



NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT:
Kathy Funke, Director
News & Information Services
812/465-7005
FAX 812/464-1956

Nicole Cable to receive USI President's Medal at 1997 Commencement

**For immediate release
April 29, 1997**

Nicole Cable of Crown Point, Indiana, a senior chemistry major and the student member on the University of Southern Indiana Board of Trustees, has been chosen by the Student Academic Affairs Committee (SAAC) to receive the President's Medal, the highest honor bestowed on a graduating senior.

The 22-year-old Cable was one of four finalists for the award, with SAAC members noting the need to select a winner from gifted nominees makes their task so difficult that they want to recognize all of the finalists. A hallmark of each, as outlined by those making nominations, is that they have a talent for working with -- and for -- people.

The other nominees were Tracy Bee, 23, of Evansville, an English/sociology major who has been editor of the student *Transitions* magazine for two years; John P. Mullen, 21, of Washington, Indiana, an English education major who has spent the past semester as a student teacher at Reitz High School; and Heather Rollett, 22, of Evansville, a December accounting graduate who ranked seventh in the state in passing the November CPA exam and who now is employed by Ernst & Young, Indianapolis, one of the "Big 6" public accounting firms in the nation.

Cable and Mullen both attend USI as Presidential Scholars, a program providing full scholarship for Indiana high school valedictorians and salutatorians. Both also were selected in this year's inaugural program to honor a "Student Leader of the Month": Mullen for October 1996, Cable for April 1997.

Cable was appointed by former Governor Evan Bayh in August 1995 to a two-year term as the student representative on the USI Board of Trustees. The daughter of Rod and Paulette Cable of 912 Mohawk, Crown Point, she was valedictorian of the 1993 graduating class at Crown Point High School.

(more)

Cable sought the student seat on the Board because she believes that as a Presidential Scholar she has a responsibility to the University, and has attempted to give back in many ways. She has been president of the Student Alumni Association and active with the group's Adopt-a-Spot, Breakfast with the President, Career Exploration, and Spirit Competition committees. She started with the Student Government Association as a freshman senator representing the School of Science and Engineering Technology and served as vice president this past year, with a primary duty of guiding the long-overdue SGA restructuring; her leadership brought plaudits from fellow students and advisors.

Cable also has served on University-wide committees: Disabled Student Advisory, Student Academic Grievance, Student Life Advisory, Student Publications, North Central Association Self-Examination Steering Committee and its Assessment Subcommittee, and Master Plan Review Team, among others.

Cable is a Dean's List student with a 3.739 grade point average on a 4.0 scale, participated in the 1995 Honors Student Symposium, and is a member of the American Chemical Society student and national affiliates, the Science and Ecology Club, and Sigma Zeta and Golden Key honoraries. She has been a chemistry lab assistant; an Academic Skills tutor in math, chemistry, and physics; and a volunteer with the USI Annual Fund Phone-a-Thon, the primary fundraising activity for the USI offices of Development and Alumni Affairs. She was selected for *Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities* in 1996.

She also was involved in student research in the Chemistry Department and presented a paper at the 1995 fall meeting of the Indiana Academy of Science on "Congener Specific Evaporative Losses of Aroclor 1242.

In seeking the nomination for the President's Medal, she said her original goal was to earn a degree in chemistry and go into research -- "I thought a career in which I worked on my own to accomplish my goals would make me happy." But after "experiencing" USI, she said she may continue with university life by teaching or go into some other type of public service, but whatever the case, she plans to remain open to the opportunities that arise along the way -- one of "the most valuable traits" she believes she developed at USI. She has accepted a fellowship to study for a doctorate in Purdue University's chemistry education program.