

MEDIA ALERT

September 19, 2016

University of Southern Indiana

Voter registration blitz, debate party to bring election center stage on USI campus

The University of Southern Indiana is undertaking an ambitious goal of registering more than 1,000 USI students to vote before this fall's general election.

USI's "Squawk the Vote" campaign officially kicks off tomorrow with a Voter Registration Blitz planned from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, September 20 outside the University Center on the USI campus. USI President Dr. Linda L.M. Bennett will be on hand to take a photo with the first registrants.

Through early efforts, more than 250 students have already been registered. Progress during the registration blitz will be made public through a large visual graphic located on the exterior windows of the University Center.

Additionally, on Monday, September 26, the University will be hosting a presidential debate viewing and discussion session from 7 to 10 p.m. in Carter Hall in University Center West. Representatives from four major political parties have been invited to attend as well as representatives from the USI College Democrats and College Republicans. Wendy Turner-Frey, associate professor of social work and director of the Center for Social Justice Education at USI will give a talk on civility and civil discourse before the debate begins. Discussion will follow once the debate concludes. Matt Hanka, associate professor of political science, will be available at the event for media commentary on the debate.

WHO: USI President Dr. Linda L.M. Bennett, USI students and faculty; USI faculty expert on elections, Matt Hanka, associate professor of political science

WHAT: USI Squawk the Vote, Voter Registration Blitz and Debate Viewing

WHEN: Tuesday, September 20 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Monday, September 26 from 7-10 p.m.

WHERE: Outside the University Center and in Carter Hall in University Center West. [USI.edu/visit/map](http://usi.edu/visit/map).

If you plan to cover either of these events, please contact Ben Luttrull at 812-461-5259 or at bluttrull@usi.edu.

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Founded in 1965, the University of Southern Indiana enrolls more than 10,000 dual credit, undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students in more than 80 majors. A public higher education institution, located on a beautiful 1,400-acre campus in Evansville, Indiana, USI offers programs through the College of Liberal Arts, Romain College of

Business, College of Nursing and Health Professions and the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education. USI is a Carnegie Foundation Community Engaged University and offers continuing education and special programs to more than 15,000 participants annually through Outreach and Engagement. USI is online at www.usi.edu.

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