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FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL

# COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES



2017

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER NINTH

PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES CENTER  
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA  
EVANSVILLE, INDIANA



University of Southern Indiana

School of Leadership Studies



2017  
COMMENCEMENT  
EXERCISES

# ORDER OF THE 2017 FALL COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

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## Romain College of Business and College of Liberal Arts Ceremony

Saturday, December 9, 2017  
10 a.m.

### **Processional**

Evansville Brass Quintet  
*Pomp and Circumstance, Edward Elgar, Composer*

### **Grand Marshal**

Anne A. Statham, *Professor of Sociology*

### **National Anthem**

Cecilia Paradise '19

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Linda L. M. Bennett, *President*

### **Reflection**

Jason R. Holder '17

### **Class of 2017 Recognition**

Mohammed F. Khayum, *Dean of the Romain College of Business; Professor of Economics*

### **The Commencement Address**

Stephen C. Zehr, *Professor of Sociology*

### **Conferral of Degrees**

Linda L. M. Bennett, *President*  
Assisted by Ronald S. Rochon, *Provost*

### **Presentation of Graduates**

A. David Hitchcock, *Director of Center for Interdisciplinary Studies; Associate Professor of Spanish*

### **Master Degrees**

Ronald S. Rochon, *Provost*

### **Baccalaureate Degrees**

Mohammed F. Khayum, *Dean of the Romain College of Business; Professor of Economics*  
James M. Beeby, *Dean of the College of Liberal Arts; Professor of History*

### **Associate Degrees**

Ronald S. Rochon, *Provost*

### **Welcome from the USI Alumni Association**

John B. Raisor '03, *President of the USI Alumni Association*

### **Recessional**

Evansville Brass Quintet

*A reception will be held in University Center East immediately following the ceremony.  
Join us in the celebration on social media by including #USIGrad in your posts.*

# STEPHEN C. ZEHR TO DELIVER COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

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Stephen C. Zehr

Dr. Stephen C. Zehr, professor of sociology, is the 2017 recipient of the Distinguished Professor Award and will deliver the Commencement Address for the Romain College of Business and College of Liberal Arts Ceremony. He is being honored for his research, service and teaching in the fields of sociology and science and technology studies.

Zehr began his career at USI in 1994 as assistant professor of sociology. In 1997, he became associate professor of sociology and, in 2006, professor of sociology. He has served as chair of the Sociology Department and as interim director of the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Program.

While at USI, Zehr has served on 38 University, college or department committees, of which he chaired 10. He has served in a variety of administrative roles or memberships with national and international professional organizations including the American Sociological Association, Society for Social Studies of Science (4S), and U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF). Most notably, he was appointed secretary for 4S and program officer and interim expert for the NSF Program in Science, Technology and Society.

In all, Zehr has secured seven grants including two NSF grants; published 13 articles and book chapters, five book reviews, and edited three syllabi collections; and reviewed research manuscripts and grant proposals for 22 scientific journals and funding agencies. He also has served on numerous NSF panels and site review teams. Zehr's research addresses questions on how scientific expertise is constructed in environmental controversies as they are represented in the media and policy deliberations.

Zehr graduated *magna cum laude* from State University College of New York at Potsdam in 1981 and, in 1990, completed a doctorate in sociology with a minor in the history and philosophy of science from Indiana University.

Prior to USI, Zehr was a visiting assistant professor of sociology at Union College in Schenectady, New York, and assistant professor of sociology at Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago, Illinois.

The Distinguished Professor Award was established in 1983 and is given in recognition of significant achievement in teaching, scholarship and service. As a recipient, Zehr will receive a \$15,000 stipend underwritten by generous donors to the USI Foundation.



# ORDER OF THE 2017 FALL COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

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## College of Nursing and Health Professions and Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education Ceremony

Saturday, December 9, 2017

1 p.m.

### **Processional**

Evansville Brass Quintet  
*Pomp and Circumstance, Edward Elgar, Composer*

### **Grand Marshal**

Julie L. McCullough, *Assistant Dean of Health Services, Chair of Food and Nutrition Program;*  
*Associate Professor of Nutrition*

### **National Anthem**

Noah B. Theriac '19

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Linda L. M. Bennett, *President*

### **Reflection**

Christie Jeanne Caballero '17

### **Class of 2017 Recognition**

Zane W. Mitchell, Jr., *Dean of the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education;*  
*Professor of Engineering*

### **The Commencement Address**

Robert Millard-Mendez, *Professor of Art*

### **Conferral of Degrees**

Linda L. M. Bennett, *President*  
Assisted by Ronald S. Rochon, *Provost*

### **Presentation of Graduates**

Kent W. Scheller, *Professor of Physics*

### **Master Degrees**

Ronald S. Rochon, *Provost*

### **Baccalaureate Degrees**

Ann H. White, *Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions; Professor of Nursing*  
Zane W. Mitchell, Jr., *Dean of the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education;*  
*Professor of Engineering*

### **Associate Degrees**

Ronald S. Rochon, *Provost*

### **Welcome from the USI Alumni Association**

John Raisor '03, *President of the USI Alumni Association*

### **Recessional**

Evansville Brass Quintet

*A reception will be held in University Center East immediately following the ceremony.  
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## ROBERT MILLARD-MENDEZ TO DELIVER COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

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Robert Millard-Mendez

Mr. Robert Millard-Mendez, professor of art in the Art and Design Department, is the 2017 recipient of the H. Lee Cooper Core Curriculum Teaching Award and will deliver the Commencement Address for the College of Nursing and Health Professions and Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education Ceremony. He is being honored for his embodiment of creative instruction in teaching students how to be more creative themselves.

Millard-Mendez began his career at USI in 2006 as assistant professor of art. He became associate professor in 2011 and full professor in 2017. He was assistant chair of the Art and Design Department from 2010-2013 before holding the chair position in the 2016-2017 academic year.

Graduating *summa cum laude* from the University of Massachusetts Lowell, Millard-Mendez received a bachelor's degree in sculpture in 1994, and a Master of Fine Arts in Sculpture from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth in 1999.

He has been praised by students and faculty for his ability to instruct students in introductory core courses to produce art works that are so well crafted they are accepted into art shows juried by outside professionals. Many of these students are non-art majors who are completing a core course required for graduation.

Millard-Mendez's compassion and genuine care for his students is apparent by the way he walks the line between being there for them when they need him, and pushing them to work independently to find their own creative vision. He has been witnessed working with students by recognizing their fears, sympathizing with their worries, and working with them to step out of their comfort zones and take risks.

In addition to his willingness to serve the core curriculum by developing courses for the core, Millard-Mendez also creates his own award-winning works of art. He has been honored locally and nationally for his works, and has exhibited his work in museums and galleries across the country.

The H. Lee Cooper Core Curriculum Teaching Award was established in 2000 and honors a USI faculty member whose work in University Core Courses (UCC) has been especially creative and successful in furthering UCC goals. As a recipient, Millard-Mendez will receive a \$10,000 stipend underwritten by longtime and generous University friends, Ann and H. Lee Cooper III.



