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Minority Women Students at Indiana Independent Colleges Awarded Second Wind Scholarships

INDIANAPOLIS, November 8, 2006 – Fifth Third Bank and the Independent Colleges of Indiana (ICI) have announced the selection of ten female minority students at Indiana independent colleges and universities for the newly-established Second Wind Scholarships.

Made possible by a \$100,000 grant from the Charlotte R. Schmidlapp Fund, administered through Fifth Third Bank Foundation, the Second Wind Scholarship Program for Minority Women Students in Indiana is a competitive scholarship process. It targets female minority students on Indiana's 31 independent campuses who are pursuing undergraduate degrees in math- or science-related fields and facing serious economic barriers to their degree attainment.

The program awards ten students a total of \$10,000 each during their last two years of college (\$5,000 during the junior year and \$5,000 during the senior year). The "Second Wind" name comes from the recognition that many scholarships are provided for the first two years of college only and that a "second wind" can represent a new surge of energy---in this case, funds---to ease the financial challenges of the final two years. Research shows a strong correlation between increased student borrowing in the junior and senior years and increased student dropout rates, and minority women in Indiana, on average, incur a 33% increase in the amount they borrow in student loans in their final two years of college.

"Our ICI campuses are most grateful to Fifth Third Bank for this innovative scholarship program," said Hans Giesecke, ICI president and CEO. "It creatively addresses so many needs of our students and our state---the need to support students, especially minority ones, in college affordability and attainment and the need to encourage more females to enter the fields of math and science."

Representing eight of Indiana's independent campuses, the following students are the 2006-07 recipients of the Second Wind Scholarships:

- Burgundy S. Stanley: Butler University
- Corinne McWilliams: DePauw University
- Xochitl Cervantes: Grace College
- Shauna-Leigh C. Baxa: Hanover College
- Jac-Lyn L. Perez: Indiana Wesleyan University
- Ekrah W. Wambugu: Marian College
- Trachelle J. Stevens: Martin University
- Selena C. Thomas: Martin University
- Valorie Twyman-Woods: Martin University
- Lisa Marie Setnicker: University of Saint Francis

Independent Colleges of Indiana (ICI) is a nonprofit corporation that represents the state's 31 nonprofit, accredited, undergraduate degree-granting institutions of higher education. ICI member institutions enroll more than 80,000 students (approximately 22 percent of all students statewide) and annually produce 32 percent of all bachelor's degrees in Indiana. Information about ICI is available at www.icindiana.org.

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