Rheinlander '75, political science, is an attorney with Flynn, Rheinlander, & Shaw, LLP, in Evansville.

Robert B. Walker '75, English, is an ordained minister with Zion United Church of Christ in Evansville.

Stanley J. Barron, '76, psychology, '00, Mater ar Business Administration, is the quality assurance manager for O'Neal Steel Company in Evansville.

David W. Herronbruck '76, marketing, was promoted to vice president, Private Client Group, and will continue as a high-net-worth client advisor at Fifth Third Bank in Evansville.

Kara Moll Horiell '77, administrative systems, is the executive director at the Evansville Area Association for the Blind.

Ronda Gorman Williams '79, sociology, '86, occupational therapy, is an occupational therapist for Vernon County Schools in Morgantown, Kentucky.

1980s

John J. Bolger '80, business administration, wrote a book entitled I Wish Someone Would Have Told Me. He resides in West Drive, Michigan.

Stephen R. Hart '80, social science, '88, Mater of Secondary Education, is the assistant principal and head football coach for Bethlehem High School in Bardstown, Kentucky.

Jean Borberich Morgan '80, marketing, is director of marketing for T.H. Elliot, Inc., in Lansing, Michigan.

Randal W. Dauby '82, accounting, is the chief executive officer at Hamilton Memorial Hospital in McLeansboro, Illinois.

Kent R. Kern '82, management, is a product manager for Texas Instruments in Dallas, Texas.

Craig R. Santor '82, general science, is the owner of Edde Bay Lending in Eddyville, Kentucky.

Laura J. Rush '83, computer information systems, is the education manager for A stomated O'RIce Solutions in Evansville.

Stephen J. Russell '83, management, has been hired by University Hospitals as director of patient financial services in Evansville.

Myra May Wetzel '83, respiratory therapy, is the chief executive officer at HillSouth Hospital in Terre Haute, Indiana.

Daniel H. Durbin '84, communications, is the principal at Beaufort High School in Beaufort, South Carolina. For the second consecutive year, Beaufort High School was ranked in Newsweek's list of 1,000 top U.S. public high schools.

Jacqueline Wilmes Hunt '84, accounting, is the controller at the Perdennis Club in Louisville, Kentucky.

Lori Goodman Kisinger '84, marketing, is an assistant professor at Mid Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

The Rathskeller, Indianapolis

Dr. William Jones came to Evansville with the task of opening a branch of Indiana State University. He had an abandoned school building named Centennial that sat at the corner of Indiana and St. Joe Avenue on Evansville's west side. I was working for the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation as a counselor at Reitz High School. At the same time, I was working on my doctorate, plus teaching psychology courses in Henderson and Madisonville for the University of Kentucky. Dr. Jones offered me a job teaching psychology courses for the new branch. I was delighted because Centennial was less than one mile from my home compared to the travel for U of K. The money was the same.

Dr. Jones conducted a pre-enrollment to help determine the number of students per classroom. The branch also offered enrollment the first day of class. All classes were taught between 8:30 a.m. and 10 p.m. There were no daytime classes. I think that because there were no teachers available during the day. We were all "adjunct" or part-time.

I had been assigned a room with 36 arm chairs. This was a corner room with windows that went from the floor to the ceiling. When EVSC closed the school, the rooms were stripped of everything including the window coverings, which didn't arrive for two weeks.

I dismissed the class 30 minutes early to check on additional seating and texts. Dr. Jones, his secretary, and I finally secured enough chairs for 48 students. The main campus in Terre Haute was to send additional textbooks and supplies, which didn't arrive for two weeks.

I thought that first night experience would discourage about half of the students from returning, but to my surprise the second meeting brought back 65 hardy souls. One student brought a thermometer to measure the temperature and, sure enough, it topped 105 degrees. APhoneseller asked if she could bring some type of cover for the west windows.

There was another enterprising student who asked permission to bring in some folding chairs from her church. These people were fantastic. They truly wanted an education and they were willing to sacrifice to get it.

I taught at ISUE for several years, and the overall quality of the students was excellent. They were eager to learn, and many of Evansville's leaders came through the doors of ISUE.

— Gerald T. Jesse, Ph.D., Evansville

More memories at www.usi.edu/1965
Moultin M. Cato '85, communications, is the director of academic training and compliance at Indiana Business College in Indianapolis.

Kenneth C. Zuber '85, finance, has been named chief of evan’sville fire department.