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA  
Candidates for Degrees

CLASS OF 2017

ROMAIN COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND  
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS CEREMONY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2017

10 A.M.

MASTER DEGREES

**MASTER OF ARTS IN ENGLISH**

Shelby Phelps, Evansville  
Carrie L. Wright, Evansville

**MASTER OF ARTS IN  
SECOND LANGUAGE  
ACQUISITION, POLICY  
AND CULTURE**

Pre Serge Pacome Yao, Abidjan, Cote D'Ivoire

**MASTER OF BUSINESS  
ADMINISTRATION**

Richard Alan Bennett, Evansville  
Roscoe Thomas Black II, Olathe, Kansas  
Melissa A. Bullock, Mount Vernon  
Jenna Danae Deisher, Mount Carmel, Illinois  
Amber J. Ferrari, Evansville  
Kyle J. Haney, Mount Vernon  
Eric A. Henderson, Evansville  
Steven Vincent Henderson, Granger

Chad W. Kapp, Evansville  
Kyle Andrew Kempf, Evansville  
Bailey E. Knable, Sellersburg  
Mpho Mashabe, Mochudi, Botswana  
Clair N. McPhearson, Evansville  
Zachary Charles Payne, Charlestown  
Heidi Lynn Petrig, Evansville  
B. Nicole Sabo-Williams, Evansville  
Megan E. Schutte, Wadesville  
Brittany K. Skalecki, Schaumburg, Illinois

POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE

ROMAIN COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Audrey Lynn Asher, Dixon, Kentucky  
Accountancy

Andrea Lynn Daub, Evansville  
Computer Information Systems

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

ROMAIN COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

**BACHELOR OF ARTS**

Christian Robert Armstrong, Newburgh  
Economics and Finance  
Tasia Denise Brewer, Indianapolis  
Business Administration  
Samantha Card, Evansville  
Accounting and Professional Services

Danielle Sheree Xian Fitzsimmons, Evansville  
Accounting and Professional Services  
and Finance, *magna cum laude*  
Patrick C. Lewis, Evansville  
Economics  
Miranda Brook Searl, Loogootee  
Marketing

Jacqueline Sutherland, Princeton  
Management  
Ashley T. Wright, Martinsville  
Business Administration, *cum laude*  
UNIVERSITY HONORS SCHOLAR  
Marissa Kay Zirkelbach, Newburgh  
Accounting and Professional Services,  
*magna cum laude*



## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

- Talal Hamoud H. Alanazi, Evansville  
Accounting and Professional Services  
and Finance
- Ali Baqer A. Alhashim, Evansville  
Finance
- Yousef Ali H. Alnemer, Evansville  
Finance
- Hamad Saleh Alsagoor, Evansville  
Computer Information Systems
- Jessop R. Appell, Evansville  
Computer Information Systems
- Richard Ballman, Saint Meinrad  
Computer Science
- Kelsey M. Bartok, Eldorado, Illinois  
Accounting and Professional Services
- Aaron M. Begle, Dale  
Marketing
- Joshua Lee Beiriger, Columbus  
Finance and Marketing
- Logan C. Berry, Aurora  
Management
- Nicole A. Berry, Oshkosh, Wisconsin  
Management
- Mshari Hamad A. Bin Moammar, Evansville  
Computer Information Systems
- Taylor Daniel Bittner, Haubstadt  
Accounting and Professional Services
- Colton M. Bollenbacher, Berne  
Business Administration
- Jacob L. Brame, Evansville  
Computer Information Systems
- Benjamin K. Brown, Evansville  
Marketing
- Taylor Wayne Bunner, Lynnville  
Marketing
- Hannah R. Burr, Owensville  
Business Administration, *cum laude*
- Tristen Michael Burris, Bloomfield  
Business Administration
- Yafei Chang, Huntingburg  
Business Administration
- Raven Jo Cochran, New Washington  
Business Administration
- Anthony Jacob Cox, Haubstadt  
Computer Science
- Magdalene Marie Cox, Evansville  
Accounting and Professional Services
- Conner Joseph Dembroski, Indianapolis  
Business Administration
- Rylee Corinne Denhart, Jasper  
Accounting and Professional Services
- Austin Downs, Evansville  
Computer Science
- Brian Matthew Fischer, Jeffersonville  
Finance and Marketing, *cum laude*
- Emily Ann Fleck, Ferdinand  
Business Administration
- Oluwatosin Emmanuel Folowosele, Vincennes  
Economics
- Ryan Ford, Evansville  
Marketing
- Jake A. Freimiller, Boonville  
Marketing
- Kiara Leshae Gibson, Evansville  
Business Administration
- Matthew D. Gish, Henderson, Kentucky  
Accounting and Professional Services,  
*magna cum laude*  
UNIVERSITY HONORS SCHOLAR
- Robert Allen Goodwin, Daytona Beach,  
Florida  
Finance
- Samuel J. Greubel, Haubstadt  
Finance
- Jason Randall Hagy, Newburgh  
Management
- Heather L. Hendricks, Saint Croix  
Finance
- Haley Hodges, Portage  
Computer Science
- Erin Ellice Johann, Evansville  
Business Administration
- Austin Jay Kempf, Richland  
Economics
- Lian Z. Kham, Indianapolis  
Business Administration
- Cally Jo A. Klausung, Monterey  
Business Administration
- Klayton Layne Knies, Huntingburg  
Computer Science
- Briggan K. Knott, Boonville  
Management
- Adam C. Koewler, Evansville  
Computer Science, *cum laude*
- Timothy Ryan Laakman, Ellettsville  
Accounting and Professional Services
- Tracy A. Leonard, Newburgh  
Computer Science
- Henry Lichaj, Newburgh  
Business Administration
- Alexander Lopez Rosero, Evansville  
Marketing
- Kelley S. Lott, Morganfield, Kentucky  
Accounting and Professional Services,  
*cum laude*
- Zachariah Walter Luntsford, Henderson,  
Kentucky  
Finance
- Sean Michael Luttrell, Fort Branch  
Computer Information Systems
- Jill Marie Martin, Haubstadt  
Accounting and Professional Services and  
Computer Information Systems, *cum laude*
- Michael Richmond Massoth, Corydon,  
Kentucky  
Accounting and Professional Services
- Donald Vincent McGuire, Indianapolis  
Finance, *cum laude*
- Angela F. Mockobee, Evansville  
Accounting and Professional Services
- Julianna H. Nguyen, Garden Grove, California  
Finance
- Jessica Ashley Nicolet, Troy  
Computer Information Systems
- Kevin Ortiz, Evansville  
Accounting and Professional Services
- Cain A. Parker, Petersburg  
Accounting and Professional Services
- Adrian Wayne Pate, Evansville  
Finance
- Sophie Pershing, Bloomington  
Economics
- Matthew Robert Peterson, Brownsburg  
Computer Science
- Luke William Everett Powell, Evansville  
Marketing
- John Powers, Evansville  
Business Administration
- Joseph Noble Redburn, Saint Charles, Missouri  
Accounting and Professional Services  
and Marketing
- Allison N. Reid, Henderson, Kentucky  
Business Administration
- Andrew Wilson Richmond, Henderson,  
Kentucky  
Finance, *cum laude*
- Paige Marie Rogers, Evansville  
Management
- Tre Darnell Roos-Williams, Evansville  
Business Administration
- Collen Jacob Schenk, Evansville  
Management
- Alex Keith Schoettlin, Mount Vernon  
Management, *cum laude*
- Dayne S. Seibert, Tobinsport  
Accounting and Professional Services
- Andrea Marie Seifert, Mount Vernon  
Accounting and Professional Services,  
*magna cum laude*
- Jazmine Meshelle Skelton, Saint Meinrad  
Accounting and Professional Services  
and Finance, *magna cum laude*
- Brandon M. Staback, Haubstadt  
Accounting and Professional Services,  
*magna cum laude*
- Trent A. Staples, Henderson, Kentucky  
Management
- Chelsea Danielle Sullenger, Evansville  
Finance
- Dillon M. Swartz, Newburgh  
Business Administration
- Dana Gabrielle Kroeger Tang, Evansville  
Computer Science, *cum laude*  
UNIVERSITY HONORS SCHOLAR
- Dane Taylor, Evansville  
Computer Information Systems

