

**For immediate release  
News from the University of Southern Indiana**

**Academic Affairs assistant vice president named**

The Department of Political Science chair and director of Honors at Millikin University is the new assistant vice president for Academic Affairs at the University of Southern Indiana.

Dr. Brian D. Posler is a teacher and scholar who has been active in curriculum development, faculty committee work, and assessment and program review at the Illinois institution.

Dr. Linda L. M. Bennett, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, said, "Dr. Posler has an impressive record of success. His recognized leadership by faculty, his work with their Board of Trustees, and his strengths as an administrator is valuable as USI continues to enhance the learning environment through a commitment to excellent teaching. He has brought a sense of excitement to the mission of undergraduate education that will help to foster innovation and effective teamwork. We are delighted to have him on board in Academic Affairs."

While at Millikin University, he was elected as the first-ever faculty representative to the Board of Trustees and in that capacity served on the educational affairs committee charged with overseeing academic programs and the enrollment management committee.

In his role as chair, he hired and evaluated faculty and developed curriculum and advising models for the Department of Political Science. His teaching and research activity has been in various areas of American politics, and he has taught interdisciplinary courses in the general curriculum.

Dr. Posler implemented an online plan of study for the Department of Political Science, piloted the University-wide online portfolio system, and worked to bring the campus-wide portal proposal to fruition.

"I'm excited to be here and to be a part of this great institution," he said. "USI has features of a smaller school such as close interaction among faculty and students and the living-learning communities in Residence Life. It offers students the whole college experience. I'm ready to contribute in my strength areas of program review, assessment, and working with the governing board."

Dr. Posler has been the National Book Reviews editor for the *Journal for Political Science Education* since 2003, and he was secretary-treasurer for five years for the Illinois Political Science Association.

He obtained a Title III grant for Honors program review and curriculum revision, created more access points for transfer students, and improved student satisfaction of the Honors program.

He was one of three writers who earned a national award for a paper on departmental assessment presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association in the Undergraduate Education Section.

Dr. Posler was one of four political scientists chosen nationally to serve Congress as a fellow in 2000-01. He was the Appropriations director and legislative assistant to a member of Congress. During that time he engaged in seminars with Congressional scholars and practitioners at the Library of Congress.

His appointment at USI was effective June 1, 2006.