Tim McGuire '86, accounting, has been promoted to chief financial officer at Card Mangement Corporation in evansville.

Paul D. Mecadell '86, business administration, has been appointed president of North American operations for Trio Pines Caters in LaMirada, California.

Daniel W. Sanders '86, mathematics, is the federal program manager for Energy Systems Group LCC in Evansville.

Marc S. Duke '87, communications, is the community program counselor for Confluent and Neighborhood Services in the Office of the Mayor in Boston Rouge, Louisiana.

David L. Higgins '87, psychology, is the senior director and therapist for River Valley Behavioral Health in Owensboro, Kentucky.

Kathy A. Yearwood '87, accounting, has been promoted to vice president/controller with Shoe Carnival in evansville.

Randall J. Zimmerman '87, marketing, is the national sales manager for Carbolite Corporation in evansville.

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2000s

Michelle Kressel A digdinton ’00, nursing, became a certified registered nurse anesthetist in August 2004 and joined A nealesthesiologist of Paducah in Paducah, Kentucky.

Nathan T. Fry ’00, English, is the director of compliance for athletics at I american University in Boston.

Randal B. H ead ’00, mechanical engi- neering, is an engineer for Texas Gas Transmission in Owenton, Kentucky.

Julia M. Larche-New ’00, social work, ‘03, M aster of Social Work, is a social worker at South Eastern Special Education in Sainte Marie, Illinois.

Angela M. Lintker ’00, elementary educa- tion, is a librarian for Okawville High School in Okawville, Illinois.

Jill Dewig Wesch ’00, marketing, has joined the law practice of Olsen, Spahn, August 21, 2004

Mark T. Ambrose ’05, business administra- tion, is the assistant director of admissions for Shoe Carnival, Inc., in Evansville.

Jennifer M. Fonner ’05, accounting and professional services/finance, has joined B.D.K., LLP, as a staff accountant in Evansville.

Garrett is posthumous winner of Communal Studies Prize

The Center for Communal Stud- ies, established to recognize a student who has overcome a hardship to continue his/her education. The Communal Studies Prize is awarded annually to the best paper or project on communal societies submitted by an undergraduate or graduate student from any university worldwide. It has gone to University students and others as far away as Canada and Germany.

A ngela L. Bilder ’03, nursing, and Nicholas J. Schapker ’03, health services, October 23, 2004

Jamie M. DeBaillie ’03, business administra- tion, and Robert, daughter 2004

Rebecca Warren Tucker ’94, business administra- tion, and Jim, son, Cord Gehring, December 20, 2004

Jill M. Welden ’00, accounting, ‘02, Master of Business Administration, and Brian Koester, December 5, 2005

A ngela Schlagel Garrett ’95, biology, and Kent, son, Joshua David, October 26, 2004

Lori Scharnhorst Wagner ’95, accounting, and Brad, son, Kaden Lane, December 27, 2004

Dianne Bough Wims ’95, political science, and Robert, daughter, A nna Elizabeth, November 27, 2004

Scott M. H eermbrink ’96, communications, and Hether, son, Pierce Jacob Otto, October 4, 2004

Stephanie L. Yager ’94, occupational therapy, and T homas H arrington, April 24, 2004

J a c k 1994, a USI honor graduate who died in 2003.

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Cori E. Gerin ’02, public relations and adver- tising, is the marketing coordinator for Shoie, Inc., in Evansville.

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Jill D. Dewig ’00, marketing, and Cori E. Girten ’02, advertising.

Fred R. Julian ’01, business administra- tion, is the assistant director of admissions for Artistic Media Partners in South Bend, Indiana.

Antoinette Cox Hein ’01, sociology, and Micah, son, David, daughter and Jack, son, October 9, 2004

Jill D. Dewig ’00, marketing, and Cori E. Girten ’02, advertising.

Lori Schornhorst Wagner ’95, accounting, and David, son, David Allen, December 10, 2004

Lori Crotchet ’00, business administra- tion, has been promoted to banking center manager at Old National Bank in Vincennes, Indiana.

A ntoine Oatman ’97, communications, is the assistant director of admissions at Keller Graduate School of Management at DeVry University in Indianapolis.

Fred R. Julian ’01, sociology, has taken the position of design and build project manager for East Bay Food Research Supply in Oakland, California.

Brooke Woodton Tinsley ’01, psychology, is a school psychologist at Santa Rosa County Schools in Milton, Florida.

