



BACKGROUND
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA
2008
Institutional Profile

The University Today. As a result of its dramatic growth in the past 15 years, the University of Southern Indiana has undergone a major transformation in academic programs and in instructional and support facilities. The climate exists for future progress that could surpass that of the recent past.

The University is a regionally responsive, needs-driven, comprehensive public university in the model of the "new American college." Emphasizing teaching and interaction between faculty and students, the University values both need-based applied research and basic research, and actively pursues engagement in the region. The University of Southern Indiana's appeal to students is found in its size, the accessibility of professors, its beautiful environment and innovative housing, its proximity to an urban center, and the friendliness of students, employees, and the community.

The University of Southern Indiana has created an environment where teaching and learning are foremost in its mission and where the energy and dedication to purpose of faculty and staff have become a model for other universities. Among the state's institutions which award baccalaureate and higher degrees, the most productive faculty members may be found at USI, where they not only teach, but guide students' academic work as advisors and engage in scholarly work and service. The faculty's commitment to continual improvement in teaching has produced increasing quality of instruction and graduate preparedness. The University truly has been a creator of opportunity for thousands of students, many the first in their families to attend college.

History and Institutional Mission. The University was established in 1965 in response to a need for public higher education in southwestern Indiana. For 20 years, it was a regional campus of Indiana State University (Indiana State University Evansville), but became an autonomous state university in 1985. From its earliest stage of planning in the early 1960s, community leaders have supported the University by providing a solid base for its present success and future growth.

From the mission statement: *"American education assumes a link between the truth of an idea and the good it promotes for individuals and society. An educated person can be expected not only to be knowledgeable and more financially secure, but also a better citizen, among whose virtues are tolerance, judgment, and belief in freedom for self and others. These values develop in an atmosphere of open inquiry and pursuit of truth. Therefore, as the University of Southern Indiana seeks to support education, social and economic growth, and civic and cultural awareness in southwestern Indiana, it will be devoted primarily to preparing students to live wisely.*

“The University of Southern Indiana is a broad-based institution offering programs of instruction, research, and service. A liberal arts and science curriculum serves as the foundation of knowledge for all programs and complements undergraduate programs leading to careers in business, engineering, government, health professions, education, and related fields. Selected master's degrees already in existence, and in development, serve persons in professional and technical studies. As a public institution, the University of Southern Indiana counsels and assists both business and industry and social, educational, governmental, and health agencies to higher levels of efficiency and improved services.”

There are five academic colleges within the University’s structure: College of Business, Bower-Suhrheinrich College of Education and Human Services, College of Liberal Arts, College of Nursing and Health Professions, and Pott College of Science and Engineering. Students also are served through the Division of Extended Services and the University Division. In addition, USI houses the Indiana University School of Medicine-Evansville. The University of Southern Indiana is one of five state universities in Indiana conferring baccalaureate and higher degrees.

Enrollment Trends. A major goal of the University is to increase the postsecondary educational participation of young people and adults. To this end, the University emphasizes programs and services for traditional college-age students as well as part-time, commuting, and older students. It has developed partnerships with P-12 schools and has expanded opportunities for individuals in the workplace. The University has become an institution which students choose for the strength of its academic programs and the quality of its student life. The University has had a dramatic impact on regional postsecondary attainment. Since 1985 when the University became a separate state institution, the percentage of regional high school graduates going on to postsecondary education has risen from 33 percent to 84 percent in 2007.

Enrollment now numbers near 10,000. Stable enrollment is projected. During the past two decades, the University developed student housing to accommodate the increasing numbers of students coming from throughout the state. The University is authorized by the Indiana General Assembly to construct, acquire, operate, and manage student housing facilities and to issue revenue obligations for this purpose. The contemporary state-of-the-art housing facilities, a combination of suite-style residence halls and apartments, enable residential students to take full advantage of the educational, cultural, and recreational benefits the campus offers.

The Division of Extended Services serves over 15,000 people annually through comprehensive noncredit programs of short duration -- including workshops, conferences, seminars, and instructional courses. Noncredit programs are increasing as the University continues to address economic, social, cultural, and workforce training needs in the area.

