Faces of Philanthropy: Generous Friends of Vision

University of Southern Indiana Foundation • Established October 1, 1968

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The University of Southern Indiana is a comprehensive public university in Evansville, Indiana. More than 10,000 students are enrolled in academic programs in business, education and human services, liberal arts, nursing and health professions, and science and engineering. Selected graduate degree programs serve persons in professional and technical studies. More information is available on the Web at www.usi.edu.

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Cloedeen G. and Frank F. McDonald Sr.

"We drink from wells we did not dig; we are warmed by fires we did not kindle."



This inaugural edition of Faces of Philanthropy: Generous Friends of Vision is respectfully dedicated to the late Cloedeen G. and Frank F. McDonald Sr.

Dear Friends,

Forty years ago, in the fall of 1968, as Dr. David L. Rice, president emeritus of the University of Southern Indiana, likes to tell the story, he and Byron C. Wright, who is now vice president emeritus for Business Affairs and Treasurer, were visiting Mayor Frank McDonald in his office in downtown Evansville. Mayor McDonald was an avid supporter of this not-yet-three-year-old campus and had a profound conviction that the University would be a tremendous benefit for the City of Evansville and the State of Indiana. He often referred to it as "an industry without a smokestack".

Because the mayor's support was key to the University's success, Dr. Rice and Mr. Wright met regularly with him to discuss issues affecting higher education on the Evansville campus. At the end of this particular meeting, Mayor McDonald said, "You will need private gifts to help make that place a success. Folks around here will not want to send their hard-earned money out of town, so I suggest you establish a foundation to benefit our university." He then opened his wallet and pulled out two \$100 bills. "Here is \$100 from me and \$100 from my wife to begin that foundation."

When Dr. Rice approached Indiana State University President Alan C. Rankin about creating a foundation, he received further encouragement. In seeking approval from his trustees, Dr. Rankin noted that the establishment of a foundation in Evansville was important. He emphasized Mayor McDonald's point that Evansville area donors would give more enthusiastically to an Evansville organization. Because the Evansville campus did not have the necessary staff, Dr. Rankin also offered the assistance of the foundation in Terre Haute to help begin this effort.

That \$200 gift from Mr. and Mrs. Frank F. McDonald Sr. began 40 years of giving from generous friends to benefit this great University. Frank McDonald had unusual foresight for Evansville and for the University of Southern Indiana. To ensure that we are reminded of that vision and to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the University of Southern Indiana Foundation, we are publishing this inaugural edition of *Faces of Philanthropy: Generous Friends of Vision*.

This first volume is gratefully dedicated to the memory of Cloedeen G. and Frank F. McDonald Sr., our first donors. In loving tribute to the senior McDonalds and to recognize the continuing good work of their alma mater, Nancy Pendley McDonald '06 and Frank F. McDonald II '73 provided the underwriting for this publication. We thank them for this generous gift.

Mayor McDonald's vision for the University and for the USI Foundation, as well as his active work on behalf of these institutions, serves as witness to what great things can be accomplished with collaboration, cooperation, and wise leadership. Frank McDonald's efforts to ensure the establishment of the campus in 1965 have earned him the title of "founding father."

All those featured in this, and future volumes, made a decision to support the mission of the University with their financial resources. By documenting their stories, we hope to give readers an insight into these individuals who shared the conviction that they must "kindle the fire" so future generations will know warmth.

We thank all those who have chosen to support the University over the past 40 years and those who support the work of the University of Southern Indiana today. May this volume and each future edition be a source of inspiration to those who believe in higher education which is affordable and accessible to all.

Sincerely,

David A. Bower Director of University Development President, USI Foundation



October 1, 2008

It has been said that Bruce Baker has held every job at USI^{[°]/from} doorman to chairman." It also can be said that his wife Carol has held every job at USI from "designer to director."



Bruce H. and Carol A. Baker

Bruce Baker was a friend of the University long before he joined the USI Board of Trustees in 1989 or became chair in 1992. One of the first ways he got involved was by welcoming guests to the University Home when then-president David L. Rice and his wife Betty entertained.

The University Home, built entirely with private donations, was given to the University in 1983 by the USI Foundation. It is the residence for USI's first family and a center for hospitality.

Carol Baker chairs the University Home committee, which plans the interior design of the home at 1230 McDowell Road. She has served on the committee since the early 1980s, when she befriended Betty Rice through the Girl Scouts of Raintree Council, Inc., which both women served as president.

Her time, effort, and gifts to the University Home have helped to assure that the residence built in 1983 will continue as an attractive and up-to-date home for USI's first family as well as a gracious place for University entertaining.

Bruce Baker has served the longest tenure of any USI trustee to date, from 1989 to 2007. Carol Baker has given more than equal time as a champion of University activities. They are long-time members of the USI Foundation President's Associates and are supporters of the USI Varsity Club, Historic New Harmony, New Harmony Theatre, and virtually every USI Foundation program. Life directors of the USI Foundation Board of Directors, she joined in 1986, he in 1991.

In 2008, the couple also funded a classroom in the University's Business and Engineering Center.

In honor of their dedication to the University, the USI Alumni Association presented the Bakers with its Special Recognition Award for Volunteer Service in 1998. In 2007, they were chosen as the Foundation's first recipients of the Suzanne A. Nicholson Leadership Award.

The Bakers have two children: Suzanne Baker Weigel, a 1987 USI graduate, and John Baker.

At the 2008 spring Commencement, Bruce and Carol Baker were awarded honorary Doctor of Laws degrees for their volunteer leadership, philanthropy, and friendship to the University. Bernice Brill volunteered her time and artistry to preserve Evansville's art history and its architectural masterpiece.



Evansville native Bernice L. Brill taught elementary school before marrying her husband Gregory and having four children – two girls and two boys. Mr. Brill joined Citizens National Bank as a messenger and retired as vice president in 1969.

After he died in 1973, Mrs. Brill was invited to a tea hosted by the Conrad Baker Foundation. Named for Evansville's first governor of Indiana, the Conrad Baker Foundation was formed in 1967 to save the Old Vanderburgh County Courthouse, which was to be vacated when government offices moved to the new Civic Center. County commissioners considered tearing down the 19th century neo-Baroque masterpiece. The Conrad Baker Foundation acquired a 99-year lease and assumed full responsibility for maintaining the building in 1970.

In 1987 Brill told the *Evansville Press* that she went to the tea "out of courtesy rather than desire," but the event reshaped the second act of her life.

Before long, Brill was a member of the board and worked as volunteer manager and artist-in-residence for its nonprofit Christian Decker Design Shop, housed in the Old Courthouse for nearly a decade.

Christian Decker was a German piano maker who lived in Evansville in the late 1800s and created more than 500 handstamping blocks. Decker's descendants gave the antique blocks to the Conrad Baker Foundation with the stipulation that they be used.

The shop opened in 1975, staffed by volunteers, with all proceeds benefiting the Old Courthouse. From catalogs that contained Decker's original designs, customers selected patterns to be imprinted on shirts, pillow cases, quilts, etc.

Brill's devotion to the shop earned her the Governor Orr Award, presented to outstanding courthouse volunteers, and she was elected to an honorary life membership in the Conrad Baker Foundation Board of Directors.

The shop remained open until 1986, when due to her initiative the entire Christian Decker collection was given to the Evansville Museum. She served as a member of the museum's history committee.

A regular USI donor over the years, Brill is a member of the President's Associates and *Reflections*, the planned giving society of the USI Foundation. She has perpetually endowed a scholarship through her estate plan. Her son Alan R. Brill, president and CEO of Brill Media Co., serves on the USI College of Business Board of Advisors.

Dr. Ralph F. and Harriet Carlson established the first scholarship at USI designed to increase the number and distribution of physicians providing medical services in Indiana.



Dr. Ralph F. and Harriet Carlson

The late Evansville surgeon Dr. Ralph F. Carlson and his wife Harriet established the first Baccalaureate/Doctor of Medicine Scholarship at USI in 2000. Sponsored jointly by USI and the Indiana University School of Medicine-Evansville (located on the USI campus), the B/MD Scholarship offers a full tuition waiver and a provisional seat in the Indiana University School of Medicine to selected Indiana scholars.

Thanks to the generosity of the Carlsons and others, students like Matthew Overley of West Lafayette, Indiana, the first recipient of the Ralph and Harriet Carlson Baccalaureate/ Doctor of Medicine Scholarship, are more likely to remain in the Hoosier state.

Overley graduated *magna cum laude* with a bachelor's degree in biology in 2004. He graduated with a Doctor of Medicine degree from Indiana University School of Medicine in 2008 and is currently completing a residency in the St. Vincent Family Medicine Residency Program.

There were three other recipients of B/MD Scholarships in 2001 and six more every year since for a total of 52 B/MD Scholars to date.

The Carlsons also funded the Ralph and Harriet Carlson Nurse Practitioner Scholarship to support a nurse returning to USI for a master's degree to pursue a career as a nurse practitioner.

Dr. Carlson was valedictorian of his high school class, graduated from Utah A&M College in Logan, Utah, and received his Doctor of Medicine degree in 1944 from the University of Chicago. He served as a medical officer in the United States Navy during and after World War II.

He was a founder of Evansville Surgical Associates, Inc., and served as president of the medical staffs and chief of surgery at St. Mary's and Deaconess hospitals. He was president of the Vanderburgh County Medical Society and the Indiana Chapter of the American College of Surgeons and a director of the ECHO nonprofit clinic for the uninsured.

Dr. Carlson died in 2007. He and Mrs. Carlson were married for 61 years and had five children. Their son, Dr. David Carlson, a member of the United States Army Reserve Medical Corps, is a friend of the University and has lectured for the College of Nursing and Health Professions.

Jennings D. Carter's education was interrupted due to financial constraints, so later in life he wanted to help students who were forced to work full time while pursuing a degree.



Jennings D. Carter

Joseph E. O'Daniel introduced Jennings D. "Nick" Carter to the University, thereby recruiting USI's first million-dollar donor. Carter, who died in 2002, was moved by his friend's enthusiasm, but he also placed a great value on the benefits of higher education.

Carter attended Indiana University for the 1926-27 academic year but couldn't afford to return the following year. He resumed his studies in 1928-29, and during his last two years of college worked as a waiter and dishwasher. After graduation, he worked in New York City and Indianapolis before moving to Evansville and starting his own successful mortgage service, which he sold to Old National Bank in 1960.

