

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

April 3, 1986

The Long-Range Planning Committee and the Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees met in joint session in the Entry Hall of the New Harmony Inn in New Harmony, Indiana. Those present were Trustees Robert Boyer, William Brooks, Percy Clark, Jr., Robert Fair, Joseph O'Daniel, John J Pruis, Carole Rust, George Weathersby, and Eric Williams; Honorary Trustee Albert A. Woll; President David Rice; Vice Presidents Donald Bennett, Robert Reid, and Byron Wright; Student Government Representative Rob Hon; and Assistant to the President Sherriane Standley.

Mr. O'Daniel convened the meeting at 10:20 a.m. He turned the discussion over to President Rice to explain the documents previously mailed to the Trustees. Dr. Rice explained that the documents were intended to give the Trustees a basis for some advance planning for the University in looking at future constituencies, economic developments, and demographic trends.

Mr. Brooks added that it was important, too, to look at the projected number of high school graduates and the fact that Indiana lags behind the midwest and nation in college attendance rates. Mr. O'Daniel expressed the view that the University needed a plan for achieving enrollment goals. Dr. Clark told the committee that there would be a real push in the future in Indiana to improve college attendance rates, and that the University must decide how large it wants to be, and whether or not it wants to accept growth or stay small. Dr. Weathersby said there were a variety of needs which could be met with growth, but that growth would change somewhat the character of the University.

Mr. O'Daniel informed the Board that Mid America Student Housing is at capacity for next fall and that the University Apartments complex is half-filled. He said the students are coming from outlying counties and that student housing is going to contribute significantly to the retention of students. He expressed the concern that the University retain its commitment to quality and keep a balanced environment. He said the University needs to determine how many additional students it can serve without sacrificing its character.

Dr. Bennett explained the University's enrollment development plan and discussed some of the goals of the Admissions Office staff. He also distributed a financial aid report showing year to date usage and expenditures. Dr. Reid discussed the University's programmatic needs in relationship to the biennial budget requests. He explained the new degree programs and brought the Board up to date on the Graduate Center developments. Dr. Reid said a new dimension in programming is in service. The Community Resources Development program will center on two areas — assisting in enhancing tourism opportunities in southwestern Indiana and assisting in establishing a labormanagement forum in the region. The biennial budget request will be formulated further in June and acted upon in July.

Mr. Wright informed the committee that documents were due to the Commission on the following dates: The Long Range Plan (ten-year plan) is due June 1; the Construction and Repair and Rehabilitation Request is due August 1; and the Operating Budget for the next Biennium is due September 1.

The committee discussed long-range planning for the institution and how it fits in with the Higher Education Services Plan and the mission statement for the University.

Mr. Brooks said he would like each trustee to pull together his or her ideas about what the university is, should be, and can be. He would like to see a one-page document setting forth each trustee's vision of the University five years from now, and ten years from now.

There was agreement that this would help the Board come to consensus about its mission and programs and allow for strategic planning. Dr. Rice said this would be an early start for drafting the Higher Education Services Plan, due next year.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.