

NEWS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **UE President Stephen Jennings Elected to Chair ICI Board of Directors**

April 30, 2008

The Independent Colleges of Indiana (ICI) this month elected UE President Stephen Jennings as chair of its Board of Directors, for a one-year term beginning July 1.

Thirty-one independent colleges and universities in Indiana comprise the ICI, including the University of Evansville, the University of Notre Dame, Butler University, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Valparaiso, and Depauw University. Jennings' appointment, which occurred at the board's spring meeting, is "a great honor," he said.

Jennings has been a member of the ICI Board of Directors since joining UE in 2001.

"It is essential that the Independent Colleges of Indiana have a chair who has a very wide-ranging focus in higher education, and Dr. Jennings has that kind of perspective," said Hans Giesecke, president/CEO of ICI. "He can focus on the big picture, yet he understands the important details of how students are affected by the availability of different types of student aid that our organization helps promote."

As chair of the board (which meets twice annually), Jennings also will serve as chair of the ICI Executive Committee, which meets as needed to handle policy decisions that affect the association. Those policy decisions, Giesecke said, are aimed at furthering the mission and functions of ICI.

When he takes over as chair in July, Jennings will be charged with leading that process.

"This is important to me," Jennings said. "It is an honor to be asked to serve in this role for such an important organization. The ICI plays a tremendous role in advocating for the needs of independent colleges like the University of Evansville, on both a state and federal level; it has played a tremendous role in the success of our University, and I plan to work diligently as chair of the Board of Directors."

Jennings will serve a one-year term as chair.

The Independent Colleges of Indiana, Inc. is a nonprofit corporation representing, supporting, and advancing Indiana's 31 independent, nonprofit, regionally-accredited colleges and universities. According to its mission, ICI has five functions in representing its member independent colleges:

- Public policy advocacy and representation (including financial aid and education initiatives)
- Corporate and foundation outreach, fundraising, and collaborative activities
- Administration of the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Program

- Research on behalf and support of ICI initiatives in advocacy, fundraising, and scholarship management
- Communications and public relations activities in support of the mission and purpose of independent higher education.

The ICI believes that Indiana's independent colleges and universities are steeped in values and tradition. They produce thoughtful, accomplished graduates who are prepared to serve and lead their communities. While some institutions spring from a specific religious heritage, all are anchored in tradition as they prepare students to succeed in a constantly changing world.

The group also awards full four-year tuition scholarships, to at least two students from each county in Indiana, for undergraduate study in baccalaureate programs at any four-year college or university in the state. These awards are made possible by the Lilly Endowment Inc. They are awarded through and administered by ICI on behalf of the network of community foundations throughout the state. ICI oversees the statewide administration of the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Program.

For more information on Jennings' appointment, or to set up an interview, please contact UE News Director Joe Atkinson at (812) 488-2562.

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The Core Purpose of the University of Evansville is to provide life transforming educational experiences that prepare students to engage the world as informed, ethical and productive citizens.

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