

## STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS CHARTER

Resolution unanimously adopted by the  
University Faculty Council  
November 28, 1995

Throughout the Twentieth Century, great universities have prospered by holding fast to core academic values--faculty self-governance and professional autonomy, an unwavering commitment to the discovery and transmission of knowledge (to the open discussion of every issue of importance) free from unfounded reprisal, and collegial decision-making processes that insure that the interests of the university as a whole are taken into account. Faculty tenure is essential for the maintenance of the independent judgment critical to productive scholarship, creative activity, teaching, and professional service and to responsible faculty governance. Any endorsement of or action on the Strategic Directions Charter, or any other planning document, must be framed by these principles. In particular:

- Faculty governance of academic matters, and consultation of faculty on matters that affect the conditions in which faculty work, are essential to the maintenance of the core values of a great university. Implementation of recommendations endorsed in the SDC must accord with the governance principles established by the laws of the State of Indiana, the resolutions of the Trustees of Indiana University, and the Constitution of the Indiana University Faculty.
- Recognizing the need to set priorities in investing resources and to coordinate the implementation of the university-wide mission, our excellence depends on maintaining substantial autonomy for campuses and academic units.
- Investment in new directions must not compromise our core missions as a university. Because we will not be able to do everything at once, university and campus governance structures shall establish priorities.

The communication among us in the drafting and consideration of the Strategic Directions Charter has contributed to our understanding of the University's relation to a changing society and of the tensions which draw us in different directions. No "charter" can resolve these tensions, but we accept the lesson of the Charter that we must be proactive in defining Indiana University's future. We value the contributions to the University's work of Trustees, administration, faculty, staff, graduate students, and undergraduate and professional school students. We affirm our commitment to working together as a university community to develop and further the University's mission.