

KEY MESSAGES TO SHARE WITH LEGISLATORS & PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Thank you - In the last biennium budget session, IU received appropriations that will maintain current budget levels. Given the tremendous economic downturn, we were fortunate that legislators enabled IU and other universities to utilize federal stimulus monies to offset general operating fund decreases for the 2009-2011 biennium budget. Several important capital projects on IU campuses were also approved, allowing the opportunity to receive beneficial contract bids while at the same time providing good construction jobs for Hoosier workers.

Accessible and affordable - IU is working diligently to make an IU education more accessible and affordable. Our eight campuses are located strategically throughout the state and each provide a higher education curriculum that is closely aligned with the needs of the communities they serve. Scholarship opportunities have dramatically increased for need-based student aid through programs like "Matching the Promise," 21st Century Scholars Grant and the Pell Grant Promise, and Hudson-Holland Scholars.

Degree attainment – IU President Michael A. McRobbie is committing substantial resources to the *Degrees of Excellence Initiative* designed to increase graduation rates on all of our campuses. This program targets degree or program completion or financial aid needs that help students reach graduation more quickly.

Commitment to Hoosier Health and the Indiana Economy - The Indiana Innovation Alliance unites IU and Purdue with other universities, business, economic development groups, healthcare enterprises including nonprofits, and state government in an effort to attract and retain bright, entrepreneurial people whose scientific research will lead to more and better jobs and new innovations that bolster Indiana's economy. The Alliance will also expand medical education and health-care innovations that will have a significant impact on the future delivery of healthcare to Hoosiers. Partial funding for the Alliance was included in the 2009-2011 state budget.

Serving our State - IU is the leading producer of graduates in all but one of the Top Ten "Hot Jobs" in Indiana. Over the last 10 years, IU has conferred:

- * 62% of the state's degrees in law, human services and public administration,
- * 41% of the bachelor prepared nurses in the state,
- * 37% of the state's bachelor's, master's and doctorates in education,
- * 38% of the state's degrees in communications and information technologies, and
- * 37% of the state's degrees in health and life sciences.

Your Story - Share your personal message about what your IU education, experience and connection has meant to you. The value of Indiana University is best measured through your voice.