

For immediate release
News from the University of Southern Indiana

Mt. Vernon resident earns Trustees Distinguished Merit Award at USI

Andrea L. C. Henke of Mt. Vernon is the Trustees' Distinguished Merit Award winner for 2007 at the University of Southern Indiana. A junior, Henke is a history major with a minor in anthropology. She has earned a 3.8 grade point average overall, and a 4.0 in her major field. She is on track to graduate with honors in May 2008.

The award was presented at the March 18 College of Liberal Arts Honors Convocation by **Bruce H. Baker**, chair of the USI Board of Trustees. It carries a \$1,000 stipend.

Applicants for the award are asked to write an essay on the value of a liberal arts education. Henke wrote, "In addition to the skills a liberal arts education provides, I believe it also imparts students with a sense of appreciation and understanding. Students of the liberal arts develop an admiration of the arts and literature that can provide pleasure and continued education for years after a degree has been acquired."

A faculty member, who supported the Henke nomination, wrote, "As a discussion facilitator in our class, Andrea demonstrated strong leadership skills and appreciation for the goals of our classroom and our university. This exemplary behavior is the norm for her."

Henke plans to pursue a career as a park ranger with the National Park Service after graduation. She has a seasonal job with the George Rogers Clark National Historic Park in Vincennes, Indiana.

Henke is a member of Phi Alpha Theta, a history honor society, and a member of the Student Advisory Board to the dean. She is a student worker in the College of Liberal Arts. In all capacities she has built highly effective working relationships with peers, faculty, and administration. She is described as thoughtful, organized, and motivated to succeed.

Henke is the daughter of **Michael** and **Deborah Capps** and a graduate of Jasper High School. Her husband **Nick Henke** also is a student at USI. They reside in Mount Vernon, Indiana.

The Trustees Distinguished Merit Award recognizes outstanding achievement not only in the student's major but also in the liberal arts and sciences that form the core curriculum of a college education. Each school nominates one student for the award. The award is presented to one junior or senior at USI who best qualifies by virtue of the overall integrity of his or her student life. Selection is made by the Student Affairs Committee.