His experience working his way through college motivated him to help students at IU and all three of Evansville's post-secondary institutions—Ivy Tech Community College, University of Evansville, and University of Southern Indiana. His first \$1 million gift to USI in 1994 established a scholarship fund for students with financial need who work full time.

Carter's first wife Josephine also worked her way through college and shared her husband's interest in assisting students in need. While enrolled at the University of Chicago, she worked at a grocery store and in the university library. She had to leave college because of the Great Depression but continued her education with correspondence courses while working at a department store.

The Carters were honored by USI with honorary Doctor of Laws degrees in 1994.

Carter was the honorary chair of *Campaign USI*, the University's first capital campaign. His \$1 million leadership gift included \$500,000 to complete the University Center's Josephine K. Carter Hall, a generous gift in loving memory of Josephine, who died in 1996. The gift also established a major scholarship endowment, the Jennings D. and Josephine K. Carter Scholarships.

With his second wife Ann, Carter continued to support education in Evansville with a \$1 million endowment to underwrite the Jennings D. and Ann Y. Carter Scholarships for students in need. Ann Carter died in 2005.

Through the Jennings D. and Josephine K. Carter Scholarships and the Jennings D. and Ann Y. Carter Scholarships, students will perpetually receive financial assistance with their educational expenses. Olive Carruthers Clifft thought time spent in the pursuit of education and travel was time well spent, and she left a legacy that allows USI students to enjoy both.



A teacher for more than 41 years, Olive Clifft was a believer in a broad education. Her commitment to helping others complete their education is evident through two scholarships and a travel award she established to benefit USI students.

The Homer L. and Olive Carruthers Clifft Endowed Liberal Arts Scholarship benefits a sophomore in the College of Liberal Arts. The Homer L. and Olive Carruthers Clifft Endowed Presidential Scholarship attracts some of Indiana's brightest students to USI. The travel award provides assistance for students who need to travel for study or enrichment programs in the United States or abroad.

In naming the scholarships, she honored the memory of her husband, Homer L. Clifft, who died in 1982. He was a salesman for International Steel Company. Living on Hogue Road near the USI campus, the couple took an active interest in the development of the University and attended Screaming Eagles basketball games together.

Before her marriage in 1973, Clifft taught social studies at Ben Davis High School in Indianapolis. At the time she retired, she had achieved the longest single teaching career in the school's history. She was a longtime sponsor of the school's National Honor Society chapter.

Landing a teaching job was memorable for the young woman who grew up in New Castle, Indiana. She attended Indiana University on a scholarship of \$75 a year, payable at \$37.50 a semester to take care of tuition.

But when she completed a bachelor's degree in 1929, the Great Depression was just ahead. There were no teaching jobs to be had. As a college student, she had been employed as a telegraph operator for Western Union. She continued in that capacity until joining the faculty at Ben Davis in January 1932. She remained with Western Union, working during summers, through 1959. She earned a master's degree from IU in 1939.

An avid traveler, Clifft delighted in coming upon former students scattered throughout the world. She often was able to call them by name.

Clifft was pleased to learn that she would receive an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from USI in 2003, but died in April, before the Commencement ceremony at which it was to be presented. She was 95 years old.





Rebecca Nunn Couch



Aline Nunn Renner

Rebecca Nunn Couch and Aline Nunn Renner

For more than 30 years, the personal volunteer efforts, advice, expertise, and financial support of two sisters were consistently present in shaping the University.

Born in Kentucky, Rebecca Nunn Couch and Aline Nunn Renner moved to Evansville with their family in 1913. As young women, both worked in the family business founded in 1926 by their father, Charles E. Nunn. Nunn Milling Company is known today for its flour and cornmeal, pet food, bird and small animal feed, and other products. Both sisters became directors of the company. Couch retired as secretary; Renner retired as treasurer.

Mrs. Couch was first introduced to the University in 1971 when her husband William was named USI's first counselor after he retired from a 25-year career as senior counselor at Evansville's Bosse High School.

The sisters frequently consulted each other when making charitable gifts. As lifetime members of the USI Foundation Board, they often became aware of new programs and facilities in the planning stages. It was not uncommon for them to talk over University needs with each other and then contact USI Foundation staff to volunteer their financial support. They gave generously to many programs, from the annual fund to Rice Plaza. In 1981, Mrs. Renner took a leadership role in raising funds to construct the University Home.

Each of the sisters endowed a Presidential Scholarship during *Campaign USI*. In their estate plans, they left significant gifts designated for scholarships. The Aline Nunn Renner Scholarship fund—with its \$2 million endowment—and the William E. and Rebecca Nunn Couch Scholarship fund—with its \$1 million endowment—provide scholarship awards to students planning careers in business or education. These generous endowments have a profound impact on the University's ability to recruit and retain top students in these fields.

Mr. and Mrs. Couch were accorded honorary Doctor of Laws degrees in 1981. William Couch died in 1989; Rebecca Couch died in 2004 at age 91.

Renner was the recipient of an honorary Doctor of Laws degree in 1983. She died in 2002 at age 92. Her husband, J. Franklin Renner, died at age 63 in 1971.

The Couch-Renner Lecture Hall in the Education Center bears their names. Each has a conference room named after her in the University Center.

An appreciation for their hometown impelled Martha L. Dunbar and Paul V. Dunbar to include USI in their giving.





Martha L. Dunbar and Paul V. Dunbar

Sister and brother Martha L. Dunbar and Paul V. Dunbar were grateful for their Hoosier upbringing.

Longtime California residents, the brother and sister made generous gifts as an expression of thanks for the "Hoosier values and lifestyle" that positioned them for success in life.

Mr. Dunbar was born in Evansville in 1929. He was a 1947 graduate of Evansville's Central High School. After moving with his sister to Chico, California, in 1949, he worked for 23 years in middle management at Chico State University. An avid reader, he also enjoyed traveling and dancing. He took great pride in his knowledge of the stock market and his trading skills.

Mr. Dunbar died in February 2008 in Chico. His sister continues to live in Chico. Now retired, she was formerly a teacher and speech therapist in Sunnyvale, California.

Their mother, Margaret Dunbar, considered education "paramount" for her children.

In 1995, the Dunbars began an annual tradition of giving to Evansville institutions. Over the years they made gifts to organizations that help people in areas they thought essential to life—education, spirituality, art, music, and aid to the less fortunate. In a 1996 letter, Mr. Dunbar wrote that the organizations to which they gave were "worthy and sensitive undertakings" and that he and his sister were "heartened and cheered to help."

"There is great joy in giving, in expending funds wisely and productively in sustaining our culture, our civilization," he wrote. "Evansville provided many essential services to Martha and me during our crucial formative years. Our resulting value system has guided us in participating in the perpetuation of such a kind and caring society."

The Dunbars established the Dunbar Scholarship to benefit a USI student in honor of Mabel Weiss who taught English at Central High School from 1920 until her retirement in 1962. Mr. Dunbar said that Weiss directed his sister and him "toward an enriching educational experience" with a message of "hard work, study, thrift, initiative, and personal responsibility for one's life." The Dunbar Scholarship is for a Central graduate who plans to attend USI.

The Dunbars also provided gifts for the Donald S. Wolfe Foreign Language Scholarship Award honoring Wolfe, retired associate professor of German. The scholarship benefits foreign language teaching majors studying overseas. Their estate planning includes a gift for USI. Through the donation of AM 820 Radio, Bettie Engelbrecht helped ensure that USI broadcasting students would have on-air experience.



A pioneer in Indiana broadcasting, Bettie Engelbrecht was instrumental in South Central Communication's donation of its first radio station to the University. Today, WSWI provides USI students with hands-on experience operating, producing, and programming the station at AM 820.

WSWI signed on for the first time at sunrise on November 3, 1981. Since then, the station has been student-run under the guidance of a faculty advisor. It began as a classical and jazz station, but for the past several years has featured modern rock and alternative music. The station also broadcasts news, sports, and play-by-play of USI athletic events. Many students who were former managers at WSWI are enjoying professional careers in radio.

An Evansville native, the former Bettie Ann Groves took a business course at Lockyear Business College following her graduation from Bosse High School in 1937. She attended Purdue University before transferring to the University of Evansville, where she completed her undergraduate degree.

After graduation she embarked on a teaching career at Centennial School, teaching physical education. She married John A. Engelbrecht, who founded radio station WIKY in 1947 and expanded it into South Central Communications.

In the earliest years of the communications business, Mrs. Engelbrecht's teaching income helped support the fledgling radio station. In 1974, Mr. Engelbrecht died, leaving leadership of the company in the hands of their son John David, with Mrs. Engelbrecht to guide and support the development of a company that today owns and operates 13 radio stations, one television station, and South Central Sound, an audio and video company that is one of the largest Muzak franchisees in the country with 10 offices in six states.

South Central is entering its third generation of ownership and management by the Engelbrecht family. In 2006, Mrs. Engelbrecht, son John, and grandson JP attended WSWI's 25th anniversary celebration with alumni and friends of the station. JP Engelbrecht was named CEO of South Central in 2008, while John D. Engelbrecht continues as chairman and president. Mrs. Engelbrecht is director emeritus. JP Engelbrecht's wife Tammara attended USI.

Mrs. Engelbrecht is a life director of the USI Foundation Board of Directors and supports the New Harmony Theatre, a professional theatre produced by USI.

She received the Special Recognition Award from the USI Alumni Association in 1996 and an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from USI at the 2007 Commencement.

Mary Pelle Goebel and the late Raymond H. Goebel have a long history of engagement in the business and community life of Evansville.



Raymond H. and Mary Pelle Goebel

Raymond H. and Mary Pelle Goebel's gifts to benefit the University reflect their commitment to youth, education, and the vitality of Evansville's economic and community life.

An Evansville native, Mr. Goebel earned a bachelor's degree at the University of Illinois. He was employed with the Mead Johnson Terminal in Evansville and the Sunbeam Electric Co., the predecessor of Seeger and Whirlpool Corp., prior to joining the family manufacturing business – Goebel Furniture Company – in 1952. He retired in 1970.

Mr. Goebel was active in many organizations including the Evansville Jaycees, the Board of Directors of the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra, United Way, and Evansville Country Club. In 2002, the Rotary Club honored him as Rotarian of the Year for five decades of service. He died in 2002 at age 94.

Mrs. Goebel is a past president of the Raintree Council of Girl Scouts and Evansville chapter of PEO (Philanthropic Educational Organization). Through collaboration between PEO and USI, she was instrumental in helping Japanese families adjust to life in Southern Indiana when Toyota Motor Manufacturing Indiana opened in the 1990s. She and other PEO members served as "conversation partners" to help family members learn about American culture and practice English language skills.