Devonte L. W. Thomas, Evansville  
Finance  
Zena S. Tieken, Ferdinand  
Accounting and Professional Services  
Abigail C. Trotter, Fairfield, Illinois  
Accounting and Professional Services,  
*magna cum laude*  
Natasha R. Vanover, Rockport  
Computer Information Systems

Mackenzie Brooke Wagner, Evansville  
Marketing  
Danielle Elaine Warthen, Mooresville  
Marketing  
David Scott Watts, Orleans  
Management  
Kailyn Darby Wead, Houston, Texas  
Computer Information Systems

Stephón Joshua Wilkins, Indianapolis  
Accounting and Professional Services  
and Finance  
Craig Joseph Wilmes, Evansville  
Accounting and Professional Services,  
*magna cum laude*  
Brandon L. Woods, Evansville  
Computer Science, *cum laude*  
Adam Scott Zehme, Orland Park, Illinois  
Business Administration

## COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

### BACHELOR OF ARTS

Austin Michael Ahrens, Ridgway, Illinois  
Art  
Ashley Nicole Allen, Paoli  
Theatre Arts, *cum laude*  
Mohammed Abdulrazaq A. Alhammedali,  
Dammam, Saudi Arabia  
English  
Jacquelyn Kay Baysinger, Buffalo Lake,  
Minnesota  
English, *cum laude*  
Monique A. Belmedioni, Evansville  
Art  
Angela Renee Bohan, Evansville  
Art  
Jason Anthony Bowles, Evansville  
Psychology  
Kandis Kay Brinker, Evansville  
English, *cum laude*  
Haley N. Carreon, Cynthiana  
Art and International Studies  
Justin Lyndon Cecil, Whitesville, Kentucky  
Art  
Jonathan Joseph Cochren, Evansville  
Radio and Television  
Hope Doninger, Evansville  
International Studies  
Baylee Nicole Flittner, Evansville  
English, *cum laude*  
Justin D. Gentry, Hanson, Kentucky  
Spanish Studies, *magna cum laude*  
Graham Joseph Gerni, Bloomfield  
English  
Shelby Dawn Gilliam, Newburgh  
International Studies, *magna cum laude*  
UNIVERSITY HONORS SCHOLAR  
Kristen Elise Hahn, Evansville  
Spanish Studies, *cum laude*  
Savannah Paige Hoskinson, Tell City  
Art  
Rachel Eileen Johnson, Decatur  
German Studies, *magna cum laude*  
Henry Joseph Kathman, Bloomington  
English (Teaching)

Shelby Gayle Lammela, Evansville  
Public Relations and Advertising  
Sarah E. Loesch, Evansville  
Journalism  
Alisha Marie Ludwig, Terre Haute  
Psychology  
Courtney D. Marshall, Owensboro, Kentucky  
Criminal Justice and English, *cum laude*  
Taylor Jane McCoy, Attica  
Anthropology  
Hannah Elizabeth McNeely, Evansville  
English  
Coralys Miranda-Reyes, Fort Wayne  
Anthropology and International Studies  
and Spanish Studies  
Shelby Nicole Moring, Evansville  
Art, *magna cum laude*  
Samuel H. Morris, Evansville  
English  
Bailee Nicole Moser, Jasper  
Public Relations and Advertising  
Tierra Rose O'Keefe, Huntingburg  
Political Science  
Jessie MacKenzie Pouch, Noblesville  
Sociology, *cum laude*  
Alexandria E. Schoon, Mount Carmel,  
Illinois  
English (Teaching)  
Christine Renee South, Enfield, Illinois  
English (Teaching), *summa cum laude*  
Arden Foster Tiede, Indianapolis  
Theatre Arts  
Matthew Kyle Trammel, Mount Vernon  
Art  
Joseph Trapp, Wadesville  
International Studies  
Ellana Carlyle Winfield, Evansville  
English

### BACHELOR OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Taylor B. Austin, Evansville  
Individualized Studies, *cum laude*  
Tyler W. Austin, Evansville  
Individualized Studies, *cum laude*

Tiffany S. Ball, Evansville  
Individualized Studies  
Tyrone L. Bradshaw, Cincinnati, Ohio  
Individualized Studies  
Holly Coon, Kokomo  
Individualized Studies  
Kathleen Dyan Effring, Indianapolis  
Individualized Studies  
Shannon Fries, Newburgh  
Individualized Studies  
Adam Micah Greemore, Newburgh  
Individualized Studies  
Jeffrey R. Lampton, Hendersonville, Tennessee  
Individualized Studies  
Jack Lipchik, Kokomo  
Individualized Studies  
Stephanie L. Nyberg, Evansville  
Individualized Studies  
Crystal Lynn Willoughby, Evansville  
Individualized Studies  
Gregory L. Wood, Owensboro, Kentucky  
Individualized Studies  
Brenna Mikal Wu, Evansville  
Individualized Studies, *cum laude*

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Steven Lewis Alsobrooks, Vincennes  
History  
Kimberly Kay Amick, Wadesville  
Art  
Courtney M. Backer, Tell City  
Psychology  
Alexis Dawn Best, Evansville  
Public Relations and Advertising  
Osman Ralph Bien Aime, Henderson, Kentucky  
Psychology  
DeAgah L. Brodie, Evansville  
Criminal Justice  
Wesley A. Buehler, Owensboro, Kentucky  
Art  
Jordan Paul Buescher, Edwardsport  
Public Relations and Advertising  
Yvonne Bunch, Chicago, Illinois  
Public Relations and Advertising  
Zachary M. Burklow, Evansville  
Public Relations and Advertising

Sarah Elizabeth Chaney, Montgomery  
Psychology, *cum laude*

Derek Lynn Clevy, Sumner, Illinois  
Psychology

Sue Ellen Culley, Evansville  
Art

Patricia L. Daab, Bloomington  
Public Relations and Advertising

Dillon Damrath, Henderson, Kentucky  
Art

Cayley Rose Devine, Evansville  
Psychology, *cum laude*

Demi Paige Duckworth, Mount Vernon  
Psychology

Evan Duane Eagleson, Olney, Illinois  
Political Science, *magna cum laude*

Emily K. Ellen Earhart, Evansville  
Criminal Justice

Grant Alexander Edwards, Olney, Illinois  
Psychology

Kaitlyn Leigh Ellermann, Vincennes  
Psychology

Alexandria Rachelle Findley, Terre Haute  
Psychology

Dakota Julia Fleetwood, Washington  
Psychology

Shelby RayAnn Ford, Alexandria  
Communication Studies

Evelyn R. Freudenberg, Evansville  
Art and Communication Studies

Taysia Fulkerson, Cannelton  
Criminal Justice and Political Science,  
*summa cum laude*

