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NEWS RELEASE

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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA STUDENT ENROLLMENT REACHES 7,430

University of Southern Indiana student enrollment figures released by the Registrar's Office this week show 7,430 students enrolled for the Fall 1992 semester, a six percent increase over last year. USI has had rapid growth, with enrollment more than doubling since 1982.

USI President David Rice said, "The statistics bear out the type of population USI is serving -- almost a balance between the traditional age and the older student, an increasing percentage of women, and a part-time population like many metropolitan universities." Fifty-seven percent of the students are full-time, 43 percent part-time; 36 per cent are 25 years of age or older (4,700 students under 25; 2,730 over 25); the number of women students continues to increase, now standing at 61 percent (4,557 women, 2,873 men); and minority and international students on student visas increased by 6 per cent, making up five percent of the total population. The 227 Black students are the largest minority population on the campus, continuing an increase for the third year.

The University continues to follow its goals of increasing access and providing instruction and service to southern Indiana, and has been successful in attracting larger numbers of students from area counties. Nearly 90 percent of its ten-year enrollment change came from southern Indiana.

"We are achieving one of our major objectives, that of increasing the college graduation rate for southern Indiana adults and young people," Dr. Rice said. "The numbers of students have doubled and in some cases, tripled" from the 'target' counties.

Because southern Indiana has a high percentage of low-income counties, Dr. Rice noted the University has aggressively sought to locate employment for students. "Last year, 777 students used USI's Job Locater Service, earning more than \$2.5 million through those employment opportunities, while the University employs between 300 and 400 students in staff positions on campus each year."

Dr. Rice said the availability of low-cost student housing provided by Southern Indiana Higher Education, Inc., has aided the University in linking students and employment needs. It has meant that "students can come from rural counties, live economically on campus, and find good part-time employment nearby," Rice said.

Enrollment by southern Indiana counties includes: Vanderburgh, 3,548; Warrick, 994; Posey, 584; Gibson, 362; Dubois, 226; Spencer, 181; Perry, 117; Pike, 83; Daviess, 80; Knox, 76; and Martin, 32. It also includes other Indiana counties, other states, and the international students.