Through their estate planning, the Goebels established several charitable gift annuities to benefit future students. Mrs. Goebel also gave their home, subject of an extensive article in the *Evansville Press* when it was completed in 1953. Located at 701 Blue Ridge Road, the contemporary home was extraordinary on the exterior for its use of variegated Kentucky brick and pecky cypress and on the interior for its many modern features including a "gadget by their bedside that starts the coffee maker in the kitchen." The Raymond H. and Mary Pelle Goebel Endowed Presidential Scholarship was established with proceeds from the sale of the home. In 2008, Mrs. Goebel provided a gift to fund a teaching computer lab in the Business and Engineering Center to honor her late husband.

She also donated several silver items, including a tea and coffee service and candelabra, for use in the University Home and an herbarium compiled in 1927 by Mr. Goebel's aunt for use by the Pott College of Science and Engineering.

A lifetime of civic involvement and achievement and her love for higher education characterized the life of Susie Gumberts.



From music to horticulture, Susie Gumberts had her hands in many community projects that made the city of Evansville a better place to live.

The daughter of Anna B. and Eugene J. Wells, she was named Ethel Louise but was always known as "Susie." She was a young child in 1919 when her parents came to Evansville to open the Wells Cloak and Suit Company, a Main Street purveyor of ladies' ready-to-wear. The family lived at the elegant McCurdy Hotel.

After graduating from Evansville's Central High School, she earned a degree in geology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She and Richard A. Gumberts were married in 1937 at the McCurdy. Also a retailer, he owned the R&G Furniture Company in downtown Evansville. They had two children: Florence Gumberts Braker and Alan E. Gumberts. The Gumberts were partners in all they did for more than 56 years until his death in 1994.

As a community leader, one of the projects that Mrs. Gumberts guided from its early days was the Evansville Philharmonic Guild. She was president in 1957-58. She also was a founding member and life board member of Keep Evansville Beautiful.

Mrs. Gumberts served as board member and president of the former Vanderburgh County Home for Unwed Mothers. Literacy was another cause close to her heart and she helped many students learn to read. She was a master flower show judge and a self-taught cook who penned the "Alphabet Soup" column in the 1960s and early 1970s for the *Evansville Courier* and the *Sunday Courier and Press*.

"When I got out of college, I didn't know how to cook, but I knew how to read," she once said matter-of-factly.

Mrs. Gumberts died in 2004 at age 88.

Her affinity for education and for what an educational institution can do for a community is evident in her giving to the USI Foundation. Her family's long involvement in retail businesses influenced her decision to leave a \$1 million bequest for scholarships to benefit students in the College of Business. Her bequest established the Richard A. and Susie Gumberts Business Scholarship and the Anna B. and Eugene J. Wells Business Scholarship.

She gave her home on Evansville's north side to the USI Foundation during *Campaign USI*. Proceeds from its sale established the Richard A. and Susie Gumberts Endowed Presidential Scholarship.

A distinguished military officer, David W. Gray was the first Evansville native to attain the status of general in the United States Army.



David W. Gray rose to the rank of major general, serving the country at home and abroad in times of war and peace during his 35-year career with the army.

Born in Evansville in 1911, Gray graduated from Evansville's Bosse High School in 1928. He attended Purdue University for one year and then entered the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York. He graduated in 1933.

At the outbreak of World War II, Gray was an instructor at West Point. He held a position with the Army Ground Forces in Washington, D.C. and completed additional training at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and Norfolk, Virginia. He was sent to the Philippines where he was in charge of amphibious planning for the invasion of Kyushu, Japan. The war ended before the invasion which would have been the largest amphibious operation ever undertaken.

After the war Gray completed assignments in Japan before returning to the states in 1947 as an associate professor at West Point. He served in the Korean Conflict, earning the Silver Star, Second Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star, and the Legion of Merit with Oak Cluster.

Other assignments included posts at the Pentagon, in Germany, and in Beirut during a crisis there. He returned to Korea in 1963 as commander of the 7th Infantry Division and later was chief of staff of the U.S. Continental Army Command at Fort Monroe, Virginia. In that post, he directed the staff of the largest Army major command in the world.

Major General Gray retired from the army in 1968. He died in 2002 at his home in Hillsboro Beach, Florida, at age 91 and was buried with military honors in Evansville's Park Lawn Cemetery.

His widow Ann Campbell Gray is a native of New York and a graduate of George Washington University. An accomplished tennis player, she placed second during the 1940s in the women's singles category in Wimbledon competition. She continues to make her home in south Florida where the couple lived for more than 30 years.

The Grays were introduced to the University through his sister Ruth Gray Yates, a close friend of the University who died in 2004.

The Grays arranged for a significant gift from their estate to provide scholarships for students with financial need.

The Hoops years are marked by dramatic growth in new degree programs, enrollment, buildings, and change in the character of the University.



Drs. H. Ray and Linda Hoops

Only 33 percent of public high school graduates in southern Indiana pursued postsecondary education in 1985. That percentage had grown to 84 percent by 2007. This educational progress was recorded under the leadership of USI's second president, Dr. H. Ray Hoops.

Success has marked the Hoops administration from 1994 into the next century with capital projects including the Science and Education Center, Liberal Arts Center, Recreation and Fitness Center, Rice Library, residence halls, and Business and Engineering Center. Academic offerings continue to grow to meet the needs of the 10,000 students who attend USI. Since the graduation of the Class of 2008, alumni have increased to more than 26,000.

Hoops saw USI as the economic engine for southwestern Indiana, committed to educating students for the workforce. During his tenure, he initiated two studies of USI's impact on local workforce and economic development and recommended academic and training programs to meet the future needs of southwestern Indiana.

An Illinois native, Hoops received his undergraduate degree from Eastern Illinois University and master's and doctoral degrees from Purdue University. He also completed an M.B.A. at Morehead State University. Linda Hoops, who has an earned doctorate, is known for her quiet acts of kindness to University friends.

In 2004, he was honored as the recipient of the Evansville Rotary Civic Award. He served two terms as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Association of State College and Universities (AASCU). He also served AASCU as a member of its committee on Professional Development and its Council of State Representatives. Dr. Hoops is a former director and chair of the Indiana Conference of Higher Education.

In January 2008, with his wife Linda at his side, Hoops announced his retirement effective June 2009. Alumni Trustee Frank F. McDonald '73, a former mayor of Evansville, commended Hoops for his "extraordinary leadership."

"Ray Hoops was the right person in the right place at the right time," he said. "The University and the entire Tri-state community have benefited from his people skills and his management of the University and its growth."

As members of *Reflections*, President and Mrs. Hoops have an estate gift in place to benefit the University.

H. Byron Hubbard one of the Varsity Club's "Three Bs" was a big-play leader with a low-key demeanor.



H. Byron Hubbard

Along with Bill Moutoux and Bernie Powers, H. Byron "Barney" Hubbard was a member of the Varsity Club triumvirate known as the "Three Bs." The men shared fund-raising duties while organizing USI's Varsity Club.

Much like a triple play in baseball, such effort is rare but effective. The University was fortunate to have that level of loyalty and precision from the three businessmen and sports enthusiasts. They combined quick action, a solid message for Varsity Club endorsement, and a skill of asking for financial support.

Hubbard founded Evansville Sheet Metal Works in 1946, following employment at a local sheet metal company where he served as field superintendent. In a garage shop that the company quickly outgrew, Hubbard crafted specialized custom jobs in addition to residential gutter work, the service that the company first offered.

During his 27 years as president of Evansville Sheet Metal Works, the company expanded into six states. Evansville Sheet Metal Works continues today under the third generation of Hubbard leadership.

Hubbard counted his wife Marjorie and four children, Susan, Byron Joseph, Robert, and C. Mark (a Centennial alumnus), as his greatest blessings.

The Hubbards were generous contributors to higher education at Indiana University, University of Evansville, and University of Southern Indiana. They were members of the University's Century Club, Varsity Club, and Donor Recognition Program.

Hubbard also was involved in civic work with the Foreman's Club, which he served as president in 1956. He was active as chair of the administrative board of Simpson United Methodist Church, president of the Evansville Area Council of Churches, treasurer and board member of United Way, a member of the Cancer Equipment Drive at Deaconess Hospital, and stockholder and member of the Board of Directors of the Evansville Triplets, a professional baseball team.

Often referred to in the newspapers as an "independent-minded Democrat," Hubbard was a charter member of Democrats for Better Government, held an at-large seat on the Vanderburgh Council (1962-66), and served as County Council president.

He received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University in 1976 for his prominence in manufacturing and his service to his community and higher education in Indiana.

Hubbard died in 1987 at the age of 79; Marjorie Hubbard died in 2005 at 92. Their children and grandchildren have continued the Hubbard involvement in the University.

James Bridwell Igleheart, a descendant of one of the founding families of Evansville, was a lifelong advocate for higher education and social justice.



James B. Igleheart

When James B. Igleheart died in 2007, his obituary in the *Evansville Courier & Press* drew an apt metaphor between his work and his philanthropy.

"James Bridwell Igleheart devoted his life to strengthening Evansville," it read. "Just as the steel from his company held up many of the city's most iconic buildings, his leadership and philanthropy lent financial stability and vigor to its institutions."

Born in Evansville, Igleheart moved with his family to Greenwich, Connecticut, as a child. Educated at The Choate School and Purdue University, he was commissioned an ensign in the United States Naval Reserve on completion of a program at the University of Virginia.

Igleheart married Diane Foster, returned to Evansville, and was employed by International Steel, a company he served for 44 years.

As chairman and CEO of International Steel, Igleheart was a national leader in the steel fabricating manufacturing industry. He served as a director of both the American Institute of Steel Construction and the National Association of Manufacturers.

An advocate for education, he served on the State Board of Indiana Vocational Technical College for 12 years and was a member of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education for a decade.

He also was a trustee of the University of Evansville, Hanover College, and Union Theological Seminary in New York City, and was one of the founders of Evansville Day School.

He was a member of the Rehabilitation Center Board and a founding board member of Second Chance, a nonprofit prisoner rehabilitation program. He was the first nonclergy chair of the Human Relations Commission under Mayor Frank McDonald Sr. and in 1977 received the Mayor's Human Rights Award.

