



February 27, 2008

The Honorable Richard G. Lugar
United States Senator
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Lugar:

I am pleased to submit to you three important initiatives from the University of Southern Indiana for consideration for Federal Funding in Fiscal Year 2009. These projects address key areas of development for the University and support the needs of the region and the State.

Today nearly 10,000 students are pursuing their educational goals at the University and more than 15,000 adults and youth enroll in noncredit, continuing education, workforce training, and professional development programs. Throughout our history, the University has been actively engaged in addressing the State's interest in economic and workforce development. We have a consistent record of development and expansion of programs and services in response to or in anticipation of needs of the changing economy. The programs and services of the University are a valuable resource as the State strives to diversify its economy and ensure that the skills of the workforce continue to improve.

The University of Southern Indiana requests your support for the following three important initiatives for potential Federal Funding in Fiscal Year 2009 (in order of priority):

- **Advanced Manufacturing/Engineering Equipment** – Industry-specific programming and equipment for the new Business and Engineering Center to train future engineers;
- **Campus Perimeter Transportation System** – Funding for completion of roadway project to re-route traffic to a new roadway around the perimeter of the campus; and
- **STEM Teaching Improvement Institute** – Initiative to better prepare K-12 teachers in southwest Indiana to ensure students receive the essential STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) training for future success.

In early April, Cindy Brinker, Vice President for Governmental Relations, and I will be in Washington, D. C. We look forward to meeting with you to discuss the three projects we are submitting for proposed Federal Funding in Fiscal Year 2009.

Thank you very much for the support you have provided to the University of Southern Indiana. I appreciate your understanding of the importance of higher education to our State and to our nation. We ask for your favorable support of our three requests for Federal Funding in Fiscal Year 2009.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'H. Ray Hoops'.

H. Ray Hoops
President

Enclosures – FY 2009 Project Proposals