A University Committed to Expanded Access to Higher Education. Education is the key component in productivity, economic competitiveness, and workforce development. The University has historically been actively engaged in addressing the state’s interest in economic and workforce development and is a proven resource for helping achieve the state’s goals. The institution has a consistent record of developing and expanding programs and services in anticipation of or in response to the needs of a changing economy. USI produces well-prepared graduates who live, work, and lead in the region, helping to drive economic growth.

In an effort to keep Indiana's brightest and best students in the state, the University has created

scholarship programs which recognize scholastic achievements. The Presidential Scholarship program, funded with private gifts, offers full scholarships, including tuition, room and board, and books, for qualifying valedictorians and salutatorians. The competitive Dean's Scholarships, also privately funded, are renewable full-tuition awards to entering freshmen. With the Indiana University School of Medicine- Evansville, USI offers a highly competitive Bachelor/Doctor of Medicine (B/MD) scholarship to as many as six entering freshmen each year. This scholarship covers tuition, and grants the student a provisional seat in IU School of Medicine-Evansville if grades and test scores meet the school's criteria. In academic year 2007, USI students received more than \$52 million in financial assistance, with the USI Foundation contributing nearly \$1 million from privately funded scholarships.

The University plans to accommodate larger numbers of students through recruitment and retention strategies. Past enrollment trends show the University has been successful in these efforts. The University developed and adopted a comprehensive student retention plan which addresses student success in the areas of instruction, student support, and student services. In partial fulfillment of the plan, faculty members have developed a number of experimental course pairings for the promotion of "learning communities."

Current enrollment trends indicate that larger numbers of students are coming to the University from more distant areas, necessitating the construction of additional campus housing. The number of students living in University housing has increased from 976 in 1988-89 to approximately 2,600.

Several programs and working partnerships facilitate the goal of meeting the state's future enrollment needs. These include dual enrollment programs with area high schools and articulation agreements in a number of areas with Ivy Tech Community College and Vincennes University, endorsement of the statewide agreement on transfer of general education courses, the Indiana-Kentucky reciprocity program, high school agreement courses, and active participation in the distance education initiative of the Indiana College Network.

Development of Academic Programs. A major emphasis of the University of Southern Indiana continues to be delivery of credit programs. For the near term, the primary curricular offerings will include liberal arts, pre-professional, professional, technical, and occupational programs at both associate and baccalaureate levels. Moreover, since a need for graduate-level programs exists for people who are employed in the Evansville metropolitan region, master's degree programs are being implemented as demand is demonstrated. Because Evansville serves as the center of a predominantly rural region dotted with smaller population centers, increased educational access for adults requires innovative instructional delivery systems, including internet-based instruction and classes that meet in off-campus locations.

There are over 60 undergraduate academic majors, ten master's programs, and one doctoral program. The newest degree programs include the doctorate in nursing practice and baccalaureate majors in advanced manufacturing and criminal justice (pending approval from the Indiana Commission for Higher Education). The University has made installation of advanced technology a priority for instruction and provides training for faculty to adapt technological advances to coursework.

Outreach and Engagement. The University is actively engaged in developing economic, cultural, and educational opportunities in southern Indiana. Many faculty and staff extend their

expertise to activities throughout the region. The University enjoys a mutually beneficial relationship with the historic town of New Harmony, Indiana, a community with a rich intellectual and cultural inheritance, providing laboratory learning experiences for the town and the University. New Harmony was the site of two utopian community experiments in the early 1800s, and today is a destination for tourists and arts patrons. The University offers professional theatre in the summer months at The New Harmony Theatre, operates the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art, and offers tourism and education programs about the community.

The University welcomes appropriate partnerships for providing services to its constituency and cooperates with public and private universities, regional hospitals, and a local library consortium. The University participates with area business, industry, and social and governmental agencies for applied and partnership initiatives related to the problems and concerns of economic and workforce development, entrepreneurship and innovation, tourism and recreation, health-care delivery, gerontology, energy development, and environmental-quality analysis. Community groups often use academic resources and campus facilities.

While service to the region has always been a core value of the institution, an expanded focus on outreach and engagement is shaping new awareness and expectations of the University's role in the region. Expectations from government, business, and community leaders that USI will provide leadership to economic and workforce development initiatives is reflected in recent institutional emphasis on applied research, scholarly engagement, service learning, faculty and student consulting, and regional partnerships. Faculty, staff, and student expertise is extended to activities throughout the region. The University's commitment to regional development is demonstrated in the successful relationship with the historic town of New Harmony and the heritage tourism program of the 26-county Historic Southern Indiana Alliance.