He also was a founding member of the local chapter of Junior Achievement; a director and former president of the Evansville Museum of Arts, History, and Science; a director of Old National Bank; and an elder at First Presbyterian Church.

The Iglehearts were married for 61 years and had four children, Belle "Jingle" Igleheart Hagey, J. Bridwell Igleheart Jr., Lowry Igleheart Keach, and Wendy Igleheart Walker; and a foster son, Martin "Chip" Ryan.

In 1993, USI recognized Igleheart with an honorary Doctor of Laws degree.

Shirley James and her husband Richard felt that enhancements to quality of life would attract industry and benefit residents, and they shared the belief that higher education is of great value to a community.



Richard G. and Shirley W. James

In 1975, Richard and Shirley James bought a home on Middle Mount Vernon Road not far from the USI campus. Soon Mrs. James began tackling the issue of illegal dumping on their land. Before long, she realized that if she and others on the west side of Evansville organized, they could work together as an influential voice to prevent practices that had a negative impact on the area.

Thus began her tireless effort to organize and lead the Westside Improvement Association, an organization that has tackled, with persistence and success, issues from drainage to traffic flow. Mrs. James served as founding president for most of 20 years before stepping down in 1996.

She also was a leader in the Pigeon Creek Greenway Passage and a champion of the Howell Wetlands preservation project.

Mrs. James died in April 2007 at age 75. Mr. James is retired from a career with General Electric that took the couple to locations throughout the world. He earned a degree in mechanical engineering from University of Washington.

Both from the Pacific Northwest, they first moved to the Tri-state in 1963. During nine years in the area, Mrs. James completed an undergraduate degree at the University of Evansville, majoring in psychology and sociology with a minor in biology.

She later worked as a health planner for Tri-State Health Planning. They lived in the Netherlands and Belgium before returning to Evansville in 1975.

The Jameses have designated a significant proportion of the remainder of their estate to benefit the University. By establishing the Richard G. and Shirley W. James Trust to provide scholarships for USI students of the future, the couple will continue to impact the quality of life in the Evansville area in the years to come. The scholarship will be awarded to needy students with outstanding credentials.

"We wanted to make sure that what we leave is directed in a useful way that will be of value to future generations," Mrs. James said at the time. "To have a university of this caliber is good for research, for industry, and for the people living here."
Bill Joergens helped shape USI athletics from the beginning.



There are few people who impacted USI's athletics program as profoundly as did the late William J. Joergens.

A stand-out athlete at Evansville's Reitz Memorial High School, Joergens enrolled in the fall of 1966, when classes were held at Centennial School. He was a member of the Spartans, the men's basketball team, and he was the University's 1968 Male Student of the Year. He also was president of the first business fraternity.

In the early years, the curriculum was in development, so some students transferred elsewhere to complete degree requirements. Joergens graduated from Indiana State University in Terre Haute in 1970 – the year before the Evansville campus began graduating its own students.

He began his business career as a sales representative at A.B. Dick Co. and ended it as president of Phoenix Imaging.

Joergens never forgot his early association with the University, joining the USI Varsity Club and providing leadership for many of its activities. He became a member of the Varsity Club's Board of Directors in 1994 and went on to serve as treasurer, vice chair, and chair.

Also known to the USI community as "Big Dog," Joergens was co-chair of the Steak Fry 'n Auction and the Golf Scramble and helped transform the activities into major annual fundraisers for USI Athletics.

Joergens coordinated the 25th anniversary recognition of the first men's basketball team, and after USI won the 1995 NCAA Division II Men's Basketball Championship, he initiated the formation of the USI Letter Winners Association to unite student athletes after their intercollegiate careers had ended.

In 1998, Joergens received the USI Alumni Association's Alumni Service Award in recognition of his outstanding service to USI Athletics and the Varsity Club.

He died in 2005 at the age of 57, after a year-long battle with cancer. Yet even in death he continues to play a role in USI Athletics. He bequeathed a major portion of his estate to the men's basketball program.

In honor of this generous gift, an annual men's basketball tournament at the Physical Activities Center was established in the 2007-08 season. The Bill Joergens Memorial Tournament features top-ranked teams from Division II each year. Clifford and Ruth Kleymeyer were committed to supporting aspects of the Evansville community that make it a desirable place to live and do business.





Clifford A. and Ruth M. Kleymeyer

Clifford A. and Ruth Mueller Kleymeyer established the first endowment to benefit the University's David L. Rice Library.

Mr. Kleymeyer was the third generation in his family to be involved in Standard Brick and Tile Corporation. In addition to serving as secretary for the family company, he was president of Early American Life Insurance Company, an incorporator of Consumers National Life Insurance Company, and incorporator and former president of Diversified Development Corporation. He attended The Ohio State University and Babson College. He was active in many civic organizations, including the Good Samaritan Home and the Downtown Optimist Club.

Ruth Kleymeyer's parents were Lottie May Harpole Mueller and C. Robert Mueller. Her mother taught at Centennial School where USI later held its first classes. Her father was a pharmacist and co-owner of Currey and Mueller Drugstore. After completing her education at Indiana University and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Ruth became reference librarian at the Evansville-Vanderburgh Public Library East Branch in 1935.

The Kleymeyers became connected with USI when Mr. Kleymeyer became a director of the USI Foundation. He received an honorary degree from the University in 1983 and was named a director emeritus of the Foundation in 1989. He died in January 1990 at age 87; Ruth Kleymeyer died in June 2008 at age 95.

The Clifford A. and Ruth M. Kleymeyer Endowment was created in 1982. Two-thirds of the income supports the library and the remainder funds scholarships for students studying liberal arts. Through the years the Rice Library staff has purchased many resources to benefit students and faculty in all programs of the University.

The Kleymeyer family has made other generous gifts to USI. The couple's three sons— Clifford, Charles, and Robert—honored their father's memory by establishing the Clifford A. Kleymeyer Memorial Scholarship. When the Liberal Arts Center was under construction, Ruth Kleymeyer provided a gift to complete a lecture hall and equip it with state-of-the-art instructional technology. The Clifford A. and Ruth M. Kleymeyer Lecture Hall is named in the couple's honor.

In 2007, the Ruth M. Kleymeyer Reading Room in Rice Library was named to recognize Ruth Kleymeyer for her longtime support. At the dedication she said, "I always had a soft spot for the University because the University started where I started school and where my mother taught—Centennial." R. Malcolm Koch was an industrialist and Renaissance man who shaped Evansville's cultural landscape.





R. Malcolm and Loretta M. Koch

The name Roderic Malcolm Koch is synonymous with the development of cultural opportunities in Evansville. Koch, executive vice president of George Koch Sons, Inc., and an officer of several locally based corporations, devoted much of his life to developing Evansville's cultural opportunities. An art collector, philanthropist, and amateur astronomer, he was one of a group of dedicated citizens in the 1950s that worked to secure funds, design, and build the Evansville Museum of Arts, History, and Science, and served on its board for 36 years. The museum's planetarium is named in his honor.

Upon Koch's death in 1981, the director of the Evansville Museum told the Evansville Press that Koch was "a museum director's dream." "He was a champion of the cause of science for the museum. He was the major reason the science area expanded and developed."

Many of the Dutch and Flemish paintings in the museum's collection, originally listed as "anonymous donors," were gifts from Koch, an avid reader who also donated his books to the museum.

Koch donated two oil paintings to USI: "Charles I of England" and "St. Dorothea." In addition, Koch and his wife Loretta established the first privately funded research grant at the University and the first scholarship recognizing a worthy student in the USI College of Business.

The R. Malcolm Koch Memorial Scholarship for seniors majoring in business administration provides financial assistance and recognition to one of the College of Business's best students. The R. Malcolm Koch Fellowship for Faculty Research provides the first fellowship for the College of Business and the University to a faculty member with the most outstanding research proposal each year.

Their granddaughter Dr. Marie Bussing-Burks is a lecturer in the USI College of Business and a member of the USI Foundation Board of Directors. Her parents are W.C. "Bud" Bussing Jr. and the Koch's daughter, Constance "Connie" Koch Bussing. Along with her parents and her brother, Evansville attorney Bill Bussing, the Bussing-Koch Foundation continues the example of philanthropy set by the senior Kochs.

Many other organizations benefited from Koch's active involvement, including the Indiana Foundation for the Arts and Science, Salvation Army, Conrad Baker Foundation, Deaconess Hospital Foundation, Vanderburgh Humane Society, and Wesselman Park Nature Center. He served on the Evansville School Board during World War II. He also was instrumental in helping guide the family-operated Holiday World.

The University awarded Koch an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree in 1980.

A pioneering radio personality, art patron, author, painter, and life-long resident of Vanderburgh County, Ken McCutchan was a living repository of local history.



Kenneth P. McCutchan

Kenneth P. McCutchan was a fourth-generation descendant of Irish pioneers who came down the Ohio River by flatboat and settled in what is now McCutchanville in 1835.

McCutchan, who died in 2002, began collecting art in the 1950s with the purchase of two English oils, but his heritage prompted him to redirect his focus when the Indiana Historical Society designated his family home a Hoosier Homestead Farm in the 1960s.

He decided that if he was going to live on a Hoosier Homestead Farm, he should have Hoosier art.

In his search for the best in Indiana art, McCutchan studied dictionaries of Hoosier artists and began visiting estate auctions, flea markets, and private dealers. His interest in regional art spanned the decades and included contemporary works by USI students and faculty.

His ancestry also inspired his interest in regional history, and he became an authority. He wrote six books, penned a history column for the *Evansville Courier*, and lectured widely.

He was president of the McCutchanville Cemetery Association and the Ohio-Wabash Valley Historical Society, chaired the Evansville Museum's history committee, and was a member of the Vanderburgh and Southwestern Indiana Historical societies.

McCutchan held a Bachelor of Arts degree in English composition and modern language from the University of Evansville and a certificate in French language and culture from the Sorbonne in Paris, France.

He was a World War II veteran, having served with the Army Corps of Engineers in both North Africa and Europe. Returning to Evansville in 1945, he soon got a job with a new radio station, WIKY, where he remained for 26 years. An emcee at Mesker Amphitheatre for five years, he worked with stars such as Andy Williams and Harry Belafonte.

USI presented him an honorary Doctor of Letters in 1996. During his lifetime, he gave a large portion of his art collection to the University for display and use as a teaching collection. At his death, he left many additional pieces.

Another major gift helped construct the Kenneth P. McCutchan Art Center/Palmina F. and Stephen S. Pace Galleries, which opened on the USI campus in September 2008. The McCutchan Art Center/Pace Galleries provides a perfect setting for student, faculty, and visiting artist exhibitions.

