

**USI PSYCHOLOGY TEACHERS
CONFERENCE EXPECTED
TO DRAW MAXIMUM ATTENDANCE**



NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Kathy W. Funke
News and Information Services
812/465-7050

For Immediate Release
September 25, 1991

The eighth annual Mid-America Conference for Teachers of Psychology, to be held October 11-12 at the University of Southern Indiana, is expected to draw maximum attendance for the second consecutive year. More than 100 psychology teachers from around the country will attend the conference in which Stephen Davis of Emporia State University, Kansas, will be a keynote speaker.

A psychology teacher and historian, Dr. Davis has been doing research in the archives at the University of Akron. His topic for the general session following a Friday evening dinner will be "Teaching in the 1890s and 1990s: What Goes Around Comes Around." He will draw upon the life and career of Nonman Triplett, who taught at Emporia for 45 years and was the first to conduct and publish (1898) a social psychology experiment. His message, Davis said, will be that good teaching is not time dependent and should be the primary concern in spite of existing problems.

The first general session, during the opening program Friday morning, will feature Wayne Weiten of the College of DuPage. A textbook author, he will discuss "Great Myths in (Introductory) Psychology."

Other conference highlights will be the popular "Saturday Morning Live" demonstrations for introductory psychology and the "Return of the Psych Follies," a *Saturday Night Live* type presentation. The latter was initiated eight years ago, written by Dr. Joseph Palladino, chair of the USI Psychology Department, and the USI student Psh Chi chapter and presented by the students. The follies will be presented this year by faculty, among them Palladino and Sid Hall, USI assistant professor of psychology.

Palladino's pride of authorship shone as he noted there was a standing ovation when he and some colleagues presented the follies at a recent conference in California. "I guess the best description I've heard," he said, "is that the follies 'are funny, but you have to understand psychology to know they are.' We use a lot of inside humor."

Palladino is founder of the USI conference and has been assisted this year by Vivian Jenkins, USI psychology instructor who will take over next year as conference coordinator. As Palladino leaves the helm, he is proud of the emulation that is a measure of conference success. He said there now are four "clones" of the USI conference on the East Coast, the Midwest, and Texas, with a fifth anticipated in California.

- 30 -