Jacqueline P. Garcia, Evansville  
Psychology, *cum laude*

Isaac Glenn Gilkey, Evansville  
History

Hannah Gonder, Pittsboro  
Psychology

Nicholas C. Grady, Newburgh  
Psychology

Tyler Michael Greene, Wadesville  
Psychology, *magna cum laude*

Megan Adelle Gresham, Jerseyville, Illinois  
Criminal Justice

Emilee K. Hackett, West Terre Haute  
Communication Studies

Alexander Vandoren Hadley, Shelbyville  
Radio and Television

Taylor O'Neil Hall, Rockport  
Journalism

Kimberly Clara Nicole Hite, Evansville  
Sociology, *magna cum laude*

Ariel Jane Hoerner, Evansville  
Sociology

Jason R. Holder, Evansville  
Psychology, *summa cum laude*

Sara Beth Lynn Hornby, Petersburg  
Psychology, *magna cum laude*

Brittany Star Howton, Dawson Springs,  
Kentucky  
Criminal Justice

Colin Clay Hudson, Henderson, Kentucky  
Communication Studies

Shayla Maxie Hughes, Vincennes  
Psychology

Austin Joseph Johanning, Logansport  
Radio and Television

Jacob W. Kalb, French Lick  
Art

Shannon N. Kendle, Haubstadt  
Public Relations and Advertising

Keegan M. Kern, Jasper  
Art

Christopher Anton Kiefer II, Evansville  
Political Science

Cally Jo A. Klausung, Monterey  
Art

Madeline Jean Kramer, Evansville  
Art

Kyle Timothy Leadingham, Evansville  
Radio and Television

Sarah Elizabeth Lehman, Evansville  
Criminal Justice

Kylen Russell Lohman, Wadesville  
Communication Studies

Timothy Niall Luczak, Zionsville  
Public Relations and Advertising, *cum laude*  
UNIVERSITY HONORS SCHOLAR

Abigail E. Mansker, Muncie  
Psychology

Brittany Donshee Renee McCollum, Chicago,  
Illinois  
Psychology

Steven Lee Miller, Indianapolis  
Art

Chloe LeeAnne Minor, Westfield  
Philosophy and Psychology, *cum laude*

Nickie Lee Miskell, Princeton  
Philosophy

Alexis Jade Diann Morlock, Griffin  
Psychology

Ashley Dawn Murray, Lexington, Kentucky  
Public Relations and Advertising

Samantha Michelle Myers, Evansville  
Public Relations and Advertising

Anna H. Nalin, Evansville  
Communication Studies and Public  
Relations and Advertising

Taylor Jordan Nalley, Evansville  
Psychology

Shae Neukam, Wheatland  
Psychology

Alexander James Newton, Tell City  
Art

Summer Don Oeth, Mount Vernon  
Public Relations and Advertising

Laurel Blair Patton, Mount Carmel, Illinois  
Visual Art K-12

Stephanie Nichole Perry, Oakland City  
Psychology

John P. Pritchett, Henderson, Kentucky  
Art, *magna cum laude*

Courtney Ruth Reeves, Indianapolis  
Anthropology

Shelby Diane Rice, Paoli  
English

Amanda R. Riggs, Evansville  
Criminal Justice

Brooke Nichole Rockett, Newburgh  
Criminal Justice

Samantha Schoenbachler, Evansville  
Communications Studies and Psychology

Katelyn Marie Seidl, Newburgh  
Psychology

Todd Allen Sheffer, Mount Vernon  
Psychology, *cum laude*

Dana Sibrel, Evansville  
Communication Studies

Brianna N. Siemer, Effingham, Illinois  
Psychology

Mikala Nicole Sisson, Princeton  
Art, *cum laude*

Christian Hollis Smith, Evansville  
Art

Luke Alexander Smith, Evansville  
Radio and Television

Traci Maureen Smith, Franklin  
Communication Studies

Kyle D. Stallings, Evansville  
Art

Trent Michael Stemp, Lowell  
Psychology

Dillon W. Stutsman, Evansville  
Public Relations and Advertising

Desiree A. Tharp, Richmond  
Psychology

Kelci Leigh Thomas, Springerton, Illinois  
Art, *cum laude*

Katherine L. Titzer, Chandler  
History

Josselinne Michelle Torres, Evansville  
Psychology

Brandi T.N. Tran, Evansville  
Public Relations and Advertising

Emily Morgan Wade, Newburgh  
Art

Stephanie L. Wagner, Georgetown  
Public Relations and Advertising

Samuel Matthew Wentzel, Evansville  
Theatre Arts

Erin R. Wildeman, Mount Vernon  
Public Relations and Advertising

Logan Kent Wilhite, Newburgh  
Public Relations and Advertising

Haley J. Winiger, Evansville  
Criminal Justice

Caitlin Marie Woolsey, Evansville  
English

Spencer Neal Woosley, Chandler  
Criminal Justice

Zachary Joseph Young, Evansville  
Public Relations and Advertising

Landon Clay Zimmerman, Henderson,  
Kentucky  
Psychology, *cum laude*

## ASSOCIATE DEGREES

### ROMAIN COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

#### ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE

Bryce A. Baehl, Fort Branch  
Business

## COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

#### ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE

Craig L. Carroll, Evansville  
Social Science

*This printed list of candidates for degrees does not include late changes.*

# COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS AND POTT COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, AND EDUCATION CEREMONY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2017

1 P.M.

## MASTER DEGREES

### MASTER OF HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Christina L. Black, Olathe, Kansas  
Rhonda Gail Broerman, Richland City  
Beverly DeKemper, Jasper  
Sarah J. Dyson, Evansville  
Donald Louis Gallucci, Newburgh  
Christine L. Gogel, Jasper  
Diane Marie Gress, Celestine  
Tara Michelle Hatfield, Brownstown  
Angela Carol Hoagland, Eckerty  
Ashley B. Hobbs, Bardstown, Kentucky

Amy Renee Hopf, Jasper  
Denise Kaetzel, Santa Claus  
Jill R. Kidwell, Jasper  
Jacob Malcomson, Tell City  
Julie M. Newton, Evansville  
Scott Daniel Andrew Royer, Mount Vernon  
Marsha Lynn Shepherd, Jasper  
Patrick Alan Todd, Loogootee  
Jessica L. Toth, Owensboro, Kentucky  
Stanley Tretter, Ferdinand  
Kayla Michelle Turi, Evansville

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

Michael P. Lendy, Newburgh  
School Administration and Leadership

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN INDUSTRIAL MANAGEMENT

Christopher Joseph Brooks, Evansville  
Nicholas A. George, Evansville

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SPORT MANAGEMENT

Tyler M. Lukens, Johnston City, Illinois  
Dwayne Kimarley Smith, Kingston, Alabama

## BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

### COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

#### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Claire Eileen Abell, Indianapolis  
Health Services, *magna cum laude*  
Wayil J. Alanazi, Evansville  
Health Services  
Mashhour Abdullah Alotaibi, Evansville  
Health Services  
Amber D. Bell, Evansville  
Health Services  
Alicia Mechelle Blackwell, New Harmony  
Health Services  
Joy Bowles, Henderson, Kentucky  
Respiratory Therapy  
Katherine Pauline Boyd, Newburgh  
Health Services  
Kymberly Brannon, Louisville, Kentucky  
Health Services  
LaNae' Noel Brewer, Henderson, Kentucky  
Health Services  
Teresa C. Brito, Evansville  
Health Services  
Laura N. Buskill, Whitesville, Kentucky  
Radiologic and Imaging Sciences

Megan Elizabeth Caswell, Evansville  
Health Services  
Mychelle L. Christian, Evansville  
Health Services  
Madelynn Paige Cloum, Evansville  
Food and Nutrition, *cum laude*  
Daniel Aaron Cooksey, Dugger  
Radiologic and Imaging Sciences  
Devon Ann Delaney, Lewisport, Kentucky  
Health Services  
Jacob C. Delk, Indianapolis  
Health Services, *cum laude*  
Almera Demirovic, Evansville  
Health Services  
Danika Megan Dooley, Waterloo, Illinois  
Health Services, *magna cum laude*  
UNIVERSITY HONORS SCHOLAR  
Rebecca Jane Doubet, Rochester  
Food and Nutrition  
Chelsea Nicole Duncan, Norris City, Illinois  
Health Services, *magna cum laude*  
Shannon A. Earhart, Mount Vernon  
Health Services, *magna cum laude*

Montana Layne Eaton, Mount Vernon  
Health Services  
Elissa J. Fulkerson, Evansville  
Health Services, *cum laude*  
Morgan Marie Haaff, Tell City  
Health Services  
Isabel Kay Hyer, Columbus  
Health Services, *cum laude*  
UNIVERSITY HONORS SCHOLAR  
Lori Rae Kelley, Plainfield  
Radiologic and Imaging Sciences  
Tiffany Kessler, Vincennes  
Radiologic and Imaging Sciences  
Amanda M. Kissel, Haubstadt  
Health Services  
Austin R. Knapp, Evansville  
Food and Nutrition  
Samantha L. Kovacs, Indianapolis  
Health Services  
Ericka Irene Marshall, Evansville  
Health Services  
Leigh Ann Martin-Loney, Spottsville, Kentucky  
Health Services

Kaylee Rene Monroe, Indianapolis  
Health Services, *cum laude*

Kalen Nicole Nice, Salem  
Health Services

Mary Lou Norman, Newburgh  
Radiologic and Imaging Sciences,  
*magna cum laude*

Jeff Norrick, Pike County  
Health Services

Brianna Morgan Osborne, Mount Vernon  
Health Services

Holly Marie Overton, Evansville  
Health Services, *cum laude*

Nicole L. Overton, Evansville  
Health Services

Devarshi Bharat Patel, Boonville  
Food and Nutrition, *cum laude*

Tracey Lynn Philpott, Salem  
Health Services, *cum laude*

Gabrielle Nicole Ramsey, Rushville  
Health Services, *magna cum laude*

Cameron Joseph Scheller, Evansville  
Health Services

Breah C. Schmitt, Evansville  
Health Services

Jessica Spell, Indianapolis  
Health Services

Greta K. Streich, Bloomington  
Radiologic and Imaging Sciences

Sheila Summers, Hudson  
Radiologic and Imaging Sciences

Hannah C. Swan, Vincennes  
Health Services, *magna cum laude*

Colleen Clare Swift, Evansville  
Food and Nutrition, *magna cum laude*

Tammy Lee Thomas, Newburgh  
Health Services

Haley Denise Tucker Buck, Evansville  
Health Services

Nicole D. VanMeter, Oakland City  
Health Services

Natalie Ann Walker, Cannelburg  
Health Services

Derrian Jo Zabel, Tell City  
Health Services

Whitney Lynn Zellers, Tell City  
Health Services

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Logan LaShelle Adair, Evansville

Yolanda Marie Barnhill, Henderson, Kentucky

Tamara Kay Bethe, Evansville

Allyson Renee Blunt, Mount Vernon

Samantha Boyd, Trafalgar

Melanie Marie Brock, Poseyville

Christie Jeanne Caballero, Evansville  
*cum laude*

Annemarie Judith Canning, Newburgh

Myles Chavira, Henderson, Kentucky

Mychaela Brooke Colbert, Junction, Illinois  
*magna cum laude*

Jamika Katelyn Deibler, Morganfield, Kentucky

Kristin A. Ditto, Evansville

Lesa Ann Edgin, Vincennes

Melanie F. Evans, Owensboro, Kentucky

Alana Ann Figgins, Evansville

Allyson L. Fiscus, Bridgeport, Illinois

Heather C. Ford, Odon

Rebecca Leigh Fritz, Mattoon, Illinois

Kaitlyn Nicole Glaser, Haubstadt  
*magna cum laude*

Kelsey Nicole Goebel, Mount Vernon

Stephanie Hagan, Corydon, Kentucky

Alexandra Marie Hanna, Keystone Heights,  
Florida

Mary Harp, Borden

Sally L. Harsh, New Harmony

Tasia J. Hein, Jasper  
*magna cum laude*

Emily M. Henrich, La Porte

Joanna Kae Hildebranski, Huntingburg

Matthew Richard Hill, Owensboro, Kentucky

Melanie A. Hobbs, Evansville

Madison Nichole Horton, Newburgh

Bailey Elyse Jewett, Columbus  
*cum laude*

Haley J. Johnson, Evansville  
*cum laude*

Yolanda Michelle Johnson, Henderson,  
Kentucky

Joli Dian Jording, Owensboro, Kentucky

Kayla Marie Kimble, Vevay

Danielle C. Kramer, Evansville  
*magna cum laude*

Sarah Anne Marshall, Madisonville, Kentucky

Savannah Noel Maxey, Evansville

Abbigail L. Moll, Boonville  
*cum laude*

James Nicholas Morris, Munster

Debra A. Naas, Cynthiana  
*cum laude*

Megan Corinne Perkins, New Castle

Thomas Piper, Evansville

Adam R. Porter, Eldorado, Illinois

Lowry Beth Prather, Evansville

LeAmy T. Rector, Clermont, Florida  
*cum laude*

Hannah Elizabeth Redd, Mount Vernon

Kimberly Ann Reece, Brownsburg

Michele Lee Reinhart, Boonville

Haley Renee Resenbeck, Fort Branch  
*magna cum laude*

Matthew Wayne Reynolds, Henderson,  
Kentucky

Haley M. Roy, Petersburg

Sydney Sabel, Deerfield Beach, Florida

Sherri J. Schweizer Gordon, Evansville

Bonnie Lynn Stone, Petersburg

Cara Irene Sublett, Newburgh

Piper Thomas, Evansville

Faith Leann Thompson, New Castle

Tyler S. Thread, Evansville  
*cum laude*

Gretchen G. Van Meter, Zion, Illinois

Megan C. Wathen, Evansville

Julia A. Westmoland, Newburgh

Allissa R. Wheatley, Evansville

Melissa Ann White, Evansville

Michelle Joy White, Evansville

Madison Marie Willis, Fort Branch  
*cum laude*

Kara L. Windell, Newburgh

## POTT COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, AND EDUCATION

### BACHELOR OF ARTS

Christian Jensen Green, Evansville  
Special Education

Keisha Kaitlyn Horn, Richland  
Elementary Education and Special  
Education, *magna cum laude*