Bill and Trudy Mitchell have witnessed tremendous growth at USI—but not as mere onlookers. They have played a significant part in making growth happen.



William H. and Trudy E. Mitchell

In 1969, Bill Mitchell was installing an oil drilling rig in a cornfield near the present USI campus when he noticed heavy equipment in position to begin construction on the University's first building. Some years later, he and his wife Trudy met President David L. Rice, who told them about the school's mission to prepare the area workforce by making affordable higher education available.

The Mitchells liked what they heard and became involved with the University immediately, making financial gifts and taking a personal interest in the University's programs and people. One of their areas of interest and support is in helping to improve the quality of health care. Both of Mrs. Mitchell's parents had cancer, and she is a cancer survivor. "I am so thankful for being a survivor, and it is one of the reasons that we are sharing our blessings," she said.

Over the years the Mitchells have endowed a nursing scholarship and a faculty enhancement fund for the College of Nursing and Health Professions. The Health Professions Center's Mitchell Auditorium, for which they provided classroom technology, is named in their honor.

Mr. Mitchell, retired owner and operator of M & M Oil Company in Albion, is a native of southern Illinois. Mrs. Mitchell grew up in Germany. They met when Mr. Mitchell was in the armed services following World War II. After he fulfilled his time in the service, they returned to southern Illinois to make their home.

For many years each spring the Mitchells hosted a USI information night in Grayville, Illinois. The event continued the tradition of the Mitchells informing people about opportunities at USI. Key officials from Student Affairs and Admission sponsored the event to meet prospective southern Illinois students and their families. The Mitchells have since moved to Evansville and live near the USI campus.

"We had people coming every year," Mrs. Mitchell said. "The mothers called me and said, 'When I left my child at USI, I knew he was in good hands.'

"That's why we support USI. We enjoy seeing our fruit grow. Many good students are at USI because of the people who help them. It has been our pleasure."

The Mitchells have planned for an estate gift, have endowed a Presidential Scholarship, and supported the chamber choir, hosting a reception for the Madrigal Feast and supporting trips to Europe. In honor of their contributions to USI and the region, the University awarded them honorary Doctor of Laws degrees in 1984. William J. Moutoux was devoted to growing and beautifying the west side of Evansville, including USI.



Bill Moutoux lived on the West side of Evansville all of his life, and was involved in the business and civic life of the area since 1921. His formal education ended in his sophomore year in high school, but he learned the machine trade at Bucyrus-Erie and was always interested in learning about the world around him.

Moutoux was president of Moutoux Auto and Machine Company, Inc., a diversified company that manufactured automotive accessories, household appliances, and equipment. As the business grew to include battery and radio work and became a distributorship for Delco radios, he continued his growing interest in the civic life of the community. He was on the Board of Directors for the West Side Nut Club, which also supports scholarships and has sponsored the Fall Festival each October since 1924. He was active in the West Side Optimist Club and the West Side Professional and Business Association, which he served as president in 1958.

An avid gardener, he had a special interest in the betterment of city parks. Often he donated plants and trees he raised at the Harmony Way home he shared with his wife Alda, who died in 1984. Moutoux Park, located off St. Joseph Avenue, is named in his honor. It has become home field for many soccer clubs in Evansville.

He was a Regal Eagle in the Varsity Club, a member of the USI Foundation Board of Directors, and made an initial contribution to the Varsity Club Room. He was one of the legendary "Three Bs" (Bernie Powers, Barney Hubbard, and Moutoux). Two scholarships at USI are named for him. He also supported the Vanderburgh Humane Society, Campus Crusade, Habitat for Humanity, Keep Evansville Beautiful, Mesker Zoo, Deaconess Hospital Foundation, and Emmaus Homes.

The University awarded him an honorary doctorate degree in 1974.

Moutoux died July 4, 1997. The Rev. Louis H. Dorsch, his pastor at St. Paul's United Church of Christ, said Moutoux's community service was "for you and me and the citizens of our community; for all those who would find rest under the shade of his trees, for all those whose minds would be broadened and sharpened in the University's classrooms, and for all those young people who would be strengthened in body and spirit at city parks." As Fred C. Newman got to know his scholarship recipients, the banker remarked that the Newman Scholarships were the best investment he ever made.



Fred C. Newman, who served as Old National Bank president during his 48-year banking career, was one of the first donors to endow a Presidential Scholarship.

He first invested in the Presidential Scholarship program in 1990 and through his will added substantially to the endowments of both the Fred C. Newman Family Endowed Presidential Scholarship and the Char-Ron Newman Presidential Scholarship named for his daughter Charleen Williamson, who continues to remain involved in University activities, and son Ronald Newman.

Newman enjoyed helping young people reach their educational goals and took a personal interest in each of his scholarship recipients, nurturing them while students and corresponding with them after graduation. One of his scholarship recipients who became a physician said in a letter to Newman that his encouragement and support continued to motivate her to do her academic best.

Newman joined Old National Bank in 1925 as a mail clerk and retired as the bank's president in 1973. In 1983, he retired as chairman of the Board of Directors of the Farmers and Merchants Bank in Fort Branch, Indiana.

A believer in community involvement, Newman was a civic leader who encouraged community service among his employees at Old National. He helped establish United Way in Evansville as well as Keep Evansville Beautiful. He was a founder of Evansville's Future, Inc., a response to the city's economic depression in the 1960s. He was a member of St. James West United Methodist Church, which counts his parents among its founders.

Newman also was a member of Downtown Kiwanis Club, Community Chest, Evansville Chamber of Commerce, the 50 Year Club, Indiana Bankers Association, Petroleum Club, Evansville Country Club, and the Deaconess Hospital Foundation. He was awarded the Citation for Service by the American Petroleum Institute in 1953 and the Rotary Civic Club Award in 1960.

Newman and his wife Cornelia were married for 55 years. She died in 1993. Fred Newman died in 1998 at age 93.

One of the University's popular freshman residence halls bears Newman's name in recognition of the support he gave USI students.

Joseph E. O'Daniel called the University of Southern Indiana his "proudest accomplishment."



Joseph E. and Marie N. O'Daniel

Joe O'Daniel was often called "Mr. USI." "It's important to bring people to the University and show them what is being done, how we are doing it, and what it means to the Tri-state," he would say.

Born in 1912 in Waverly, Kentucky, O'Daniel moved to Evansville in 1927. He worked for an auto repair shop and soon became a successful salesman. In 1934, he and George Ranes Sr. became owners of O'Daniel–Ranes Oldsmobile dealership. O'Daniel continued to develop the automobile business and opened an independent finance company to provide affordable loans.

O'Daniel and his wife Marie were friends of USI from the outset. As a community leader, he was an early proponent for affordable higher education in Southwestern Indiana. He was instrumental in the development of the University, the USI Foundation, and Southern Indiana Higher Education, Inc., the nonprofit foundation that purchased 1,400 acres and gave 300 of them for early development of the campus. He was influential in developing housing at USI, spearheading the original efforts to secure funding for campus apartments. A portion of campus apartments is named in his honor.

O'Daniel served on the USI Board of Trustees from 1985 until 1996 and was a founding director and first chair of the USI Foundation. He was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree in 1971. He was the only person to have served as chairman of the USI Foundation, Southern Indiana Higher Education, Inc., and the Board of Trustees.

During *Campaign USI* the O'Daniels endowed a fund to establish the O'Daniel Leadership Academy, a program offering USI students the opportunity to build competency in skills associated with leadership such as communications, critical thinking, self-confidence, and goal setting.

Marie O'Daniel died in December 2000 at age 90; Joe O'Daniel died in January 2001 at age 88. They are survived by five children: Marilyn O'Daniel Engelbrecht, Mary Jane O'Daniel Miles, Roger J. O'Daniel, D. Patrick O'Daniel, and Daniel N. O'Daniel. D. Patrick is a member of the USI Foundation Board Advisory Council.

The couple provided a bequest to the USI Foundation to establish the Joseph E. and Marie N. O'Daniel Endowed Presidential Scholarship.

One of the most significant moments in USI history was 12:07:15 p.m. on April¹16, 1985, when Governor Orr signed into law the bill creating the University of Southern Indiana as a separate state university.



Governor Robert D. and Mary Kay Orr

In 1984, Governor Robert D. Orr guided legislation that created a Board of Incorporators for an Independent State University in Southwestern Indiana. The following year after the Indiana General Assembly had passed legislation to establish the University of Southern Indiana to replace the Evansville regional campus of Indiana State University, Orr came to campus for the signing ceremony.

A native of Evansville, Orr was first associated with the family business, Orr Iron Company, and then engaged heavily in the investment and development of a number of small businesses. He and others invested in Indian Archery, which later became Escalade, Inc.

Orr served as governor from 1981-89 and was lieutenant governor, a responsibility that included heading the state Department of Commerce, for two terms prior to that. Economic development and education reform were cornerstones of his service in government. He introduced economic initiatives that resulted in new jobs in Indiana and led trade delegations to Europe and the Pacific Rim. In education he launched programs to reduce class sizes in the early grades, require competency testing and remediation, and provide incentive pay for teachers.

From 1989 to 1992, Orr served as U.S. Ambassador to Singapore.

A longtime friend of the University, Orr was honored on his 80th birthday by friends and colleagues who established a scholarship in the USI Foundation. He and his wife Mary Kay continued to add to the scholarship which benefits students in the College of Business. Mary Kay Davis became Orr's executive assistant on his first day as governor and continued in that role throughout his career. The two were married in January 2001.

The criteria for the Robert D. and Mary Kay Orr Scholarship for Global Business gives preference to students whose studies will focus on global business or diplomacy or to those who want to use the scholarship for travel or study abroad. Thus, it champions two of the Orrs' interests—education and international business.

Governor Orr was the recipient of two honorary Doctor of Laws degrees, first in 1973 from the regional campus and then in 1986 from the University of Southern Indiana. The Orr Center, a major building on campus, bears his name.

Robert Orr died in March 2004 at age 86; Mary Kay Orr lives in Indianapolis and continues to be involved in USI.

An artist of international acclaim, Stephen S. Pace's roots are in Southern Indiana.



Stephen S. and Palmina F. Pace

Stephen Pace and his wife Palmina have provided significant opportunities that enrich education and cultural awareness for the USI community.

