



# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## PRESIDENT DAVID RICE ANNOUNCED HIS RETIREMENT AT USI BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING TODAY

Dr. David L. Rice announced his intention to retire from the presidency of the University of Southern Indiana effective June 30, 1994. The University's founding president came to Evansville in 1967, serving first as dean and then president of the Evansville Campus of Indiana State University. When the University of Southern Indiana was established in place of ISUE in 1985, Dr. Rice was appointed president.

Under Dr. Rice's able leadership, USI evolved from limited course offerings culminating in an associate degree to a baccalaureate and then master's level institution. It also developed from a regional campus housed in a condemned elementary school to a separate state university occupying contemporary classroom facilities on a beautiful master-planned 300-acre campus. Today, the University is known for dedicated teaching faculty who have reached into southern Indiana to share their expertise.

Bruce Baker, chairman of the USI Board of Trustees, said the Trustees accepted the resignation with regret, noting Dr. Rice's distinguished service to the University and to the southwestern Indiana region. Mr. Baker said, "The concepts of educational access and success which he has espoused for more than 25 years are today's buzzwords in postsecondary circles. Dr. Rice has been one of the most effective educational leaders in our state and nation. On behalf of the students, alumni, employees, and residents of Indiana, the Trustees extend appreciation for his service."

Baker said the process to select a new president will begin immediately. Within the month, a 23-member search and screen committee, comprised of faculty, staff, administrators, students, alumni, community members, and Trustees will convene to establish selection criteria and process. The selection process is expected to take up most of the 1993-94 academic year, with a successor to be appointed by the Trustees before June 30, 1994.

In other business, the Trustees approved construction on the lower level of the Robert D. Orr Center to provide more offices for academic skills and the computer center. Both areas have increased space needs because of enrollment growth on campus. The board also approved installation of an elevator in the Administration Building to provide more adequate access for disabled students. The elevator will be installed at the east entrance of the Administration Building, the entrance adjacent to the Orr Center.

The Trustees also approved the awarding of master's, baccalaureate, and associate degrees to some 800 students during the May 8 Commencement ceremony, to be held at 7 p.m. at Roberts Stadium in Evansville. During the ceremony the Trustees will award honorary degrees to three individuals who have shown educational leadership while advocating human rights. Honorary degree recipients will be Dr. Lorraine Matusak, who will bring the Commencement address, Susan B. Enlow, and James B. Igleheart.

Dr. Matusak is the first Leadership Scholar at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek, Michigan. She has been coordinator and program director for leadership programming at Kellogg. Before joining the Foundation in 1982, Dr. Matusak was president of Thomas A. Edison State College in Trenton, New Jersey; dean of the College of

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Alternative Programs at the University of Evansville; and professor of natural sciences at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

Dr. Matusak is the author of numerous publications in the field of nontraditional adult education and leadership. She received her bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry from the College of St. Benedict; master's degree in entomology from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis; and doctorate in higher education administration from Fielding Institute of Graduate Studies in Santa Barbara, California.

Ms. Enlow is president and chief executive officer of the Enlow Foundation, a foundation which supports scholarships for minorities, female minority single parents, and the arts. She has been a major benefactor to the University of Southern Indiana, establishing scholarships for deserving students as well as endowments to enhance the humanities.

Originally from Evansville, Ms. Enlow, who now divides her time between California and Indiana, has a special interest in the historic community of New Harmony. She is a member of the board of directors of the USI/Historic New Harmony Foundation, the New Harmony Memorial Commission, and the board of directors of the Posey County Community Foundation. She is an ordained elder in the Presbyterian Church. A graduate of Indiana University, she also attended the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University and earned a master's degree from the University of Evansville. From 1963 to 1986, she was corporate secretary of the board of directors of *The Evansville Courier*.

Mr. Igleheart, who represented southwestern Indiana as a member of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education for ten years, is an Evansville business and civic leader. He recently retired as chairman of the board of International Steel Company, which he had joined in 1949. He has been regarded as a national leader in the steel fabricating and manufacturing industry.

Active in educational circles, Mr. Igleheart served as a trustee of the University of Evansville and member of the state board of Ivy Tech. In 1977 he received the Mayor's Human Rights Award.

In personnel action, the Trustees approved tenure for six faculty members effective August 22, 1994. They are Sherry Boyd, assistant professor of education; Kathy M. Elpers, assistant professor of social work; Sid A. Hall, assistant professor of psychology; Guillermo Latorre, assistant professor of Spanish; Ruth S. Tompkins, assistant professor of education; and Susan Smith Wolfe, assistant professor of German.

Promotions were approved for six faculty members effective August 13, 1993 including associate professor to professor--Sherry B. Darrell, English; Howard R. Gabennesch, sociology; and Mehmet C. Kocakulah, accounting and business law; assistant professor to associate professor--Sherry L. Boyd, teacher education; Ruth S. Tompkins, teacher education; and Susan Smith Wolfe, foreign language.