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Graduation date, speaker set at Ivy Tech Community College

Ivy Tech Community College Southern Indiana will hold its 38th commencement ceremony on Tuesday, May 19, at 7 p.m. The event will take place at Northside Christian Church located on Charlestown Road in New Albany. So far in 2009, 424 students have applied to graduate from the college.

This year, Ivy Tech College President Thomas Snyder is expected to confer degrees, and Louisville Metro Jerry E. Abramson will be the featured speaker.

“Graduation is always a terrific event in the life of our campus,” says Chancellor Dr. Rita Hudson Shourds. “This year we will enjoy the pleasure of seeing all of these faithful students go out into the world, as well as messages from two very important guests. We’re honored to have both President Snyder and Mayor Abramson joining us.”

Awards will also be given at graduation. An honorary degree will be presented to Former State Representative William C. “Bill” Cochran. Currently Assistant to the Chancellor at Indiana University Southeast, Bill first ran for the state legislature and was successfully elected in 1974. During his 34 years in office, he supported many educational initiatives, including capital projects at Ivy Tech.

Ivy Tech’s Friend of the College Award will be presented to the Don Perkins family. The Perkins family has long been a supporter of higher education. An engineer by trade, Paul Perkins is a co-founder of Amatrol, a high-tech startup in Jeffersonville that creates technical educational systems for educational institutions. Perkins is a long-time supporter of technical education. He has served on the board of directors of the American Technical Education Association, and the boards of directors of the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, One Southern Indiana and the Southern Seven Workforce Investment Board. Mr. Perkins is a member of our regional board of trustees. His family also has invested in the future of education in Southern Indiana by establishing a scholarship fund with Ivy Tech, the Don and Bobbie Perkins Scholarship Fund, in honor of Mr. Perkins’ parents.

“The Perkins family truly understands the value of education, and has long supported our efforts to help more area residents achieve their educational goals,” Shourds said. “Their work has helped thousands of students obtain an education, enrich their lives and attain personal goals.”

Bob Corum will receive the Alumnus of the Year award for his outstanding career in the field of graphic design. Corum works at Indiana University Southeast.

For more information about Ivy Tech’s graduation, call the college at (812) 246-3301.

About Ivy Tech

Ivy Tech Community College is the state’s largest public post-secondary institution and the nation’s largest singly-accredited statewide community college system with more than 120,000 students enrolled annually. Ivy Tech has campuses throughout Indiana. It serves as the state’s engine of workforce development, offering affordable degree

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programs and training that are aligned with the needs of its community along with courses and programs that transfer to other colleges and universities in Indiana. It is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association.