



February 26, 2009

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 four important initiatives from the University of Southern Indiana for consideration for Federal Funding in Fiscal Year 2010. These projects address key areas of development for the University and support the needs of the region and the State.

Today over 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 four important initiatives for potential Federal Funding in Fiscal Year 2010 (in order of priority):

- **Advanced Manufacturing/Engineering Equipment** – Industry-specific programming and equipment for the new Business and Engineering Center to train future engineers;
- **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;
- **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 to replace parking lost to the roadway construction; and
- **USI Institute for Healthy Aging and Wellness** – A collaborative regional effort to develop educational activities, community resources, and regional partnerships focused on healthy aging and wellness.

On March 11, Dr. Linda L. M. Bennett, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Cindy Brinker, Vice President for Government and University Relations, and I will be in Washington, D. C. We look forward to meeting with you to discuss the four projects we are submitting for proposed Federal Funding in Fiscal Year 2010.

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 four requests for Federal Funding in Fiscal Year 2010.

Sincerely,

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

H. Ray Hoops  
President

Enclosures