

ISUE TRANSITION TO USI

MADE OFFICIAL BY NEW BOARD

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NEWS RELEASE

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Governor Robert D. Orr today convened the first meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University of Southern Indiana on the University campus at Evansville.

After swearing in the board members, Governor Orr stressed that USI is a new statewide institution located in southern Indiana and that it is essential that the board make it a total state University, not the regional institution it has been.

He noted that with a totally new state University, the board has an opportunity to be creative and original. There will be many changes the next 15 years, he said, noting Indiana officials can prepare the state to be competitive to a far greater degree "than if we simply let things unfold."

The new USI board members include Robert M. Boyer of Terre Haute, Dr. Percy Clark, Jr., of Indianapolis, and Dr. John J. Prais of Muncie, all named to one-year terms; William E. Brooks, Jr., of Vincennes, Robert J. Fair of Princeton, and Dr. George B. Weathersby of Indianapolis, all named to two-year terms, and Joseph E. O'Daniel of Evansville, and Mrs. Carole D. Rust of Mt. Vernon, both named to three-year terms.

A ninth person, the student member of the board, will be appointed by Governor Orr following interviews with student nominees. Once the initial terms expire, all appointments will run for four years, except the student seat, which will remain a two-year appointment. Orr also named Al Woll of Evansville, who carried the USI banner for many years as an Evansville member of the Indiana State University Board of Trustees, as an honorary member of the new board.

USI board members followed through on Orr's recommendation and named Dr. Pruis interim chairman, pending the official organizational meeting to be held on July 8. Other interim officers elected by the board are O'Daniel, vice chairman, and Dr. Clark, secretary. Sherrienne Standley, assistant to USI President Dr. David L. Rice, and Byron Wright, USI Vice President for Business Affairs, were appointed by the board to serve as assistant secretary and treasurer, respectively.

In other official action, the board:

- * Established a preliminary schedule of holding board meetings on the first Thursday of the month, every other month, starting with the July 8 meeting; holding committee meetings during the remaining months.

- * Approved several resolutions of transfer to USI, including the master implementation agreement, previously adopted by ISU, that provides for the transfer of assets and liabilities from ISU to USI; authorization to transfer all existing ISUE academic programs to USI; endorsing all official policies and procedures of ISUE as being applicable to USI; offering employment with USI to all faculty and administrators, and to clerical and support personnel; renaming the official alumni group the USI Alumni Association, and granting USI diplomas to all ISUE graduates who request them.

- * Approved a current operating budget of \$14,023,707, of which \$11,617,223 is allocated to the general fund. The general fund budget is up 11.5 percent over 1984-85. Budget increases included inflation adjustments for salaries and wages, an improved computer system, the start of a master's degree program in industrial management, and improved salaries for employees in fields of high competition.

- * Approved student fee increases for the 1985-86 academic year, reflecting in large part the spending level approved for state universities by the 1985 General Assembly. The rate per credit hour will be: in-state undergraduate students, \$43, up \$2; out-of-state undergraduate students, \$106, up \$6; in-state graduate students, \$53, up \$3, and out-of-state graduate students, \$119, up \$9.

- * Approved a schedule of miscellaneous fees that included an increase in ticket prices for the Eagles men's basketball games -- season tickets will be \$40 for general admission (bench) and \$60 for reserved (chairback)

seats, both a \$10 increase; single-game prices will be \$4 for general admission and \$5 for reserved seats, each up \$1, with a new \$2 general admission price set up for children. Ticket prices for other sports events were not changed.

* Approved official depositories for University funds, appointed legal counsel, and established policies for financial transactions for USI.

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