



NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT:
Kathy Funke, Director
News & Information Services
812/465-7005
FAX 812/464-1956

THE DAVID AND BETTY RICE PLAZA

**A lasting tribute to Dr. David L. Rice and Mrs. Betty Rice
for their 27 years of leadership and service
to the University of Southern Indiana**

Remembering how important the beauty of the outdoors is to David and Betty Rice and how important the Rices have been to the University of Southern Indiana, the obvious choice for a lasting tribute to the Rices is a landscaped gathering place in the heart of the USI campus.

Plans for the David and Betty Rice Plaza were designed to provide a 52-foot x 80-foot "landscaped oasis" in the midst of the paved walks on the plaza in front of the David L. Rice Library and the University Center. As you walk from the parking lots up the gently sloping hill to the University Center, the Rice Plaza will emerge on three levels, containing a fountain which will bubble water over a granite waterfall, several large shade trees, a variety of flowering trees, and seasonal blooming plants. Boulder block walls around landscaped gardens have been designed for seating.

An estimate by Steve Meyerholtz, landscape architect who designed the plaza, puts the total cost at about \$80,000. Southern Indiana Higher Education, Inc., (SIHE) is underwriting the design fee of \$4,600. Total expense for site preparation, fountain, paving, and landscaping comes to about \$75,000.

Charitable contributions to the USI Foundation are being sought to cover the \$75,000 cost. Donors will be asked to make pledges now and will have the option of paying now or after July 1. Special arrangements may be made by calling Suzanne A. Nicholson, director of Development and president of the USI Foundation, 812/464-1918.

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