



# Indiana State University

School of Business  
Office of the Dean

May 30, 2002

Lloyd W. Benjamin, President  
Indiana State University  
Terre Haute, IN 47809

Dear President Benjamin:

This letter is written in support of the proposal being submitted to the Lilly Endowment on behalf of Indiana State University and the School of Business in order to move Indiana to national prominence and renown in the financial services industry.

Industry and citizens of the State of Indiana, Indiana State University, and the School of Business would certainly benefit from the grant. The State would benefit by establishing itself as the intellectual capital for the financial services area. Personnel in the financial services industry in Indiana would benefit from connectivity and exposure to educational seminars and roundtables conducted by world-known financial services leaders. In addition, the citizens of Indiana, including our school-age children, would have an increased opportunity to learn needed information about conducting personal financial affairs. With a plethora of critical financial institutions already located in the State, this proposal is timely and will encourage industry leaders to make a step toward greater prominence.

While the proposal is timely for the State, it is likewise timely for the University. The University has identified experiential learning as a distinctive identity, and the proposal would support an emphasis on the value of hands-on learning through student involvement with the financial services industry. The experiential learning opportunities would provide potential employers an opportunity to observe the high caliber of students at Indiana State University and, perhaps, to hire our graduates.

The internationally accredited School of Business, like the State and the University, is well positioned to accept the responsibilities inherent in the proposal. The faculty members are committed to working in a broader arena where their expertise in the financial services field can be used and where their desire to become even more knowledgeable is met. School of Business students will benefit from enhanced internships, scholarships, and exposure to renowned experts.

We are pleased to support the proposal and look forward to the challenges of implementation.

Sincerely,

David R. Hopkins  
Interim Dean

Dale L. Varble  
Interim Associate Dean

Sandra J. Nelson  
Assistant Dean