Workforce development issues are addressed through targeted degree credit programs, noncredit and contractual programs for a variety of industries, on-site training, and partnerships with regional economic development organizations. University partnerships with the Evansville certified technology park and incubator, Innovation Point, Southwest Indiana WIRED (Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development), and various STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) -related education projects demonstrate USI's active engagement philosophy. For the short term, the primary areas of outreach focus are economic development, workforce and regional development, and expanded involvement with P-12 education. USI will seek the Carnegie Commission's "Engaged University" designation in 2008 in recognition of the extensive involvement of University faculty, students, and staff in outreach and engagement activities.

Development of Physical Facilities. Since its founding, a significant investment has been made in physical facilities, presently valued at \$225 million. A dramatic improvement in facilities has been accomplished since 1995. A \$4.1 million expansion of the University Center was completed in 1997. A \$15.2 million Liberal Arts Center opened in fall 1999; a \$4 million Recreation and Fitness Center opened in spring 2001; a \$23.1 million Science and Education Center opened in summer 2003; and the new Rice Library, a \$27.5 million project, opened in summer 2006. Four residence halls, constructed at a cost of \$22.6 million, have been added since 1999, and a \$1.5 million recreational building in student housing opened in fall 2008. Improvements also have been made to the spectator facilities in the Physical Activities Center and the outdoor athletic fields. The new \$1.1 million Kenneth P. McCutchan Art Center and the Palmina F. and Stephen S. Pace Galleries will open in September 2008. Projects approved for

funding and under design include a \$31 million Business and Engineering Center, a \$7.75 million expansion of the Recreation and Fitness Center, a \$17.7 million expansion of the University Center, and a nearly \$1 million Ceramics Center. The University has no deferred maintenance issues and has adequate land for expansion. In 2007, the physical facilities master plan was updated.

Student Services. The University provides a comprehensive range of support services and activities for students. These include academic skills development, child care, counseling, financial aid, placement, housing, health services, student activities, leadership development, and intramural and recreational programs. Student Services promotes personal growth, academic achievement, and cultural diversity. Dedicated staff prepare students to be knowledgeable, responsible citizens who demonstrate a commitment to lifelong learning, ethical behavior, personal achievement, and community involvement. There are nearly 100 student organizations – academic, social, recreational, and honorary, including Greek-letter organizations.

Athletics. The University of Southern Indiana participates in NCAA Division II intercollegiate athletics and is a charter member of the Great Lakes Valley Conference. The goal of the athletics program is to achieve national prominence in all 15 of its intercollegiate team sports (women’s basketball, softball, soccer, cross country/track, tennis, volleyball, and golf; and men’s basketball, baseball, soccer, cross country/track, tennis, and golf) while maintaining academic excellence. The University is proud of the academic achievements of its student athletes, who maintain an overall grade point average of 3.0.

Record of Accomplishment. The University of Southern Indiana was founded in response to community need for public higher education. With USI in its forty-third year, the acceptance for public higher education in southern Indiana is evidenced by the more than 26,000 University of Southern Indiana graduates since the first graduating class in 1971, with about 74 percent remaining in the state of Indiana after graduation and, of that number, 85 percent remain in southwest Indiana. From the beginning, the University’s primary goal has been to expand access to postsecondary education and provide service to the citizens of the southern Indiana region. The number of students from southwestern Indiana who enroll in postsecondary programs has outpaced the state and national averages. The University has helped to overcome both geographic and financial barriers to higher education.

With southern Indiana in the midst of economic expansion with Toyota and related manufacturing interests, education is playing an even larger role in regional development. There is increased importance for education and re-education of the workforce to achieve economic competitiveness, as revealed in the 2007 report of the USI President’s Task Force on Economic and Workforce Development. Improving the educational attainment level and skills of the citizens of Indiana is critical to the future of the state. The University is committed to providing service to the southern Indiana region by expanding educational opportunities and working in partnership with the community to fulfill both the service and applied research needs of the area. As an example, the Center for Applied Research identified more than 80 applied research projects for regional businesses, communities, and agencies in the first two years of operation.

