



NEWS RELEASE

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Ann Stack to be USI Commencement speaker

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Ann M. Stack, recently retired publisher of *Arts Indiana Magazine* and long-time supporter of Historic New Harmony, the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art, and University of Southern Indiana arts programs, will be the speaker for the University's 1997 Commencement, slated at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 10, in Roberts Stadium.

The announcement was made at the meeting of the USI Board of Trustees Thursday. The Board approved the selection of Ms. Stack as the recipient year of an honorary Doctor of Letters degree from the University in recognition of her leadership in advancing the arts in Indiana. The Board also approved the conferral of master, bachelor, and associate degrees for more than 950 candidates for the 1997 ceremony.

Ms. Stack, a descendant of the Ball family of Muncie, Indiana, is a native of Annapolis, Maryland. She attended Rollins College and the University of Michigan and was an editor with Viking Press Publishing Company in New York City for five years before coming to Indiana to live.

She joined the founding Board of Directors of Arts Indiana, Inc., in 1978 in Indianapolis and served as president of the board (1979-84), chair of the Advisory Board and executive officer (1984-86), and publisher and CEO of Arts Indiana and *Arts Indiana Magazine* until her retirement in 1996.

During her 18 years of participation and leadership, *Arts Indiana* (originally *Indiana Arts Insight*) grew from an organization run from a dining room table to one with a \$750,000 budget in 1996. It is the only magazine to cover the arts in one state; has achieved state, national, and international recognition; has won an Indiana Governor's Arts Award; was included at the Salon de Revue in Paris; and is used by the International Trade Division of the Indiana Department of Commerce to help promote Indiana worldwide.

Arts Indiana also supports an award-winning education program, *Arts Indiana in the Classroom*, which has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, the Indiana Department of Education, and the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities for its statewide efforts to improve critical thinking and writing skills in Indiana students and to create equal access to the arts for students and teachers.

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The Arts Indiana journal *Hopewell Review: New Work by Indiana's Best Writers* also was included at the Salon de Revue and *Hopewell Weekly*, drawn from the journal, is syndicated to public radio stations throughout Indiana and Alaska.

Ms. Stack's family has a history of involvement with Historic New Harmony. A marker was dedicated at the Labyrinth in 1986, recognizing the contributions of Ms. Stack's grandmother, Bertha Crosley Ball, in restoring the 19th century Labyrinth in 1939. Mrs. Ball was a member of the original New Harmony Memorial Commission and devoted time and effort to educating people about New Harmony history. Ms. Stack assumed her grandmother's New Harmony interests and became a charter member in 1986 of the University of Southern Indiana/New Harmony Foundation. Her support includes the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art and the USI School of Liberal Arts faculty and programs.

She has been active with numerous art institutions and organizations in Indianapolis over the years and continues to serve on the boards of the Indianapolis Museum of Art, Cathedral Arts, and the Economic Club of Indianapolis. She is co-chair and a Steering Committee member for Regional Center Plan II 2010: Arts, Recreation, and Tourism in the capital city.

In other business Thursday, the USI Board approved installation of a second modular structure on campus, a \$195,000 facility to provide temporary office space for 26 faculty members and clerical/support staff who will be dislocated during remodeling of the Science Center and construction of the \$15.2-million liberal arts classroom building. The temporary facilities are scheduled for fall occupancy. Construction bids are expected this summer on the new classroom building, while the \$8-million plan to remodel Science Center labs and complete the basement of the Health Professions Center remains in committee at the legislature.

In personnel action, the Board approved tenure for ten USI professors -- Peter S. Cashel-Cordo, assistant professor of economics; Joseph A. DiPietro, assistant professor of geology; Susanna M. Hoeness-Krupsaw, assistant professor of English; Annette C. Lamb, associate professor of teacher education; Linda O. Matheson, assistant professor of dental assisting; Thomas J. Pickett, assistant professor of physics; Margaret A. Skoglund, associate professor of art; Phyllis S. Toy, assistant professor of English; David J. Westhuis, assistant professor of social work; and Stephen C. Zehr, assistant professor of sociology.

The Board also approved promotions for seven professors, effective in August, and the early retirement in May 1998 for Walter A. Hopkins, USI professor of sociology for more than a quarter of a century. Dr. Lamb was promoted from associate to full professor, effective in August; those who will move from assistant to associate professor will be Dr. DiPietro, Dr. Westhuis, Dr. Zehr, and Gary E. May, social work; Dane M. Partridge, management; and Paul B. Raymond, political science.