1949

A University Serves its Area

Southern Illinois University Carbondale

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This booklet highlights the ways in which Southern Illinois University educationally, economically, and socially serves the 31 counties that comprise southern Illinois. It was published in 1949 at the beginning of Delyte W. Morris's tenure as the university's president (1948-1970). Under Morris's leadership, the university grew from a teachers college into a comprehensive research university.

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A UNIVERSITY SERVES ITS AREA

Southern Illinois University
1949
A hand, with an educated brain behind it, is worth more than treble an ignorant one. Given the finest climate earth can show, the fattest soil the continents lift out of the sea, the richest mines the mountains contain, the safest harbors that border the sea or indent the land, and let a people be ignorant of their own capabilities, or of the resources of Nature and her mighty agencies, and what are all these worth?

—General John A. Logan

Developing Human Resources

Greatest resource of any area is its people, particularly its youth, with their potentialities of unexplored, undeveloped skills, wisdom and leadership. Southern Illinois, in its 31 counties, has a population of more than a million people. More than 338,000 of these are children and young people under 20 years of age. In 1940 Northern Illinois sent one out of seven of its youth to college, Southern Illinois sent one out of nine. Southern Illinois University's greatest challenge is to provide higher educational facilities for the eager minds of Southern Illinois youth.
No area can forge ahead without an adequate, continuing supply of skilled workers, technicians and specialists who can bring new and efficient methods to its economic operations. It is the job of Southern Illinois University to train young men and young women who can build up improved techniques in agriculture, home management, industry, and business either in their own private enterprises or in larger-scale developments. Southern is training future farmers and homemakers, artisans and craftsmen, economists, accountants, secretaries, journalists, radio announcers, chemists, physicists, botanists, zoologists, microbiologists, physiologists; it also offers pre-professional work in law, dentistry, engineering, forestry, medical technology, nursing. With expanded offerings projected in many of these fields and the addition of fish and wildlife studies, geology, and social work, new impetus should be given to the development of the area's resources and its economy.
A Richer Life

- Part of Southern's famous University Choir
- Weaving classes attract men as well as women
- Painting may be a career or recreation.
- Handcrafts prove useful to homemaker, relaxing for hobbyist.
- Swimming classes are held in summer at Crab Orchard Lake.

Development of creative talents provide lasting pleasures for the person who will take the trouble to cultivate them, whether for a professional career or for cultural or recreational use.
Preparing Teachers

No task is more important to the character and well-being of a region than the education of its children. Children's education requires as teachers men and women of intelligence, integrity, and skill, whose gifts are developed by sound higher education into creative tools for shaping young minds. For 75 years Southern has been consecrated to preparing teachers for this high purpose. Today, as a University, it is no less a teacher-education institution. Indeed, it is working closely with the public schools of the area to improve its teacher-education program, in line with the demands of the modern age and in line with the particular needs of Southern Illinois. Southern Illinois needs more teachers, and better-prepared teachers, especially in the elementary schools, and it is Southern's goal to provide them with ever-improving standards of professional preparation.
One of the major functions of a university is to render specialized services to its region, and to make the talents of its faculty and staff available as teachers, consultants and fact-finders or researchers for area resources development. Southern affords in-service training for the area's school teachers in their own home communities; it carries on an extensive program to educate teachers in the need for and the means to conserve the area's resources; it provides faculty speakers for hundreds of area organizations; it furnishes a wide-range health education field service; it supplies audio-visual aid service to the area; it makes its auditorium and other facilities available for scores of regional and state meetings; it arranges clinics, exhibits, short courses, conferences and workshops for dozens of special interest groups, such as musicians, fire fighters, school administrators, school custodians, coaches, newspapermen, and persons interested in forestry conservation.

Immediate and long-range plans of Southern call for an expansion and intensification of its service program to develop short-term training programs in a wide variety of fields, fact-finding activities to benefit agriculture, industry and business, and the building of a staff of faculty consultants whose specialized knowledge can be made available to the area and its communities.

1949 SUMMER CONSERVATION WORKSHOPS

- Edwardsville
- Salem
- Fairfield
- Waterloo
- Mt. Vernon
- Sparta
- Pinckneyville
- McLeansboro
- Benton
- Marion
- Ridgway
- Murphysboro
- Harrisburg
- Anna
- Cave-in-Rock
- Olive Branch
- Vienna
By educating the young people of the area, Southern is helping raise the cultural and intellectual and therefore the economic level of the whole region.

Through classroom emphasis, research and administrative leadership, Southern is seeking to encourage its best students to remain in Southern Illinois and "plow back" into the region the talents they have sharpened, the skills they have acquired.

By broadening the enlightenment of its students, Southern is helping the region raise its community government standards and its regional influence in state and national affairs.

Through University-sponsored festivals, research programs, and collection of historic materials, and organization of regional associations and councils, Southern is helping to stimulate the development of higher cultural standards and to preserve the finest aspects of the region's rich heritage.

Through consultative and fact-finding services, extension classes, short-courses, clinics, exhibits and other special services, Southern makes technical or specialized knowledge available to the whole area.

Southern's annual payroll, totaling $1,871,507 for 1949-50, is one of the region's largest, and flows almost entirely into the region's economic coffers.

Its $7,100,000 building program for 1949-51 will serve as a powerful "shot in the arm" for Southern Illinois building trades, and will send another flow of payroll money into the general economy of the region.