An Institution Committed to Continual Quality Improvement. As enrollment figures have grown, at times dramatically, there has been concern that the University maintains its quality and commitment to superior instruction. Nearly 70 percent of USI’s classes have enrollments of 25 or fewer students. USI reflects student-centered learning in its extraordinary commitment to an

educational model that emphasizes faculty/staff-student connections and educating the complete student inside and outside the classroom for a future of active lifelong learning. Students often comment that they value the opportunity to work closely with their professors. USI students who compare notes with friends attending larger universities come away pleased that USI does not have teaching assistants as a filter between students and faculty.

Excellence in teaching continues to be the most important criterion in faculty recruitment. The ability to do research, to engage in continuous scholarly and creative work, and to provide service, primarily to the region and the state, are important additional qualifications. Because full-time faculty are the core of the University, USI will continue its efforts to reduce the present reliance on part-time faculty while maintaining flexibility in staffing. Funding through the Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs allows faculty to participate in scholarly research, engage in student/faculty research projects, and undertake summer and sabbatical study.

Measuring what students are learning is fundamental to judging the quality of teaching. To that end, more than 2,500 freshmen and juniors participate annually in the Assessment of Academic Achievement testing program. In addition to this assessment method, many of the institution's academic departments administer the Educational Testing Service Academic Major Field Test for students in their senior year. Overwhelmingly, USI students exceed national norms on these tests.

A revised general education program, the University Core Curriculum, was implemented in fall 1995 following several years of study, development, and planning.

Accreditation. In 2007, following its institutional self-study and a site visit, the University was re-accredited for ten years at the baccalaureate and master's levels by The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Programs in accounting, business, chemistry, education, engineering, health professions, journalism and communications, and social work are accredited by the appropriate professional organizations and state agencies. Accreditation reviews by regional and discipline-based organizations continue to be prime indicators of quality. Current discipline-specific accreditations include:

- Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications
- Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education
- American Chemical Society
- American Medical Association Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation
- Association of Graduate and Liberal Studies Programs
- Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (for both accounting and business programs)
- Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
- Commission on Dental Accreditation; American Dental Association
- Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Therapy
- Council on Social Work Education
- Indiana Professional Standards Board
- Indiana State Board of Nursing
- Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology
- National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education
- Technology Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology

Directions for the Future. The University of Southern Indiana is committed to being first and foremost an institution known for the quality of its instruction. At the same time, its faculty members are committed to accomplishing the scholarship and applied research that guarantee the quality of instruction. With a broad base of undergraduate programs in place and strengthened, the University will continue to implement programs which reflect the employment needs of the southern Indiana region and strengthen human resources of the state of Indiana. Graduate degree programs which will be added are targeted to employed professionals in the region and reflect the continuing education needs of the public. An excellent example is the new Doctor of Nursing Practice degree, USI's first program at the doctoral level.

The University will continue to strengthen partnerships with employers in the region and to be a catalyst for economic development. Co-op and internship programs for students continue to expand. The University plays a large role as a convener of important public policy issues.

Innovation will be required to provide the services and resources needed for a growing student population. Growth in enrollment will demand a greater range of services in housing, student life, and academic support. A task force on enrollment and retention management studied patterns of persistence and degree attainment by USI students and recommended steps to assist students in achieving academic goals and to strengthen the overall academic climate.

As the institution seeks to raise public awareness of its academic distinctiveness, there will be more emphasis on branding and integrated marketing.

Current Funding Patterns of the University. The University's annual operating budget is more than \$120 million. In 2007-08, USI's state appropriation was \$37,675,499 for operating and \$9,488,222 for fee replacement for prior bonding authorizations. A challenge for the University has been that it has one of the lowest per-FTE-student state appropriations among the state's baccalaureate campuses. The University is committed to maintaining the most affordable tuition and fees among those same institutions, requiring careful management of its resources.

The University of Southern Indiana Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, raises funds for activities not covered by state appropriations such as scholarships, academic projects, athletic programs, and other special needs. Over its 40 years of existence, the USI Foundation has led drives to fund critical University programs such as books for the Library, furnishings for the University Center, the construction and furnishing of a home for the University's first family, spectator seating for the Physical Activities Center, expansion of the University Center, equipment for the Liberal Arts Center, equipment for instructional areas in the new Science and Education Center, and instructional enhancement for the new Business and Engineering Center. Its strong record of achievement was a key consideration in undertaking a capital campaign for the University, which was completed in December 1998. *Campaign USI's* total impact was \$24 million – \$18 million in current gifts and pledges and \$6 million in deferred gifts. In fiscal year 2006-07, the USI Foundation raised more than \$6.4 million in gifts and grants. The USI Foundation assets total \$68 million.

