

• During Chancellor Person's leadership:

- The number of degrees awarded annually increased by 59% from 359 to 571.
- The number of full-time students increased by 29%.
- Total enrollment experienced an 8% gain.

Office of the Chancellor • Indiana University Kokomo • Summer 2008

THANK YOU, Dr. Person

Nine Years of Progress

This will probably be my last published message before I depart for Michigan in mid-August. I want to use this opportunity to thank everyone for your support and efforts on behalf of our campus. Good leadership is important to the well-being of any campus, but so is employee and constituent interest and support. We would not be where we are today without you.



Chancellor
Ruth J. Person

When I came to Kokomo in 1999, we faced quite a challenge. Higher education in Indiana was about to make a dramatic shift with the development of the community college system. Remedial course work and associate degrees, both of which IU Kokomo offered for many years, would no longer be provided by four-year institutions. We would need to "reinvent" ourselves as a full baccalaureate institution, with all of the programs and services that mission requires.

Nine years later we have made that transition. While we have maintained some specialized associate degree programs, the majority of our students are pursuing bachelor's and master's degrees. More than a dozen academic programs were added and the student body is shifting toward a full-time, traditional age profile. All of the classrooms are equipped with state-of-the-art technology and we merged the library, tutorial and information technology services into an Information Commons to better serve the learning needs of students.

Hunt Hall, our award winning science building, was opened and provides a research facility that you would expect to find at a baccalaureate institution. The campus has also taken an increasingly greater role in serving as a regional convener. Students, faculty, and staff are all involved in serving the region in a variety of ways, especially through our American Democracy Project.

I could continue at great length about the transformation of the campus, but instead, let me close by reiterating my thanks for all you do. While I am looking forward to returning to my alma mater, my nine years with the IU family and my colleagues has been a significant part of my life and I will miss all of you. Stay in touch!

Ruth J. Person

// An ordinary leader meets immediate needs; a great one understands the future and prepares her community for it. Ruth Person, as proven by her numerous accomplishments and visionary guidance, positioned IU Kokomo confidently toward tomorrow. We are forever grateful. //

Tom Sugar, (IU Kokomo alumnus)
Chief of Staff for Senator Evan Bayh

Below left, Chancellor Person with former Trustee Walda at 2001 Commencement. Below right, Vice Chancellor Stuart Green, former Congressman Lee Hamilton, Chancellor Person, and faculty member Todd Bradley pose during Hamilton's visit to IU Kokomo.



On left, Chancellor Person and students support Virginia Tech. Below, former Congressman Bud Hillis and Chancellor Person at the 2005 Scholarship Gala.



// As an IU Kokomo Advisory Board member I was able to view first-hand the thoughtful and productive leadership skills that Dr. Person brought with her to IU Kokomo. Her energetic and personable guidance brought IU Kokomo through a period of great challenge to become the vibrant campus that it is today and to position it for the challenges still to come. //

Chuck Bucheri,
IU Kokomo Advisory Board

- During Chancellor Person's leadership:
- Minority student enrollment increased from 5% to 7% of the total student population.
- 14 new degree programs, including two Master's were added.



Chancellor Person received the 2004 Athena Award.



Top photo, President McRobbie, Distinguished Alumnus Walter Brown, and Chancellor Person at the 2008 Commencement. Left, Senator Evan Bayh and Chancellor Person at the Senator's Job Fair. Top right, Sue Sciame-Giesecke, Gregory Steel, Jeff Gegner, and Chancellor Person won the first place Corporate Award at the 2006 Chamber of Commerce Chili Cookoff.

// I have had the pleasure of working with Dr. Person since 1999, serving on the United Way Board together. Since that time our paths have crossed in a number of arenas including serving on the Kokomo Howard County Library Board and the umbrella committee for the economic development reorganization. During that time, Dr. Person always exhibited a very personable and approachable style that was a pleasure to work with...Dr. Person has always been the consummate professional and dedicated to Kokomo and Howard County. Her contributions to this area are immeasurable, and I wish her nothing but success... //

Excerpt from Stan Ortman letter in the Kokomo Tribune June 25, 2008



Above, Chancellor Person in her kitchen where she loves to cook. Right, IU Kokomo Advisory Board members Chuck Bucheri, and James Alender along with Chancellor Person accept a check from the Kresge Foundation for Hunt Hall science equipment.



DR. RUTH PERSON Scholarship

An endowed scholarship fund has been established in honor of Chancellor Person's nine years of service and leadership at Indiana University Kokomo. Please consider a contribution in recognition of Dr. Person's accomplishments. Even though she is moving on, the scholarship fund will guarantee that Dr. Person's legacy remains strong, and most importantly, each year a deserving student will receive much needed financial aid.

Your contribution should be mailed to: Indiana University Kokomo, IU Foundation, P.O. Box 660446, Indianapolis, IN 46266-0446. Please note "Dr. Ruth Person Scholarship" on the memo line.

For more information, please call (765) 455-9410.