Olivia Nicole Morris, Evansville  
Elementary Education, *magna cum laude*

Leslie Ann Sargent, Muncie  
Biology  
UNIVERSITY HONORS SCHOLAR

Kayla Nicole Schoettlin, Mount Vernon  
Exercise Science, *magna cum laude*

Charles Louis Simpson, Fairfield, Illinois  
Mathematics Teaching  
UNIVERSITY HONORS SCHOLAR

Elizabeth Vu, Evansville  
Elementary Education

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Braiden Christopher Acton, Evansville  
Sport Management

Nichole Marie Alcorn, Albion, Illinois  
Kinesiology

Rachel Ann Bacher, Georgetown  
Environmental Science, *magna cum laude*  
UNIVERSITY HONORS SCHOLAR

Alyssa A. Barnett, Utica, Kentucky  
Exercise Science, *cum laude*

Sara Emile Benham, Lafayette  
Elementary Education

Tyler James Book, Henderson, Kentucky  
Exercise Science, *cum laude*

Travis Ian Britt, Evansville  
Sport Management

Amanda L. Brown, Fairfield, Illinois  
Biochemistry  
UNIVERSITY HONORS SCHOLAR

Bobbi June Elizabeth Bruce, Tennyson  
Early Childhood Education

Brittney Michele Buechler, Ferdinand  
Elementary Education

Dalton Wayne Burk, Evansville  
Advanced Manufacturing

Rachel Barbara Butler, Newburgh  
Elementary Education

Brenna E. Cameron, Evansville  
Elementary Education

Kylie Janet Cason, Plainfield  
Early Childhood Education and  
Elementary Education

Andrew J. Chaffin, Evansville  
Sport Management

Logan R. Cook, Paducah, Kentucky  
Exercise Science

Timothy Wayne Cotner, Mount Vernon  
Biology

Kyle Reise Cullum, Evansville  
Biochemistry

Amelia Marie DeLong, Indianapolis  
Elementary Education

Chloe Elizabeth Dilger, Ferdinand  
Elementary Education, *summa cum laude*

Jade E. Dixon, Mount Vernon  
Physical Education (Teaching)

Lesley A. Donovan, Evansville  
Special Education

Rebecca Jane Doubet, Rochester  
Exercise Science

Lauren Danielle Drew, Newburgh  
Early Childhood Education and  
Elementary Education

Clay Allen Dupps, Boonville  
Elementary Education

Lauren Alyse Erk, Evansville  
Elementary Education, *cum laude*

Megan A. Evans, Evansville  
Biology, *magna cum laude*

Aaron David Fitzwater, Evansville  
Mathematics

Sadie Eron Foster, Plainfield  
Exercise Science and Kinesiology

Jose Hanzell Fregozo, Evansville  
Physics

Megan E. Gallatin, Centralia, Illinois  
Special Education, *cum laude*

Ashley Ann Gillard, Albion, Illinois  
Biology

Hannah Christine Goller, Boonville  
Elementary Education and Special  
Education, *magna cum laude*

Stacey Renee Gooch, Carmel  
Special Education

Heather Marie Gregory, Indianapolis  
Elementary Education, *cum laude*

Seth A. Hancock, Dale  
Sport Management

Alexandra Byrnece Harger, Evansville  
Biology

Julon Ali Holmes, Indianapolis  
Elementary Education

Ryan Gregory Hopf, Jasper  
Chemistry, *cum laude*  
UNIVERSITY HONORS SCHOLAR

Livia Mari Hopper, Mount Vernon  
Biology, *magna cum laude*

Ashley Dawn Johnson, Terre Haute  
Kinesiology

Jeff Reed Johnson, Jr., Evansville  
Science (Teaching)

John Constantine Kaimakis, Wauconda, Illinois  
Sport Management

Chase Evan Kaufman, Evansville  
Exercise Science

Sharanpreet Kaur, Evansville  
Biology

Kayla Kippenbrock, Ferdinand  
Special Education

Nicholas Tanner Kuhl, Olney, Illinois  
Kinesiology

Mitchell David Lear, Albion, Illinois  
Exercise Science

Lauren Sevena Lewis, Evansville  
Biochemistry, *magna cum laude*

Brianna Danielle Linenborg, Evansville  
Elementary Education

Dillon Scott Livingston, French Lick  
Advanced Manufacturing

Courtney M. Lofland, Indianapolis  
Biology

Britlyn Nicole Long, Germantown Hills, Illinois  
Exercise Science, *magna cum laude*

Dylan Mackey, Newburgh  
Industrial Supervision

Jalen Tyler Madison, Washington  
Sport Management

Jenna Leigh Martin, Evansville  
Biology

Haley Elisabeth McConnell, Evansville  
Biophysics and Mathematics

Theron A. McIntire, Crawfordsville  
Industrial Supervision

Dylan Nelson McKnelly, Louisville, Illinois  
Exercise Science

Tyler Daniel Meiring, Newburgh  
Exercise Science

Kersten Dawn Miller, Stendal  
Biology

Hayley Drew Morin, West Baden Springs  
Elementary Education, *magna cum laude*

Natalie M. Neisen, Newburgh  
Early Childhood Education and  
Elementary Education, *cum laude*

Alexis Leanne Nelson, Jasper  
Elementary Education, *magna cum laude*

Stephanie Lynn Nordhoff, Celestine  
Elementary Education

Sydney Michelle Oakley, Oakland City  
Kinesiology

Emily Pasley, Wayne City, Illinois  
Kinesiology

Kelsey Renee Pence, Evansville  
Exercise Science, *magna cum laude*

Dylan Charles Rankin, Carmi, Illinois  
Industrial Supervision

Ashley M. Reckelhoff, Ferdinand  
Early Childhood Education,  
*magna cum laude*

Kristine Elizabeth Rollett, Evansville  
Early Childhood Education

Joshua Thomas Sailer, Princeton  
Exercise Science, *magna cum laude*

Melanie Johnae Schmitt, Evansville  
Elementary Education

Emily N. Schuler, Jasper  
Exercise Science, *magna cum laude*

Dayne S. Seibert, Tobinsport  
Mathematics

Isabella M. Simone, Jasper  
Elementary Education

Dylan M. Slinker, Evansville  
Industrial Supervision

Lindsay Jo Smith, Evansville  
Elementary Education, *magna cum laude*

MaKenzie Elizabeth Smith, Boonville  
Chemistry

Sydney L. Smith, Boonville  
Elementary Education, *cum laude*

Haley Cheyenne Stender, Evansville  
Exercise Science

Terri Lynn Swain, Evansville  
Early Childhood Education

Erin Shaw Thomas, Owensboro, Kentucky  
Exercise Science, *cum laude*

Jane Ann Todd, Bloomfield  
Biology, *summa cum laude*

Steven Torres, Brownsburg  
Exercise Science

Christopher A. Troutman, Cannelton  
Industrial Supervision

Raymond Vincent Van, Brownsburg  
Advanced Manufacturing

Hailey Shea Wagner, Evansville  
Exercise Science

Audrey Rae Wallace, Evansville  
Exercise Science

Brittney Lee Walls, Washington  
Early Childhood Education and  
Elementary Education