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Lori Scharnhorst Wagner ’95, accounting, and Brad, son, Kaden Lane, December 27, 2004

Dianne Bough Wims ’95, political science, and Robert, daughter, A nna Elizabeth, November 27, 2004

Scott M. H eermbrink ’96, communications, and Hether, son, Pierce Jacob Otto, October 4, 2004

Stephanie L. Yager ’94, occupational therapy, and T homas H arrington, April 24, 2004

J a c k 1994, a USI honor graduate who died in 2003.

Sharon B. Beckman ’95, communications, and R obert, daughter, K arry Marie, October 23, 2004

Sharon B. Beckman ’95, communications, and K arry Marie, October 23, 2004

Rafael A. Morales ’02, business administra- tion, is a purchasing specialist for Texas Gas Transmission in Owensboro, Kentucky.

T h e Madrigal Feast, begun in 1970, is an annual campus tradition.

Cori E. Gerin ’02, public relations and adver- tising, is the marketing coordinator for Shoie, Inc., in Evansville.

R a ndal B. H ead ’00, mechanical engi- neering, is an engineer for Texas Gas Transmission in Owenton, Kentucky.
Kersting Swan Herrenbruck Messmer

hygiene, and Jason, daughter
organizational communications, and Carrie,
Matthew A. Morris '00,
Chotsani Farmer Stewart '97,
't04,
Jacob R. Fulcher '99,
son, Cole R
administration,
Rebecca Walther Scheidler '98,
Administration, and
Ryan G. Scheidler

political science,
journalism
Master of

political science,
psychology,
Master of

biology,
dental

psychology,
Elementary Teaching

son, Daxon
Brandon K. Austin '00,
television, and

administration,
dermatology, daughter

Kaitlyn Mae, October 30, 2004

Kathy Peterson Kahle '01,
nursing, and

Kristy Peterson Kahle '01,

Shae Hicks Otto '01,
business administration,
and, Michael, daughter, Karli

Ryan G. Scheidler

Jennifer Cummins Murphy '00, M'arter of

and, Alexandra Elyse,

He responded, "Bones! Bones! U.S. Gov-

in 1965 when the University opened its doors and has been connected with USI throughout its 40-year history.

Richard S. Kersting received the Special Recognition Award. A member of the USI Foundation Board, he is chair of the 2005-06 New Donor Alumni Campaign. Kersting has been active in the United Way of Southwestern Indiana, Evansville Better Business Bureau, Center City Corporation, and Evansville Rotary Club.

Black Alumni Society awards first scholarship
Larry A. rmsdall II, a senior majoring in Spanish, is the first recipient of the USI Black Alumni Society Scholarship. Members gathered for the awards presen-
tation are, from left, Linda V. lliams

A multi-lingual Williams '00, psychology, and Jeremy D. Williams '99, economic

I look back and cherish the begin-
ning of the radio station and working
with Dr. Ken Creech. So many stories
could be told about the snowy mornings
sliding into the station to do the morn-
ing news...I so clearly remember that
dreadful June 8 tornado that turned our
tower into a metal pretzel.

More memories at www.usi.edu/1965

The University of Southern Indiana
Continued on next page

The University of Southern Indiana
Bradley D. Hudson '01, business administration, of New Harmony, Indiana, died April 25, 2005. A retired library assistant for Rice Library, she volunteered as a teacher's assistant at Perry Heights School, working with children with learning disabilities. She also served as an English tutor in the Writer's Workshop at USI.

Kevin J. Mattingly, alumni non-degreed, of Indianapolis, died January 26, 2005. Mattingly was the USI basketball team mascot for four years. He was a salesman and worked in advertising for Marriott Hotels and Resorts.

Ronnke Griffin, alumni non-degreed, of Louisville, Kentucky, died January 23, 2005. Griffin transferred to USI just before his senior year and starred as a center on the men's basketball team. During 2001-02 basketball season, he averaged 14 points and seven rebounds per game, contributing to the team's overall season record of 22-8.

We want to hear from you!

Do you have professional news about yourself to share with fellow graduates? Have you moved? Do you have a suggestion for a story? Let us know!

We value your comments via mail (Alumni and Volunteer Services Office, 8600 University Boulevard, Evansville, IN 47712), Phone (812/464-1924), FAX (812/464-1956), or e-mail (alumni@usi.edu).

