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For Immediate Release  
News from the University of Southern Indiana

### Nursing educator conference to feature Schibik and Harrington

Two educators will explain how teachers know that students are learning during the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Nursing and Health Professions Educator Conference to be held at the University of Southern Indiana on Wednesday, October 19, 2005. The conference is sponsored by the College of Nursing and Health Professions.

Tim Schibik, professor of economics and director of the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence at USI, and Charles W. Harrington, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke and a former administrator and faculty member at USI, will present characteristics of classroom assessment and offer understanding of the connections between assessment and learning. They will tell nursing educators how to develop personal teaching goals inventories and discuss what students gain from the assessment of teaching and learning.

Harrington said both presenters will talk about reasons why faculty should separate formative and summative assessment. He said, "Summative assessment, typically conducted through student evaluation of teaching, is done at the end of the semester and is really the assessment of teaching.

"Formative assessment should be conducted throughout the semester, and should be viewed as the assessment and evaluation of learning."

He said the goal is to explain these two distinctly different issues that need to be viewed in isolation. They want to help educators understand clearly the distinctions between the two and the reasons for which they should, by necessity, be separated.

He said, "It is in an educator's best interest to make certain that the curriculum design, pedagogical methodologies, and academic content lend themselves to measurement and evaluation. As faculty, we should never be satisfied with the status quo—ours should be a constant and persistent search for improvement."

Other presenters are coming from St. Mary's College, University of Illinois at Chicago, Kent State University, and Purdue University.

The conference will be held from 8:15 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the University Center, and registration fee is \$70. Deadline to register is October 12. Information is online at <http://health.usi.edu/>.