Jessica Hope Weir, Newburgh  
Special Education

Amber Rosalie Wheeler, Tell City  
Elementary Education and Special  
Education

Blake Wilderman, Evansville  
Mathematics

Reed Harrison Wilhite, Evansville  
Biology

Lillian Elizabeth Williamson, Boonville  
Early Childhood Education

Elijah Powell Wilson, Rossville  
Mathematics

Jacob Windell, Evansville  
Industrial Supervision

Danielle Nicole Wire, Boonville  
Mathematics (Teaching), *magna cum laude*  
UNIVERSITY HONORS SCHOLAR

### **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ENGINEERING**

Lyle Nolan Ash, Fort Branch

Glenn Michael Benner, Newburgh

Zachary Michael Clem, Cynthiana

Nicholas E. Daniels, Evansville

Chad Dill, Newburgh

Jose Hanzell Fregozo, Evansville

Jason Alexander Head, New Salisbury

Michael R. Holfelner, Evansville

John C. Johnson, Newburgh

Gabriel P. Konerding, Lamar

Zachary M. Land, Plainfield

Lauran Ann Ledbetter, Evansville

Jalon Timothy Leonard, French Lick  
*cum laude*

Luke David Marsh, Norris City, Illinois

Kegan James Miller, Frankfort  
*cum laude*

Jordan E. Tieken, Evansville  
*cum laude*

Adam Jeffrey Will, Evansville

### **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING**

Zachary Michael Clem, Cynthiana

Jose Hanzell Fregozo, Evansville

Jason Alexander Head, New Salisbury

Gabriel P. Konerding, Lamar

Zachary M. Land, Plainfield

Miranda K. Nixon, Princeton

Zane Rathgeber, Ramsey

Ryan Joseph Wannemueller, Evansville

## ASSOCIATE DEGREES

### COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

#### **ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE**

Hadley Morgan Brown, Evansville  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Kaylee M. Brown, Bloomington  
Dental Assisting

Paige Marie Brumley, Evansville  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Taylor Nicole Cravens, Evansville  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Kendall Ann English, Evansville  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Kyra Jean Fleener, Chandler  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Dana L. Forzley, Fort Branch  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Cheyenne Nikole Goebel, Shelbyville  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Hannah Rae Goldsberry, Mitchell  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Emily Ann Hewitt, Valparaiso  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Darya V. Hinds, Newburgh  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Courtney Marie Holloway, Bruceville  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Alexa Rae Kelpel, Cape Girardeau, Missouri  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Jack Lipchik, Kokomo  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Jonathan Paul May, Avon  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Jessica Lynn Padgett, Loogootee  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Sydne Postlethweight, Evansville  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Amber Katherine Pretzsch, Yorktown  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Morgan P. Richardson, Tell City  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Madeline Ann Satkamp, Evansville  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Bailee S. Schelhorn, Mount Vernon  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Jaclyn Marie Schoolfield, Evansville  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Trenton Wayne Schraner, Derby  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Savanna Rae Tuell, Odon  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Zoe B. Viktora, Francesville  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Dylan Joseph Wagner, Salem  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Morgan L. White, Wayne City, Illinois  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Nicole M. Wittman, Evanston  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Brenna Mikal Wu, Evansville  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

Sydney Renee Young, Royal Center  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

*This printed list of candidates for degrees does not include late changes.*



# UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA: KNOWLEDGE FOR LIFE

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President Linda L. M. Bennett became the third president of the University of Southern Indiana in 2009. In her inaugural address, she referenced the University's founding in 1965 and said, "Service to a greater good was a primary reason the University of Southern Indiana was created. It is our touchstone, and years after our founding and emergence as a separate state University, there is little doubt that USI is delivering on the promise of its founding."

From its earliest stage of planning in the early 1960s, community leaders have supported the University by providing a solid base for its present success and future growth. Local leaders worked with members of the Indiana General Assembly and governor's office to establish a public higher education campus. For the last 50 years, the University has continued to uphold its mission under the strong leadership of its first two presidents, David L. Rice and H. Ray Hoops, and now Bennett.

The University of Southern Indiana began on September 15, 1965, in the old Centennial School Building, offering classes to 412 students. In 1967 Southern Indiana Higher Education, Inc. (SIHE) raised nearly \$1 million to acquire the land where the campus now sits. Groundbreaking for the campus was held on June 22, 1968, and the University moved to its present site four miles west of the city limits of Evansville in September 1969, graduated its first class of baccalaureate degree students in 1971, and achieved initial North Central Association accreditation in 1974.

## USI Today

USI enrolls more than 11,000 undergraduate, dual credit and graduate students in more than 100 areas of study. A public higher education institution located on a beautiful 1,400-acre campus in Evansville, Indiana, USI offers programs through the Romain College of Business, College of Liberal Arts, College of Nursing and Health Professions and the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education.

USI is a Carnegie Foundation Community Engaged University and offers continuing education and special programs to more than 16,000 participants annually through Outreach and Engagement. The University offers study-abroad opportunities in many countries and is host to international students from around the globe.

Outreach projects include the administration of Historic New Harmony, New Harmony Theatre, Historic Southern Indiana, New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art, Center for Communal Studies, Epi-Hab Center for Disability Studies and the Southern Indiana Japanese School, among others.

A competitive member of NCAA Division II and the Great Lakes Valley Conference, USI offers 17 varsity intercollegiate men's and women's sports.

Under the leadership of President Bennett, the University continues a tradition of affordable excellence through innovation and engagement, and positions USI as a top choice for high-caliber college students across the state, nationally and internationally.

The University of Southern Indiana has embarked on its second strategic plan. The first five-year strategic plan concluded in 2015. The 2016-2020 strategic plan includes three overarching goals:

- Excellence in Learning for the Entire USI Community
- Access and Opportunity by Design
- Purposeful and Sustainable Growth

These three goals will frame the University's strategies as it moves forward.

Today, more than 40,500 alumni have been awarded diplomas from the University of Southern Indiana. USI graduates are renowned surgeons, bank executives, artists, leaders in K-12 education, accounting executives, lawyers, nurses, hospital administrators, college professors and elected officials—and they are involved in their communities.

# COMMENCEMENT TRADITIONS

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## Presidential Medallion

During the Middle Ages, medallions signified membership in religious orders and guilds; in the Renaissance, membership in elite orders of knighthood and prominence in government office. Today, colleges and universities strike medallions to commemorate important events and achievements.

Donated by the late Melvin Denner, professor emeritus of biology, and Anne Denner, former instructor in nutrition and biology, and their family, this medallion was fabricated by Honorcraft for the 1995 inauguration of USI President H. Ray Hoops. Dr. Denner served as grand marshal at the University's first inauguration.

The University of Southern Indiana Presidential Medallion signifies the authority invested in the president.

The medallion's obverse carries, at its center, a three-inch reproduction of the University seal and, surrounding the seal, a half-inch rim. On the reverse appear the names and dates of appointment for the University's presidents. The president wears this medallion for all formal academic ceremonies.

## Gonfalons

Ceremonial flags called gonfalons originated in the Middle Ages for civil and military processions, often appearing beneath the steel head of a knight's lance.

In Italy, gonfalons designated individual Italian republics; the chief magistrate, or other high official, served as gonfalonier carrying the banner.

