



NEWS RELEASE

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MELVIN DENNER TO BE ACTING DEAN

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Dr. Melvin W. "Mike" Denner, professor of biology who is entering his 27th year with the School of Science and Engineering Technology, has been appointed acting dean of the school, effective July 1-December 31, 1994.

Dr. Denner accepted the post during his final semester at USI; he plans to retire in 1995. A search will be conducted for a permanent dean. Dr. Denner succeeds Dr. Frank L. Stanonis, professor of geology and geography, who is returning to full-time teaching and also will be chair of the Geology and Physics Department.

Dr. Denner joined the USI faculty in 1968 as an assistant professor of biology, following four years as an instructor at Iowa State University, his final year there as an NIH Fellow. He became acting chair of USI's former Division of Science and Mathematics by the mid-1970s and permanent chair in 1978, holding that post for a decade before he returned to his role as full-time teacher and pre-med student advisor. Dr. Denner has been involved with the development of programs in allied health, engineering technology, medical technology, nursing, biophysics, and computer science, and was a co-author of the University Self Study for accreditation by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. He has been active with numerous University committees and regional and national professional associations.

Dr. Denner received his B.S. degree from Upper Iowa University, his M.S. from the University of Kentucky, and his Ph.D. from Iowa State. He has received many teaching honors through the years, but reached a pinnacle in 1988 when he was selected by his colleagues as the National City Bank Distinguished Professor at USI and also was named Indiana Professor of the Year in the state competition sponsored by the national Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE).