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For immediate release
News from the University of Southern Indiana

Mohammed Khayum named dean of USI College of Business

Dr. Mohammed Khayum, a USI faculty member since 1991 and a leading researcher on Evansville-area economic issues, has been named to lead the University's College of Business as dean effective January 3, 2006.

The announcement was made December 14 by Dr. Linda L.M. Bennett, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. In making the announcement, she said, "Dr. Khayum has already established himself as an innovative leader in the College of Business. I am looking forward to working with him as he continues his good work with the College and the surrounding community.

"We were fortunate to have strong candidates for the position. Dr. Khayum has worked his way through the faculty and administrative ranks and is well respected by faculty, staff, administrators, and students."

Khayum has served as acting dean since August when Dr. R. Eugene Klipper stepped down from the post.

Khayum said his years as a faculty member have given him a good feel for the aspirations of USI students majoring in business and the kinds of programs and activities to which they respond. He has a strong relationship with the community. He has conducted a number of economic impact studies since coming to the Evansville area. One of the first was a 1997 study of the impact of Evansville ARC on the Vanderburgh County economy. In 2004, he and a faculty collaborator from the University of Evansville completed an economic impact study for Toyota Motor Manufacturing Indiana.

Khayum said the college will concentrate on maintaining the high standards and the posture of continuous improvement that led to the attainment of accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, or AACSB International.

His plans for the college include the exploration of distinct niche opportunities in teaching and service. He said the USI College of Business is in good company as one of 430 institutions in the United States accredited by AACSB. Like the USI College of Business, 50

percent of the AACSB-accredited business colleges have about 50 faculty members, 37 percent have about 1,900 students, and 60 percent have an operating budget of about \$5 million.

"We should be proud of being in good company," he said.

On the other hand, Khayum wants the USI College of Business to establish a more distinct identify for itself.

"Then we will not be just one of the pack. We will be something special," he said.

Khayum said the college already has distinctive features. He complimented the collegiality and professionalism of the faculty. "We are unique in how we get along," he said.

He praised the college's preparation of qualified graduates for the workforce of the Tri-State region. The college has a proven record of working with companies in the area to determine their workforce needs and then providing top-quality educational programs that meet those needs.

In addition to branding the college more effectively, Khayum wants the college to develop an entrepreneurial perspective, to continue to be active in community development, to assist in the transfer of technology to new applications, to develop innovative practices, and to develop multidisciplinary synergies across campus. Among his immediate plans is continued progress on the Coslett Family Sales Development Laboratory. He wants to use local business executives as panelists and judges in the lab, which will be a beneficial resource for business students.

Joining USI in 1991 as assistant professor in the Department of Economics and Finance, Khayum was promoted to associate professor in 1995. He was named professor of economics in 2001, serving as chair of the Department of Economics and Finance from that time until his appointment as associate dean and director of the MBA program in 2004.

Khayum prepares the Business Conditions and Outlook Survey, a quarterly survey of businesses in the Evansville area, and the Evansville Factbook, a compendium of demographic, economic, and social information about Southwestern Indiana. In addition to the economic impact studies, he has contributed his expertise to a number

of area needs assessment projects and other activities in the field of economics.

His research focuses on input-output analysis, service sector growth, economic development, exchange rate determination, consumption behavior, and the New Economy.

Khayum earned an undergraduate degree in economics from University of Guyana. He completed master's and doctoral degrees, also in economics, at Temple University.

Articles by Khayum have appeared in a number of professional publications, including the Journal of College Reading and Learning, Applied Economics, Global Business and Finance Review, Service Industries Journal, and International Economic Journal. He has made presentations at conferences in Chicago, New Orleans, Washington, D.C., and Philadelphia.

He is the author of two books on economic issues in developing countries.

The USI College of Business enrolls more than 1,700 undergraduate students in its bachelor's degree programs and more than 130 graduate students. The college has 46 full-time faculty members. The College offers bachelor's degree programs in accounting and professional services, applied computer science, business administration, business education, computer information systems, economics, finance, management, and marketing. The college also offers a master's degree program in business administration.

Dr. Nadine A. Coudret, dean of the USI College of Nursing and Health Professions, chaired the search committee. Members — all from the College of Business faculty — included Dr. Peter S. Cashel-Cordo, Dr. Kevin G. Celuch, Dr. Sang T. Choe, Dr. Brian L. McGuire, Dr. Greg B. Murphy, Dr. Les E. Nunn, Dr. Joy V. Peluchette, Dr. Jong C. Rhim, and Dr. Jennifer J. Williams. Also serving on the committee was Jim McKinney, president/CEO of Regency Commercial Associates LLC in Evansville and a member of the College of Business Board of Advisors and the USI Foundation Board of Directors. Kimberly F. Greenlee, USI assistant director of human resources, was an ex officio member.