At the University of Southern Indiana, gonfalons represent each major academic unit; typically deans or department heads act as gonfaloniers. Here gonfalon colors derive from traditional hues associated with each college's academic disciplines. Our Commencement gonfalons came as a gift from the USI Campus Store.

## University Seal

The University Seal, designed by Nussmeier Engraving, bears the University's colors—red, white and blue—with gold. The shield signifies the importance of higher education in defending citizens against ignorance.

Between the two banners displaying the University's name appear a band and an open book, bound together by the torch of knowledge. In the band, rays of light emanate simultaneously from a rising sun, symbolizing the young University and, from the torch, symbolizing the light of

knowledge and the passion for scholarship. Trees on either side of the flame suggest not only the University's pastoral Southern Indiana setting but also life, growth and continuity.

Beneath this band, an open book emphasizes the importance of teaching and learning; *academia populi* and *academia populo* indicate that the University of Southern Indiana is a scholarly academy founded and supported *by the people, for the people*. Finally, the laurel branches to the right and left of the book represent victory: the light of learning overcomes the darkness of ignorance.

## University Mace

In the Middle Ages, bodyguards of French and English monarchs carried ceremonial maces. Later, the mace became an important symbol of office in civil processions and academic pageantry. At the University of Southern Indiana, the grand marshal, a distinguished member of the faculty, carries the mace.

A replica of Richard Owen's walking cane serves as the staff for the University Mace. A respected geologist and professor of natural science at Indiana University, Owen was the first president of Purdue University. He was a son of Robert Owen, the Welsh industrialist who established New Harmony, Indiana, as a center for education and enlightened social reform in the early 1800s. The 32-inch tall wooden cane was presented to Richard Owen in 1874. Through the generosity of his descendant, the late Kenneth D. Owen, that cane, lent to USI, served as the grand marshal's staff in all Commencement exercises from 1985 to 1995.

Designed and fabricated by Nicholas Logsdon of Indianapolis, the gold-plated mace bears at the top, above the cane's golden head, an open orb with a replica of the University Seal.

The orb's free-flowing design symbolizes interrelationships among all academic disciplines. Immediately below the cane's orb, three two-inch, golden rings bear the names and appointment dates of the University presidents. The names of Kenneth Dale Owen, Jane Blaffer Owen and James A. Sanders, donors of the mace, appear on a finial near the bottom of the cane replica.

Designed and created by alumnus Kenny Fisher '77, the replica of the cane and its base are made of walnut from the Owen mansion built in New Harmony during the 1830s.

# COMMENCEMENT TRADITIONS

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## Academic Regalia

The academic costume dates from medieval days when university students wore woolen and fur garments for warmth in damp and drafty buildings. Most of those studying were clerics in holy orders; they wore a cloak to which was attached a hood that could be pulled up to cover their tonsured heads.

Simplified today, the costume serves to remind us that its wearer is a member of an ancient and venerable profession; it also indicates, by its color and design, the wearer's degree and the institution by which the degree was conferred.

In the United States, black has been the traditional color for academic gowns, but some institutions authorize holders of their doctorates to wear colors of the institution. The bachelor's gown is distinguished by its long, open sleeves; the master's by its closed, slitted sleeves; the doctor's by its full sleeves trimmed with bands of velvet, which may be black or a color denoting the field in which the degree was taken.

The mortarboard cap, proper for all degrees, is black. Tassels, usually black, are worn over the left front quarter of the cap. Holders of the doctorate may wear tassels of gold thread.

Academic hoods vary in length according to the degree attained and are lined with the colors of the institution by which the degree was granted. The honorary doctoral hoods of the University of Southern Indiana are black, lined with blue satin with red satin chevrons. They are edged with white velvet. Retired members of the University faculty can be recognized in today's ceremony by the red, white and blue cords or a replica of the Presidential Medallion with a blue ribbon worn with their regalia.

The Distinguished Professor Award is the highest recognition bestowed upon a faculty member at the University of Southern Indiana. Faculty who have received this award can be recognized in today's ceremony by the blue and red stole embroidered with the University Seal worn with their regalia.

## Hooding Ceremony

Academic hoods vary in length according to the degree attained and are lined with the colors of the institution by which the degree was granted. Hooding signifies the induction of the graduate into the fellowship of the academy, a welcoming gesture by those who represent the high standards of scholarship and creative achievement.

Doctoral and master's degree candidates will receive hoods distinctive to their degrees.

## Baccalaureate Scholarship Honors

The baccalaureate degree candidate graduating with the highest scholarship index graduates *summa cum laude*. Baccalaureate students graduating with a scholarship index of 3.80 or higher graduate *magna cum laude*. Those with a scholarship index between 3.60 and 3.80 graduate *cum laude*. These achievements are set forth on the individual diplomas. Honor students can be recognized in the Commencement exercises by colored stoles and tassels. Gold indicates *summa cum laude*; red, *magna cum laude*; and blue, *cum laude*.

Because students enrolled in doctoral and master's degree programs are expected to maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.0, and most achieve much higher levels, scholarship honors at Commencement are given only to baccalaureate students.

## University Honors Scholars

The designation of University Honors Scholar is awarded to students who successfully complete the Honors Program. They can be recognized in the Commencement ceremony by the white honor cords worn with their regalia.

## Alumni Association Pins

Graduates in each ceremony are receiving alumni lapel pins with the University logo as a gift from the University of Southern Indiana Alumni Association. The Alumni Association was organized with the first graduating class in 1971.

## Photography During Ceremony

A commercial photographer will take a photo of each graduate as the diploma is presented on stage. A second photograph will be taken as the graduate departs from the stage. Graduates will receive proofs of the photos from which duplicates can be ordered. Family members who wish to take still or video photographs during the ceremony may do so from their seats. Your cooperation ensures the dignity of the Commencement ceremony.

Photographs taken by USI Photography and Multimedia also will be available following the ceremonies in two locations. You can find USI Photography and Multimedia on Facebook, or view a gallery of images and order prints at [www.usi.edu/gradphotos](http://www.usi.edu/gradphotos).

## Commemorative DVD

A commemorative DVD of the ceremony is available for purchase (\$20). To forever save the memory of this special day, order your DVD online at [www.usi.edu/commencement/commencement-dvd](http://www.usi.edu/commencement/commencement-dvd) or call 812-464-1924. This service is produced by the USI Office of Information Technology in partnership with the USI Alumni Association.



## Trustees of the University

W. Harold Calloway  
*Chair, Evansville*

Kenneth L. Sendelweck '76  
*First Vice Chair, Jasper*

Ronald D. Romain '73  
*Second Vice Chair, Evansville*

Amy W. MacDonell  
*Secretary, Indianapolis*

John M. Dunn  
*Evansville*

Jeffrey L. Knight  
*Evansville*

Anjali Patel '19  
*Evansville*

Ellis S. Redd  
*Evansville*

Ted C. Ziemer Jr.  
*Evansville*

## Officers of the University

Linda L. M. Bennett  
*President*

Ronald S. Rochon  
*Provost*

David A. Bower  
*Vice President for Development; President, USI Foundation*

Steven J. Bridges '89 M'95  
*Vice President for Finance and Administration; Treasurer*

Cynthia S. Brinker  
*Vice President for Government and University Relations*

Andrew W. Wright  
*Vice President for Enrollment Management*



## **Gonfaloniers**

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Program Director of Classical Studies; Professor of History*

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