

**AGENDA
LONG-RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

January 8, 1998

I. Discussion of New Degree Programs:

Bachelor of Science Degree in Exercise Science

Bachelor of Science Degree in Health Services (via Distance Education)

Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree (via Distance Education)

Abstract
Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science
University of Southern Indiana

Objectives:

The Bachelor of Science degree in exercise science is designed to prepare students for careers in the fields of wellness and fitness. Graduates will be qualified for entry-level positions in corporate, commercial, and community settings. These students will be prepared for examinations which will provide certification as health/fitness instructors by the American College of Sports Medicine.

Clientele to be Served:

The Evansville Standard Metropolitan Area (SMSA) consists of Gibson, Posey, Vanderburgh, and Warrick Counties in Indiana, and Henderson County in Kentucky. This area serves approximately 300,000 residents and is the center of trade for over 900,000 individuals living in Indiana, Illinois, and Kentucky. This program is particularly suited for students interested in the broad area of physical education but who do not intend to seek teacher certification and employment in public/private school settings. Students who are interested in graduate study in this field will also be attracted to this baccalaureate program.

Curriculum:

The Bachelor of Science degree in exercise science requires the completion of 124 hours. To meet the criteria of the American College of Sports Medicine, a minimum of 33 hours of course work in exercise science is required. Students also complete 51 hours of the University Core Curriculum, and 17 hours in related fields.

Employment Possibilities:

Many of the graduates of this program can be expected to take positions with local firms. This is a rapidly growing field and the services of persons with training in exercise science are increasingly recognized and sought. Private fitness facilities, local health care centers, and corporations are the primary places seeking employees from this field of study.

Abstract
Bachelor of Science in Health Services
University of Southern Indiana
via Telecommunications

Objectives:

The purpose of this program is to provide opportunities for students in the state of Indiana to obtain a Bachelor of Science degree in health services via distance education.

Clientele to be Served:

The health services degree program is currently offered on the campus at the University of Southern Indiana. The program serves: 1) students who have completed an associate degree in a health-related field who wish to earn a baccalaureate in health services, 2) students who have completed technical training programs in a health profession and are credentialed health professionals, and 3) generic baccalaureate degree-seeking students who seek to prepare for a non-clinical career in health care or a related field.

Curriculum:

The Bachelor of Science in health services degree is a 124-credit-hour program. The core curriculum requires completion of 50 hours, while the major emphasis requires 46 hours. An additional 28 hours of electives may be chosen by the student in consultation with an advisor. The program provides a broad base understanding of the health care industry and learning activities supportive of health care management positions.

All courses in the major will be prepared for delivery via distance education. Internet will be the primary mode of delivery, but other computer-mediated instruction, IHETS and videotapes will be utilized.

Employment Possibilities:

According to reports from the U.S. Department of Labor, health care is a large and growing industry employing approximately 10 percent of the nation's work force. Approximately 11 million workers are employed in more than 200 distinct health occupations. Many of these individuals do not have a baccalaureate degree. Health-related businesses that provide services and products to health facilities and health professionals provide additional employment opportunities.

Abstract
Bachelor of Science In Nursing Degree
University of Southern Indiana
via Telecommunications

Objectives:

The purpose of this program is to provide opportunities for Indiana associate degree and diploma education registered nurses to complete a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree via distance education.

Clientele to be Served:

This degree program will address the needs of associate degree and diploma graduate registered nurses who, because of work schedules and locations, have limited opportunities to earn the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree.

Curriculum:

The RN-BSN completion program for most associate degree-prepared registered nurses will require an additional 63 credit hours which includes 34 hours of nursing and 29 hours to meet core curriculum and related degree requirements. Diploma-prepared registered nurses can transfer 36 nursing credit hours without additional testing. Individualized advising based on previous course work will facilitate student progress through the program.

Employment Possibilities:

The increased complexity and expansion of health care delivery requires an increased number of nurses with advanced preparation at the baccalaureate and graduate level. A number of positions in hospitals and with other care providers require a minimum of a bachelor's degree to fill registered nurse positions. Nurses also are realizing the need for additional education to fulfill their current roles as well as to expand their employment opportunities.