Paintings, sketchbooks, watercolors, and drawings are part of a \$1.5 million gift to the USI Foundation from the celebrated American artist and his wife. The University recognized his work and their generosity with the establishment of the Kenneth P. McCutchan Art Center/Palmina F. and Stephen S. Pace Galleries which opened at USI in September 2008.

The Paces lived in New York and summered in Maine for many years before moving to Evansville in 2007. Mr. Pace continues to paint at his Evansville studio.

Born in Missouri in 1918, Mr. Pace moved with his family to New Harmony, Indiana when he was 17. Stephen began his formal art education with Evansville artist Robert Lahr. He later studied at the Institute of Fine Arts in Mexico, the Art Students League in New York, and the Academie de la Grande Chaumiere in Italy.

Beginning in the 1950s, he became a prominent member of the New York group of abstract expressionists. A sophisticated use of color and bold compositions are traits of his work. Art historian Martica Sawin wrote in her book *Stephen Pace* that his work "is profoundly connected to the American experience and to its rural-urban duality."

In 2004, Mr. Pace received the Jimmy Ernst Award in Art from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. The award honors a "painter or sculptor whose lifetime contribution to his or her vision has been both consistent and dedicated." He was awarded an honorary degree in 2002 from the University of Southern Indiana.

The permanent Stephen S. Pace Collection at the University includes five Pace paintings given to the USI Foundation over the years as well as a major portion of his other works. The Paces also have endowed an art scholarship for USI students.

Stephen Pace's work is in the permanent collections of such notable institutions as the National Museum of American Art and the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C.; the National Academy of Design, Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Whitney Museum of American Art in New York; and the Portland Museum of Art in Portland, Maine.

Robert H. Pott was an engineer, inventor, and entrepreneur.



Robert H. Pott and his wife Elaine continue to foster scientific inquiry, discovery, and engagement through gifts from the Pott Foundation to benefit students and faculty at USI.

Born in 1890, Robert Pott was a native of Sheboygan, Wisconsin; his wife was from South Bend, Indiana. The couple moved to Evansville in the 1920s when he became plant superintendent at Vulcan Plow Works.

According to those who knew him, Pott was a largely self-educated man who never lost his desire for learning. His most noted invention was the impact wrench. When tested in 1933, it was revolutionary for its ability to remove nuts and bolts previously removable only by chiseling or burning with a torch. The tool, marketed as the Ingersoll-Rand Pott Impact Wrench, quickly became popular for use by railroad shops, oil refineries, automobile manufacturers, military organizations, and other heavy industry. Current versions of the tool continue to be important fixtures in many industries.

Fascinated by scientific and technological advancements, Pott was an early enthusiast in the field of high-fidelity music. He enjoyed acoustical speakers and an electric organ in his home long before they were commonplace. The water-cooled air-conditioning system he developed for his home in the early '40s was one of the first in Evansville. A horticulturist, Pott grew orchids in his backyard greenhouse and created an automatic climate-control system of the type later adapted for use in commercial greenhouses. He was also a shrewd businessman, owning the first Grade A dairy farm in Southern Indiana and providing early financial assistance to expand Dale Sales Company in Evansville.

In 1963, the Potts established the Robert H. and Elaine H. Pott Foundation to benefit educational institutions with engineering programs in Indiana and Wisconsin. He died in 1964 and she died in 1974.

In 1998, during *Campaign USI*, Pott Foundation committee members in cooperation with Fifth Third Bank contributed \$2 million toward the development of the college of science and engineering. At that time, the gift was the largest in USI Foundation history. In recognition of this generous gift, the college bears the Pott name. Income from the endowment provides funds for student scholarships, the purchase of scientific equipment, and professional development and educational support of students and faculty in the Pott College of Science and Engineering. The Pott Foundation also supports the Tri-State Science and Engineering Fair, hosted by the Pott College since 2007.

L. Bernard Powers, a pioneer in the field of photofinishing, was one of USI's "Three Bs" who helped organize and raise money for the Varsity Club in support of athletics.



L. Bernard Powers

For 40 years, L. Bernard Powers worked in retail, mail order, and wholesale photofinishing. Guided by his imaginative leadership, the business focused on customer service to amateur and professional photographers. He owned and operated the Postal Film Service and the Film Barns of Evansville and Owensboro, Kentucky, until his retirement in 1975. Prints, re-prints, and enlargements were among the photography services his companies offered.

Before he died in 2001 at the age of 90, he devoted much of his time to his community and to the University of Southern Indiana.

An advocate of Evansville's West Side, he was interested in the development of professional and business opportunities on that side of the city. An active member for many years, he also served as president of the West Side Professional and Business Association. For six years he served as chairman of the West Franklin Revitalization Project to improve and beautify the commercial district of West Franklin Street. He was a member of the West Side Nut Club, a civic organization that also supports scholarships and has sponsored the Fall Festival each October since 1924. He served as the club's international president for a number of years. He also was a charter member of the Evansville Lions Club. A Mason, he was a member of Scottish Rite and Hadi Shrine.

Powers was instrumental in the early development of the athletic program at USI and provided scholarships for student athletes. He was one of the legendary "Three Bs" (Bill Moutoux, Barney Hubbard, and Powers) who helped organize and raise funds for the Varsity Club at the young institution. His broad smile and his confidence in the new University's athletic program were calling cards to potential donors.

He received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree in 1983 from USI recognizing his support of the University's athletic programs. In 1987, he and his wife Lena established the L. Bernard and Lena F. Powers Scholarship.

In 1997, he provided a generous challenge gift of \$40,000 guaranteeing the funding of a new Varsity Club Room as part of *Campaign USI*, the University's first capital campaign. He was a member of the USI Foundation Board of Directors and later its Advisory Council.

Dr. Z. Olen and Inez G. Pumphrey's love of education serves as a model for University of Southern Indiana students.



Dr. Z. Olen and Inez G. Pumphrey

Many years ago, Z. Olen and Inez G. Pumphrey concluded that their decisions to pursue education after high school made their lives richer and fuller.

The Pumphreys distinguished themselves in long careers of service in Gibson County, Indiana, where they have been lifelong residents. Dr. Pumphrey graduated from high school in Fort Branch in 1936 and worked at a local bank for seven years to save money for college. He then enrolled in the veterinary science program at Kansas State University.

By the end of the first year, his savings were depleted but not his determination to earn a degree. He worked at a variety of part-time jobs—delivering flowers, waiting tables, selling programs at football games—to earn money to complete his education. After graduation in 1947, he opened the first veterinary clinic in Fort Branch and served the Tri-state for more than 40 years. Dr. Pumphrey retired in 1988.

Inez Graper Pumphrey became certified to teach after two years of study at Oakland City University and taught third and fourth grade at Marlette Elementary School in Fort Branch. She continued her education in night classes at Oakland City University, completing a Bachelor of Arts degree. She began teaching English and physical education at Fort Branch High School and also continued to teach physical education at the elementary school. Her teaching career spanned 20 years. Mrs. Pumphrey also worked with her husband in the veterinary practice.

The Pumphreys established the first two Deans Scholarships for USI. These scholarships attract exceptional students who graduate at the top or near the top of their high school classes. The first Deans Scholarships were awarded in fall 2000. To endow the scholarships, the Pumphreys established a fund in the Gibson County Community Foundation.

The couple also provides scholarships for 30 USI students through the Dr. Z. Olen and Inez G. Pumphrey Family Foundation. In addition, they have established the Z. Olen and Inez Graper Pumphrey Library Endowment to meet the greatest needs of Rice Library, which serves faculty and students throughout the University.

Because they recognize the opportunities that higher education makes possible, the Pumphreys have been leaders in helping others realize their dreams and objectives. In 2002, the Pumphreys received honorary doctorates from the University. Dr. David L. Rice had absolute faith that independence was the most important directive for the young campus in Evansville.



Dr. David L. and Betty Fordice Rice

In his 27 years of leadership, Dr. David L. Rice, the University's first president, established a reputable regional campus and crafted it into a separate state university known as the University of Southern Indiana. He persuaded legislators, community leaders, faculty, and students to stand strong in advancing that initiative.

An educator and research coordinator for the U.S. Office of Education on a leave of absence from Ball State University, Rice knew that an institution of higher education could transform a community. His research showed that southwest Indiana had the lowest percentage of college participation in the state. Bringing a public university to the area and providing higher education at an affordable cost met an existing need.

The message from community leaders to him was direct: "We cannot fail."

Evansville's economy was reeling as companies departed the city, and leaders wanted results. Several business leaders established Southern Indiana Higher Education, Inc. This group conducted a fund drive and raised \$1 million to purchase 1,400 acres, giving 300 to begin construction of a campus in 1967.

From his first day in southern Indiana the same year, Rice had the avid support of his wife Betty. Their vision, dedication, energy, and love advanced the University of Southern Indiana.

In his kind and studied approach, he gave clear directions to faculty who were fortunate to teach at the campus in the first 25 years. He valued leadership which established conditions to make things happen, but then moved out of the way so people could do their jobs.

His enthusiasm for the University was contagious as he built support from local friends, industry, and business and opinion leaders. He said, "Every citizen who desires an education, who is capable of attaining an education, and who is willing to achieve an education shall have the opportunity to do so."

Enrollment growth, continued endorsement from communities throughout Southern Indiana, academic program development, recruitment of faculty and staff, and construction of buildings were earmarks of his administration.

The David L. Rice Library, opened in 2006, bears his name. The David and Betty Rice Plaza recognizes their contributions to the campus and was dedicated at his retirement in 1994. Charter members of *Reflections*, Dr. and Mrs. Rice have an estate gift in place to benefit the University.

Hazel Roesner remembered the struggles of attaining an education during the 1930s and wanted to make it possible for more young people to have a college education.



Hazel D. Roesner

Growing up in Evansville and graduating from Evansville's Central High School in 1926, Hazel DeWeese was encouraged to attend college by her parents, especially her mother, who longed to see a teacher in the family. She achieved that dream of a college education, but not without some interruptions along the way.

Roesner began her college career at the University of Evansville and transferred the following year to The Ohio State University. She managed to get by with a box of food sent from home every week, but did not go back to Ohio State the following year. Her father fell ill, and she was needed at home.

Four years later she returned to the University of Evansville to complete her degree. It was there that she met her future husband, Raymond W. Roesner, who often invited her for Sunday lunch and a game of tennis at his family's home across the highway from the present site of the USI campus.

When she graduated in 1934, teaching jobs were scarce, so she began what would become a satisfying career in accounting with Servel, Inc. She later joined Crescent Plastics, from which she retired in 1977. After her husband's death in 1979, she worked for a time in the Office of Business Affairs at USI.

