



NEWS RELEASE

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USI University Center ribbon cutting, open house slated

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A ribbon-cutting ceremony at 1 p.m. Sunday, September 14, will celebrate the completion of a \$4.7-million remodeling and expansion project at the University Center, the student center at the University of Southern Indiana. USI President H. Ray Hoops will cut the ribbon, assisted by Allyson Singer, president of the Student Government Association, and members of the committee which oversaw expansion planning.

Officials then will move to the second level for a second ribbon cutting -- the dedication of UC215 as a student conference room in recognition of an NBD Bank contribution to *Campaign USI*. Participating in the ceremony will be Scott Klueh, NBD vice president for real estate lending, and Charles Becker, vice president for retail lending. NBD contributed \$100,000 to *Campaign USI* and asked that it be used for student life enrichment. UC215 has been designated the NBD Bank Conference Room, dedicated for use primarily by student organizations, as a response to the bank's gift and stipulation.

The public is invited to the ribbon cutting and an open house until 3 p.m. Marriott Food Service will have refreshments available on all three levels of the building during the open house.

The UC first opened in 1974 and the recent work nearly doubled the original 52,000-square-foot facility. Features include an additional entrance on the south side with ready access to Carter Hall on the second level, one of the University's largest multipurpose areas. Seating capacity for Carter Hall is 400 for dining and 600 for auditorium-style meetings, figures established as the comfort range after several months of Carter Hall usage. The addition also increased space for Student Life offices, conference facilities, student publications and other student activities offices, and for student recreation and lounge areas. A computer lab, a small art gallery, and formal meeting and dining areas were incorporated into the expansion.

Deig Brothers Lumber and Construction Company was general contractor; others involved in the project were Premier Electric Company, Arc Mechanical Co., U. S. Industries (roofing), Johnson Controls, and Flotech (test and balance).

For information, call Annie Krug, director of Special Events, 812/464-1930, or Kathy Funke, director of News and Information Services, 465-7050.