

MINUTES
JOINT MEETING OF
FINANCE COMMITTEE AND LONG-RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

January 9, 1997

The University of Southern Indiana Finance Committee and Long-Range Planning Committee met in a joint session on Thursday, January 9, 1997, at the Embassy Suites in downtown Indianapolis. Present were Trustees Bruce Baker, Louise Bruce, Nicole Cable, Percy Clark, Jr., Charles Combs, Tina Kern, Thomas McKenna, and James Will, Sr. Also attending were President H. Ray Hoops; Vice Presidents John Byrd, Robert Reid, Richard Schmidt, and Sherrienne Standley.

There being a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by Bruce Baker, who chaired the meeting in the absence of Long Range Planning Committee Chairman, Harolyn Torain.

Mr. Baker called on John Byrd to give his report. Dr. Byrd stated that he had scheduled students to give a presentation of student life on campus and update the Trustees on past programs they have approved. However due to weather conditions, the students were unable to attend the meeting. He noted that Chris Williams and Nicole Cable of the Student Government Association were in attendance and would make the presentation later in the meeting.

Dr. Byrd explained the new Leadership Academy, named for Trustee Emeritus Joe O'Daniel, will enhance the work of Student Affairs. The components of the Leadership Academy teach students to develop a sense of responsibility to themselves, their family, their education; to conduct themselves appropriately, and to understand obligation. He noted there is a new introductory course, Blazing Trails, that teaches beginning leadership skills. The course teaches students individual responsibility and how to develop a set of objectives, organize memberships, and evaluate the results and solutions.

Dr. Byrd introduced Chris Williams and Nicole Cable of the Student Government Association to express their thoughts and student's opinions of life on campus, activities, and housing. The 1996-1997 school year shows a 12 percent increase in the freshman class with that increase coming from outside the 11 counties in southwest Indiana. Both noted students are spending more of their time on campus and not going home as much as in the past. Overall, students do want to see more activities in campus housing and would pay an activity fee to support them.

A slide presentation was viewed on the need and areas to be funded from the proposed Student Activity Fee. Discussion followed on the amount of the fee, what the fee would cover, and whether to restructure the current student service or initiate a new student Activity Fee. The fee may bring some public and legislative reaction.

No action is recommended from the Committee. Discussion on the Student Activity Fee will continue at future meetings.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.