Mr. Roesner, associated for many years with Faultless Caster, had attended the old Perry Township School #3, also known as Bokelman School, when his older sister was a teacher there. The school on Middle Mt. Vernon Road was used from 1896 to 1939 and then became a home before standing idle for a number of years.

In 1993, it was relocated to USI's Bent Twig Outdoor Educational Area to make way for the overpass that now leads into campus. Mrs. Roesner was a longtime member of the Westwood Garden Club that raised money to save the structure.

She also was a member of St. Peter's United Methodist Church in St. Philips, Indiana, the American Association of University Women, and the Garden Club of Indiana, and volunteered at Welborn Hospital. Before she died in 2003, she had traveled to all 50 states.

A member of *Reflections*, she donated funds in her will to the USI Foundation to establish the Raymond W. and Hazel D. Roesner Scholarship for accounting students.

Connections with "their scholars" made the establishment of a USI Foundation endowed scholarship fund very personal for Mary Lue and Bob Russler.



The chronicle of how the Bob and Mary Lue Russler Scholarship endowment came into being and will continue in perpetuity begins in the late 1960s.

In 1969, the Russlers were in the process of buying a home minutes away from the campus location on Highway 62. Mary Lue took a job helping with registration at the University, still holding classes at Centennial School, the initial site of the campus.

Over the years she was secretary to the business manager, administrative assistant to the vice president for Business Affairs, and administrative assistant for the USI Foundation. She remained closely connected to the University when she became public relations and retirement coordinator for the Solarbron Pointe Retirement Community adjacent to campus.

Her work in the USI Foundation office provided inspiration for the Russlers to start a scholarship fund. "I was there in the formative years of the Foundation," Mrs. Russler said, "working with all those donors and knowing their dedication. I saw how they helped the students and helped the Foundation grow."

The couple started their fund with a gift to the USI Foundation and applied annual gifts to it. At the time the fund was set up in 1981, Bob's employer, CSX, matched charitable gifts on a 3:1 basis. The corporate match helped them build the fund much faster. By 1993, the fund had reached \$10,000, the amount needed to fund the endowment in perpetuity.

The Russlers are 1958 graduates of Evansville's Mater Dei High School. Their scholarship criteria direct the award to a deserving Mater Dei graduate who is active in extracurricular, community, and church activities.

"We get attached to our scholars," Mrs. Russler said. "We keep in touch with them even after they graduate."

In their will, the Russlers have set aside money to increase funding for the Bob and Mary Lue Russler Scholarship endowment to provide additional scholarships for Mater Dei graduates to attend USI.

Mrs. Russler said, "I feel proud to have worked at USI and to have been a part of the history of the school. To see students take the education they get at USI and go on to make successful lives for themselves and their families makes me proud of them – as if they were my own."

A man of vision and business acumen, Henry W. Ruston demonstrated a zest for life that energized all those around him, including the USI community.



At the time of his death in 2005, Henry W. Ruston was the single largest benefactor in the history of the University.

Ruston and his wife Helen Niednagel Ruston owned and operated Waldemar-Niednagel Flowers of Distinction, an Evansville business founded by her grandparents, until their retirement in 1976. During World War II, Ruston served in the U.S. Air Force in Jackson, Mississippi, and in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, where he trained French pilots.

Ruston first became involved with USI in the early 1990s through his cousin, Robert A. Rust of Mt. Vernon, also a close friend of USI. He quickly became a champion of the University, following Screaming Eagles basketball, bidding enthusiastically at Varsity Club auctions, and, most of all, enjoying the success of students and the development of the University.

Ruston established several charitable gift annuities through the USI Foundation. His financial support included the Henry W. and Helen N. Ruston Endowed Presidential Scholarship, named for him and his wife of 53 years. Helen Ruston died in 1997. In her memory he provided funds for the Helen N. Ruston Terrace at the Liberal Arts Center.

Henry and Helen Ruston received honorary Doctor of Laws degrees from USI in 1995. He was a life member of the Board of Directors of the USI Foundation.

When Ruston married retired teacher Betty Jane Hopkins in 2000, he involved her in his commitment to the University. They continued the generous support Ruston had begun a decade earlier. In 2003, the University dedicated a new student residence hall, naming it in their honor. She had died the previous year.

When Henry Ruston died in December 2005 at age 84, his estate, including the charitable gift annuities, left a gift of \$5.1 million to the USI Foundation. After funding improvements for USI's Physical Activities Center, the remainder of his gift was used to establish an unrestricted endowment that will help meet USI's most important needs far into the future. The Ruston President's Endowment honors Mr. Ruston's close friend, USI President H. Ray Hoops, promotes academic excellence, and serves as a perpetual reminder of Ruston's generosity to the University.

A community leader, educator, antiques expert, and historian, Jim Sanders breathed new life into Historic New Harmony before lending his talents to benefit the University.



Jim Sanders had a distinguished career in education. He taught English and journalism in the Henderson, Kentucky, public schools; was a teacher and coordinator for the Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation; and served as the district state supervisor for marketing instruction.

In 1985, he left teaching to become USI's first director of Historic New Harmony, where he was able to combine his marketing knowledge with his interest in historic preservation. He moved the organization's focus from restoration to education, built the assets of the USI-New Harmony Foundation, developed new educational exhibits, and involved the residents of New Harmony in the University's programs there.

After 10 years as director of Historic New Harmony, Sanders accepted a position as director of corporate relations at USI, and in that capacity assisted with public relations and fundraising, playing a key role in the University's first capital campaign, *Campaign USI*. He also supervised the committee that oversaw the interior design of the University Home, gave leadership to the establishment of the art collection committee, and obtained funding to support the teaching collection. His example of contributing money, art, and artifacts to the University inspired others to do the same. A major planned gift to the USI Foundation endows Presidential Scholarships, a distinguished professorship, and the University's art collection fund.

David A. Bower, president of the USI Foundation, said, "Jim is one of our most active volunteers. Whether traveling the world for business or pleasure, or at home, Jim is telling the USI story. He invites people to tour the campus, entertains USI friends at Hidden Acres, his historic family home in Posey County, and takes people to social and civic events to share the impact the University has on this entire region. His generosity in sharing his time and his financial support is an example of selfless stewardship. Generations to come will benefit from Jim's thoughtful planning."

An American antiques expert, he lectures and teaches widely and is a sought-after consultant and appraiser. Many civic organizations have benefited from his involvement. In 2005, he received the Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana's Arts Advocate of the Year award.

Sanders received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from USI in 2001 in recognition of his service to Evansville, the region, and to the University of Southern Indiana.
Lucile Schergens could not have been a greater advocate for Perry County, Indiana, including higher education for its citizens.



When Lucile Schergens died in 2003 at the age of 95, Tell City Mayor Bill Goffinet told the Perry County News, "She was a very important person for Tell City. Her contributions to our community won't be forgotten."

Born in Nebo, Kentucky, Schergens moved with her family to Tell City when she was 11 years old. She was a 1926 graduate of Tell City High School and attended Lockyear Business College and Purdue University.

She earned a teacher certification, but her career was in journalism. She was employed as a correspondent for the *Evansville Courier, Louisville Courier-Journal,* and *Indianapolis Star.* She and her husband Edgar W. Schergens were the owners of Perry County newspapers *The Tell City News* and *Cannelton News* for four decades. They sold the newspapers in 1972.

Mr. Schergens was inducted into the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame in 1977. After his death in 1990, Lucile Schergens established a foundation through which to funnel her charitable donations. The Edgar W. & Lucile E. Schergens Foundation donated half the cost of a \$1 million community learning center in Tell City. The Schergens Center, dedicated in 1999, provides community and meeting space for educational and nonprofit groups.

In her lifetime, Lucile Schergens ensured that countless students from southwestern Indiana will receive an education at USI. She established the Edgar W. and Lucile E. Schergens Endowed Presidential Scholarship, awarded to a Perry County valedictorian or salutatorian; and the Edgar W. & Lucile E. Schergens Merit Scholarship for a bright and deserving student from Perry, Harrison, or Spencer counties.

Attorney David L. Huber, former chair of the USI Board of Trustees and a friend of Mrs. Schergens, worked with the Edgar W. & Lucile E. Schergens Foundation to establish the Schergens Perry County Laurel Award benefitting USI students from Perry County with a four-year comprehensive merit scholarship.

Her foundation also has made annual travel grants available to Perry County students in the International Studies program. As USI President H. Ray Hoops told Mrs. Schergens on the occasion of her 90th birthday, "Students not yet born will be grateful to you." Dallas Bower Suhrheinrich believed that the welfare of a community depended largely upon the quality of its schools.



A teacher herself and beloved by her former students, Dallas Bower Suhrheinrich was dedicated to the ideal that teachers make a difference in the lives of their students.

Born in 1912, Mrs. Suhrheinrich was one of five sisters reared on a farm near Inglefield, Indiana. She graduated from Central High School in Evansville and attended Indiana University. She taught at Evansville's Vogel Elementary School from 1937-44 and continued to be sought out by former students.

She married William H. Suhrheinrich, also a native of the Evansville area, in 1944. His career with Mead Johnson Company took them to Des Moines, St. Louis, and Chicago. They returned to Evansville when he retired. He died in 1985.

In 1997, Mrs. Suhrheinrich provided a \$1 million gift to *Campaign USI*, the University's first capital campaign. The Bower-Suhrheinrich College of Education and Human Services bears her name in recognition of this generous gift which was used to establish three endowed funds.

One endowment created the William H. and Dallas Bower Suhrheinrich Endowed Presidential Scholarship. The second endowment funds professional development opportunities and applied research for faculty members in the college, which includes the departments of teacher education, social work, and physical education. The third fund promotes teaching excellence by making possible opportunities for area elementary and secondary teachers to enhance their knowledge and skills. Mrs. Suhrheinrich's intention was to provide elementary and secondary schools with exceptional teachers for years to come.

Dallas Bower Suhrheinrich supported many Evansville area organizations with generous gifts. She also gave of her time. She was active in the Deaconess Hospital Foundation, Reitz Home Museum, University of Evansville, Old Courthouse Auxiliary, Conrad Baker Foundation, Women's Society at Trinity United Methodist Church, Evansville Museum of Arts, History, and Science, and other organizations. She served two terms on the Board of Trustees of the Vanderburgh Community Foundation.

