



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **For immediate release**

### **News from the University of Southern Indiana**

#### **Honorary degrees to be awarded to local residents; largest class will graduate**

A retired bank executive and two retired Evansville educators will be recognized during the University of Southern Indiana 2006 Commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 6, 2006.

The USI Board of Trustees at the board meeting on March 2, 2006 approved honorary degrees for Wayne F. Henning, Mattie S. Miller, and William E. Miller. Board members also approved degrees for 1,675 degree candidates, making the Class of 2006 the largest class to graduate from USI.

Henning, an advocate for expansion of public higher education, retired this spring after 42 years with Old National. He was the executive vice president and regional chief operating officer upon retirement.

This year the Indiana legislature recognized Henning's community service by passing a resolution in his honor describing him as "being deeply involved in the Evansville business and cultural community most of his adult life." He is the associate co-chair of Evansville Catholic High School Campaign and serves on the Honorary Cabinet of Hands on Discovery Children's Museum. He is past president of the Evansville Freedom Festival and has served as the associate general chairman of the United Way.

Several community organizations have recognized Henning for his impact in the community. He has received the Beacon Group Community Award, the Best of Evansville Decades of Wisdom Award, the Memorial High School Distinguished Service Award, The Multiple Sclerosis Hope Award, and the Distinguished Citizen Award from the Buffalo Trace Council Boy Scouts.

He has been active with the Evansville Association of Commercial Banks, Consumer Credit Counseling Services, and Greater Evansville Lenders Association. He is a past member of the board of directors at the Evansville Association of Retarded Citizens, Roberts Stadium Foundation, and the Evansville Airport Advisory Board. He served as financial chair at Holy Rosary Church, vice chair of the Evansville Chamber of Commerce, board member of Mesker Zoo, and chair of the Southern Indiana Financial Institutions for I-69.

Henning is a graduate of St. Edward's University and The Stonier Graduate School of Banking.

He will receive the honorary degree Doctor of Laws from USI.