Since USI's founding, the University has benefited from the energy and financial gifts of its supporters. The 1400-acre campus property was a gift of individuals and businesses in the community who recognized the benefit of investing in public higher education programs which they knew would result in a better-educated citizenry. To ensure that USI continues to be a place

of innovation in this century, private investment is needed. Those who support universities make a lasting investment, for universities are among the most enduring entities in society, with lives that extend beyond the tenure of the people who lead them.

Board of Trustees. A board of nine trustees, appointed by the Governor, governs the University. This board must include one alumnus of the University, one current student, and one resident of Vanderburgh County. Trustee terms are four years, except the student term, which is two years. The board has powers and duties common to other public postsecondary institutions in the state of Indiana. Current members of the Board of Trustees are: Ira G. Boots (Evansville), W. Harold Calloway (Evansville), John M. Dunn (Evansville), Jamie L. Johnson '09 (Newburgh), Jeffrey L. Knight (Evansville), Amy W. MacDonell (Indianapolis), Ronald D. Romain '73 (Evansville), Steven J. Schenck '72 (Fishers), Ted C. Ziemer, Jr. (Evansville).

The officers of the board are Chair, John M. Dunn; Vice Chair for Finance/Audit, Jeffrey L. Knight; Vice Chair for Long-Range Planning, W. Harold Calloway; and Secretary, Amy MacDonell.

Officers of the University. Dr. H. Ray Hoops will serve as President of the University of Southern Indiana until June 30, 2009. Other officers include: Dr. Linda L.M. Bennett, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Ms. Cynthia S. Brinker, Vice President for Government and University Relations; Dr. Robert W. Parrent, Vice President for Student Affairs; and Mr. Mark Rozewski, Vice President for Business Affairs and Treasurer.

Fall 2007 Demographic Snapshot

Faculty

322 full-time faculty members

By college: Business (50), Education and Human Services (40), Liberal Arts (110), Nursing and Health Professions (47), Science and Engineering, (74), University Division (1)

In addition, there are 289 part-time faculty members

Students

Enrollment: 9,939

FTE: 7,981 (undergraduate); 338.5 (graduate)

Females: 60%; Males: 40%

Minority students: 7.6%

Students come from 91 of 92 Indiana counties, 35 other states, and 44 other nations

The largest single group, 61.8 %, comes from the 11 counties in southwest Indiana

90% of undergraduate applicants were accepted; 48% of those enrolled

64% of graduate applicants were accepted; 79% of those enrolled

Student enrollment by college: Business (19%), Education and Human Services (15%),

Liberal Arts (20%), Nursing and Health Professions (20%), Science and Engineering (9%),

Extended Services (.5%), University Division (15%), Graduate Studies (1%)

Financial Aid: In 2006-07, 7,302 students received aid; gift aid accounted for 36.5%, loans 61%, on-campus employment 2.5%

Stafford Loan Default Rate (2005): 2.6%

Approximately 2,500 students live in University-owned housing

Alumni

26,000-plus alumni since first graduating class in 1971

Three chapter locations (Dubois County, Greater Indianapolis, and Greater Louisville)

Alumni Scholarship Endowment Fund generates \$15,500 in annual scholarship awards

Volunteer Services

Since 1996 when USI organized its Volunteer Services program, over 875,000 volunteer hours have been recorded in service to the University

Degrees Awarded

In 2007, by college: Business (20%), Education and Human Services (23%), Liberal Arts (22%), Nursing and Health Professions (29%), Science and Engineering (5%)

Library

196,404 book titles, 226,520 volumes

116,345 microform titles, 574,368 volumes

50 electronic databases

302,474 annual visitors

Annual Budget/Appropriation

\$120 million annual operating budget

\$37,675,499 state appropriation, not including fee replacement for bonding

Tuition and Fees

\$4,791: full-time undergraduate resident student (\$11,333 for non-resident)

\$6,542: on-campus room and board

USI Foundation

Foundation assets: \$68 million

Foundation scholarship assets: over \$32 million; nearly \$1 million in annual awards

41% of 2006-07 gifts received were for academics and enrichment; 19% for scholarships

For more information, go to www.usi.edu/ir/fact_book.asp