Mrs. Suhrheinrich was the recipient of an honorary Doctor of Laws degree at the USI Commencement in 1998. She died in June 2003 at age 91.

W. Paul Torrington looked at home in a white lab coat and bow tie. It was often part of his attire during his executive career at Mead Johnson and Company.



W. Paul Torrington

W. Paul Torrington was born in New York City in 1908 and was educated in St. Louis, Chicago, and Pennsylvania before returning to New York where he entered the engineering trainee program of the Intercontinent Gas Corporation, an engineering and patent-holding corporation specializing in the design, construction, and erection of pilot plants to prove commercial feasibility.

He later joined Emulsions Process Corp. and was responsible for conducting industrial process design and development for a wide range of industries. He had a number of patents, including one for a process to extract cytoplasm from by-product brewer's yeast, thereby recovering vitamin B complex and proteolytic enzymes in an unaltered form.

Torrington installed a pilot plant for his process at Mead Johnson & Company in 1941. The next year, he joined the firm as assistant to the president. He shortly established an engineering department and began a long-term modernization program for buildings, utilities, and manufacturing.

Torrington eventually became executive vice president and vice chairman of the Board of Directors at Mead Johnson. During his 30-year affiliation with the company, he managed virtually every part of the nutritional and pharmaceutical firm's operations. He continued as a consultant to the firm and a member of the board after his retirement in 1973, but devoted most of his time to world travel.

He was active in the community as a director and vice president of the Evansville-Vanderburgh County Building Authority, a board member of the Indiana Manufacturers Association, and a member of the St. Mary's Medical Center Advisory Board.

To assist USI students majoring in medical and scientific fields, he created the W. Paul and Mildred Torrington Endowed Presidential Scholarship in memory of his late wife. The Torrington Trust also established the Rosemarie T. Albers Scholarship endowment, named in honor of his daughter, to benefit students in the Pott College of Science and Engineering.

He received an honorary Doctor of Science degree from USI in 1998. The Torrington Wing of the Science Center is named in his honor. He died in 2002.

When the president of , the University's Board of Trustees presented C. Wayne Worthington with an honorary degree, he described him as "an American success story."



C. Wayne Worthington

Immediately after graduating from high school, C. Wayne Worthington applied to National City Bank in Evansville as a messenger, the bank's lowest position in 1941. He got the job and moved through the ranks, steadily advancing to positions of greater responsibility as his talents and loyalties were recognized.

A year after being elected to the board of directors, he became executive vice president. Because of his business acumen and banking expertise, he was promoted to president, chief administrative officer, and chairman of the board. He retired in 1992 after 51 years with the bank.

Worthington was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University in 1980. Charles Ainlay, then president of the Board of Trustees, presented the award, saying that Worthington "has been an invaluable servant for his community. Responsive to community needs, he is in the forefront of every major philanthropic venture undertaken for the city's well being."

Worthington was a life director of the USI Foundation and chaired the community fund drive for the Physical Activities Center. He and his wife Betty supported USI in a number of ways, including funding the C. Wayne and Betty J. Worthington Endowed Presidential Scholarship and raising funds for Rice Plaza, dedicated in 1994 in honor of the University's first president, David L. Rice, and his wife Betty.

Through a generous gift from the Worthingtons in 1992, artist Edmund Brucker, dean of Indiana portrait artists, was commissioned to paint a portrait of USI President Rice on the 25th anniversary of his presidency. The painting hangs in the David L. Rice Library.

"I enjoy assuming any small role to help advance the University in our community," Worthington once said. "I feel USI is an essential part of our community and has been so for some time. Not only does it provide excellent educational opportunities for our community, but it is a major industry as well."

Worthington died in 2000 at the age of 77. The Worthingtons had three children: Steven W. Worthington, Sandra Worthington Kem, and Susan Worthington Head, whose husband Michael H. Head '80 serves on the USI Foundation Board of Trustees. Betty Worthington remains active with University activities and continues to support USI in every way. Selma E. Wietrich believed that leaving money to benefit higher education was something her parents would have wanted her to do.



Selma E. Wietrich did not announce the gift to benefit USI students during her lifetime. USI Foundation officials learned of it from her financial advisor after her death.

An Evansville resident, Wietrich was born Selma Wuetherich, the daughter of Louisa and Frederich Wuetherich. She changed the spelling of her last name in the late 1920s after moving to California.

Early in her career, she worked for Keller Crescent Company in Evansville. When she left for another job, her sister Helen joined the company and worked there for more than 30 years. Wietrich returned to the house her father had built at 1200 North Third Avenue after retiring as an executive secretary from a trucking firm in the San Francisco area. When Helen became ill, Selma Wietrich cared for her in the family home until Helen's death in 1980.

Selma Wietrich died in May 2004 at age 98. She had worked with her longtime investment advisor, Ron Boren '81, to develop a gift plan. A perpetual trust provides \$30,000 in annual scholarships—12 scholarships valued at \$2,500 each—to benefit USI students. The Frederich Wuetherich Family Memorial Endowed Scholarship Fund is held in trust by the Evansville office of Hilliard Lyons, where Boren is vice president. The scholarships are awarded based on "the students' worthiness, considering academic attitude and citizenship, as well as personal financial circumstances."

Wietrich's will mentioned the high regard her parents had for higher education. Her attorney was Reed S. Schmitt of the law firm of Frick, Powell, Whinrey, Cravens, and Schmitt. Years ago, Wietrich's mother helped Bernard "Bunny" Frick, a founding member of the firm, with college expenses. Schmitt has since joined the firm of Rhine Ernest LLP.

Wietrich left few clues about her life. Family friend Kay Turpin found two photos of her, one of which appears with this profile.

Turpin got to know Wietrich when her husband Larry Turpin was her letter carrier. The Turpins began mowing her lawn, taking her to the grocery, and helping in other ways. Mrs. Turpin described Wietrich as sharp of mind. Her frugal lifestyle, combined with sound investment advice from Boren, enabled her to leave a substantial estate to help students complete an education that will allow them to meet personal goals, progress in their careers, and make a difference in the communities where they live. Ruth Gray Yates was dedicated to helping others improve their lives.



A 35-year career in teaching and a lifelong record of volunteerism reveal the spirit of Ruth Gray Yates.

Yates graduated from Bosse High School in Evansville and earned a bachelor's degree at the University of Evansville. She began teaching in Vanderburgh County in 1928 and was a second-grade teacher at Plaza Park School when she retired in 1963. Her husband, Davis, also was an educator. He taught at Howard Roosa School, became the head of the history department at Central High School, and then served for 17 years as principal at Howard Roosa.

When the couple retired, they moved to a home in Tobinsport, Indiana. Built in 1858, the house bordered the Hoosier National Forest and was situated high above a deep bend in the Ohio River. They became astute bird watchers and shared their knowledge of birds in talks for garden clubs and other organizations throughout the region. The couple lived in the historic Perry County home called Riverview Manor for 16 years and moved to Tell City in 1979. Mr. Yates died in 1981.

Yates was a charter member of the Perry County Memorial Hospital Auxiliary. In 2003, the hospital auxiliaries of southwestern Indiana named her Auxilian of the Year. She served as secretary of the Perry County Division of the American Heart Association and was a past president of the Tell City Historical Association. She volunteered on a weekly basis for 10 years to read aloud to students at Tell City Junior High School.

Because of her volunteer commitments to many organizations, Yates was presented with the Retired Seniors Volunteer Program Volunteer of the Year Award by Judy O'Bannon, first lady of Indiana, in 1997.

As a close friend of USI, Yates was an annual underwriter of New Harmony Theatre. She established the Ruth Gray Yates Endowed Presidential Scholarship as well as a four-year named Presidential Scholarship for USI students.

She introduced the University to her brother, David W. Gray, and his wife, Ann Campbell Gray. They also became good friends of the University.

When Dr. H. Ray Hoops told her she was to receive an honorary degree from USI in 2004, Yates replied that it was among the greatest honors of her life. She died in January at age 95, before that year's Commencement, and the degree was awarded posthumously.

By all accounts, Élizabeth Hartmetz Zutt was not a sentimental person. But she was touched to the point of tears when she read thank you notes from USI students to whom she gave the opportunity to see the world.



Elizabeth Hartmetz Zutt

Travel grants provided by the Elizabeth Zutt Art Student Enrichment Program, established in 1998, have allowed dozens of USI art students to travel to Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, Spain, Italy, France, Greece, Morocco, and Holland. The enrichment fund also provides awards that enable students to purchase art supplies and to gain admission to exhibits, lectures, and other art-related events.

In addition, Elizabeth Hartmetz Zutt bequeathed to the University 22 works from a diverse art collection developed over a lifetime of travel worldwide.

Michael Aakhus, associate dean of the USI College of Liberal Arts and professor of art, said Zutt always attended student art shows. Over the years, she bought student art and provided awards for the show.

"She had books on every part of the world, history, politics, and art," Aakhus said. "Her art collection reflected her broad interests."

Since she did not cook, Zutt kept her books in her kitchen cabinets. Other interests included dogs, music, and shoes. She had little use for cats. She often was known to take the train to Chicago, see a performance of the Lyric Opera, and return to Evansville by train all in the same day. She had a passion for shoes and occasionally would hold a sale of excess footwear from her home.

Zutt was a graduate of Ward-Belmont School in Nashville, Tennessee, and the University of Wisconsin. She completed a degree in library science at Columbia University in New York City and worked for 30 years at the Evansville Public Library.

She often said she was lucky to have financial resources. Her attorney John B. Whinrey said she lived simply but indulged in two extravagances: international travel and the acquisition of art. Her family home at Riverside and Adams was stuffed with art. When she downsized to a condominium, pieces hung from floor to ceiling.

Zutt died in 2006, at age 91. Alexandra Leich, a close friend, said that she "led a lifetime of spirited adventure and discovery which led her to the art of every culture; and all of it she embraced with passion."

- Joseph E. O'Daniel[†] 1968–1973
 - Albert A. Woll[†] 1973–1976
 - E. Donald Elliott[†] 1976–1986
 - R. Jack Brunton[†] 1986–1987
- C. Wayne Worthington[†] 1987–1992
 - Ted C. Ziemer, Jr. 1992–1998
 - Robert E. Griffin 1998–2000
 - John M. Dunn 2000–2002
- Carolyn S. Georgette[†] 2002–2003
- Ronald D. Romain '73 2003–2006
 - Thomas E. Topper 2006–2008
 - Bix D. Branson II 2008–2010

† Deceased



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