Don Cox was leader in effort to establish separate university

Donald B. Cox, a friend of the University, died May 9 in Evansville. A real estate broker and active member of the Republican Party, Cox chaired state political campaigns for presidents George W. Bush and Gerald R. Ford and for Governor Robert D. Orr. USI President H. Ray Hoops, said, “Don Cox was a longtime member of the Board of Directors of the USI Foundation and was instrumental in the successful effort to build the University Home. He also gave extraordinary leadership to the effort to make the University a separate state university 20 years ago. It is fair to say that without his leadership, USI might still be a regional campus rather than one that serves all the state.”

The University recognized Cox with an honorary Doctor of Laws degree in 1988, the Aumni Association Special Recognition Award in 1986, and induction into the President’s Circle.
Meet USI’s top freshman scholars for 2005-06

Presidential Scholars
Ten Indiana high school students ranked first or second in their senior class at the end of the fall semester are selected for the competitive Presidential Scholarships each year. The scholarships cover tuition, fees, books, and room and board for four years.

Priyanka Arshanapalli, biology/pre-medicine and business administration, Merrillville High School, Crown Point, Indiana
Harold W. Ashley Endowed Presidential Scholarship

Sarah Baysden, biology/pre-medicine, Shelbyville High School, Shelbyville, Indiana
Fred C. Newman Family Endowed Presidential Scholarship

Aafke Bleecker, English, Lanesville Junior-Senior High School, Lanesville, Indiana
Homer L. and Olive Carruthers Clift Endowed Presidential Scholarship

Danielle Cundiff, biology/pre-medicine, South Vermillion High School, Dana, Indiana
Henry and Hazel Bennighof Presidential Scholarship

Sara Elpers, elementary education, Bosse High School, Evansville, Indiana
Rebecca Nunn Couch Endowed Presidential Scholarship

Jillian Freeman, biology/pre-optometry, Central Noble High School, Albion, Indiana
Edward F. Harrison Presidential Scholarship

Renee Hitch, international studies, West Washington High School, Fredericksburg, Indiana
Integra Bank Presidential Scholarship

Andrew L. Jones, biology, South Spencer High School, Rockport, Indiana
Stanley R. and Ruth C. Atkinson Endowed Presidential Scholarship

Leslie McCrary, undecided, South Central Senior High School, Laconia, Indiana
Aline Nunn Renner Endowed Presidential Scholarship

Jacklyn Marie Neumann, biology/pre-medicine, North Posey High School, Wadesville, Indiana
Edward F. Harrison Presidential Scholarship

Deans Scholars
The Deans Scholarship is a merit scholarship awarded annually to five exceptional students who are graduating at the top or near the top of their high school classes. All the recipients this year are Indiana residents and will receive full tuition.

Laura Buck, business administration, Western High School, Kokomo, Indiana
Bess C. and Elmer W. Halwes Memorial Deans Scholarship

McKenzie G. Kramer, nursing, Wood Memorial High School, Oakland City, Indiana
Edward F. Harrison Deans Scholarship

Michael Hobson, chemistry, Liberty Christian School, Anderson, Indiana
Z. Olen and Inez G. Pumphrey Deans Scholarship

Allison Shafer, exercise science, North Daviess Junior-Senior High School, Plainville, Indiana
Aline Nunn Renner Deans Scholarship

Audrey Wells, biology/pre-medicine, Reitz High School, Evansville, Indiana
Z. Olen and Inez G. Pumphrey Deans Scholarship

Baccalaureate/Doctor of Medicine Scholarship Recipients
Six students are selected for the Baccalaureate/Doctor of Medicine Scholarships each year. The University provides full tuition waivers for the undergraduate portion of the program. Completion of the undergraduate degree and fulfillment of the requirements for the program will result in the student directly entering the Evansville Center for Medical Education of Indiana University School of Medicine, located on the USI campus. The USI Foundation hopes to partially fund the B/MD scholarships with private gifts by June 30, 2006.

Priyanka Arshanapalli, Merrillville High School, Crown Point, Indiana
Sandeep Guram, Castle High School, Newburgh, Indiana
Heather Keefer, Heritage Hills High School, Santa Claus, Indiana
Nathan Oakley, North Posey High School, New Harmony, Indiana
Sarah E. O’Donoghue, The Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities, Newburgh, Indiana
Priscilla Walker, Perry Meridian High School, Indianapolis, Indiana
Seven students chronicle their freshman year at USI. Hear their stories at www.usi.edu/iamusi.