 **NEWS RELEASE**

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For further information, contact:   
Kelsey Batten  
(317) 917-5732  
[kbatten1@ivytech.edu](mailto:kbatten1@ivytech.edu)

**Ivy Tech Foundation names Michael M. Harmless chair of the board of directors**

***Maria Quintana as First-Vice Chair; Patrick R. Ralston as Treasurer; Terry Bowen as Secretary***

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – Michael M. Harmless has been named chair of the Ivy Tech Foundation Board of Directors. He has served on the Ivy Tech Foundation Board since 2006. He previously served on the Ivy Tech Community College State Board of Trustees from 2004 to 2006.

The Foundation Board also appointed Maria Quintana as vice-chair, Patrick R. Ralston as treasurer, and Terry Bowen as secretary.

“I am tremendously honored to have been elected Chair of the Ivy Tech Foundation Board,” said Harmless. “I have been a member of the Ivy Tech family since I was Mayor of Greencastle. I have seen first-hand the impact Ivy Tech has had on Hoosier students across our great state, and the difference donations to Ivy Tech Foundation have made in providing students educational opportunities that have transformed their lives.”

Harmless is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point and served in the United States Military from 1971 to 1976. As Captain, Harmless was stationed in Bamberg, Germany and Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis.

His career following his military service includes employment with Arthur Andersen & Co, Chicago, Ill., and Howard Harmless Laundries, Greencastle, Ind. From 1988 to 1995, he served as the mayor for the City of Greencastle. During his first term as mayor, he worked with then Ivy Tech President Jerry Lamkin to bring Ivy Tech Community College to Greencastle. During his tenure in 1991, Greencastle was honored as one of ten All-America Cities in the United States.

“We are honored to have Mike’s leadership, vast array of professional experiences, and true passion for Ivy Tech taking our board and Foundation to the next level of success,” said John Murphy, president of the Ivy Tech Foundation. “I look forward to seeing the creativity and impact this new group of leaders will have on our students, programs and campuses.”

Harmless also served as executive director for the Indiana Democratic Party for Governors Evan Bayh and Frank O'Bannon. In 1998, he joined Crowe Horwath as a government consultant, and in 2015, he retired from Crowe Horwath as a director.

He serves on the 500 Festival Foundation Board of Directors, and he has been closely involved with the 500 Festival since 2001. Harmless was born and raised in Greencastle, and he and his wife, Susie, still call Greencastle home.

The following individuals were also appointed to the Ivy Tech Foundation Board:

* Celeste Calvitto, Lawrenceburg, owner, CalComm Indiana LLC
* Jodi Engelstad, Columbus, financial advisor and Co-owner Engelstad Wealth Advisors
* Alpa Patel, Terre Haute, community advocate
* Vincent Viveros, CFP®, Indianapolis, private client advisor, Charles Schwab Private Client Investment Advisory
* Joe Whitsett, Indianapolis, community advocate

For a complete list of Ivy Tech Foundation Board members, visit: giving.ivytech.edu/board

**About Ivy Tech Community College**

Ivy Tech Community College is the state’s largest public postsecondary institution and the nation’s largest singly accredited statewide community college system. Ivy Tech has campuses throughout Indiana. It serves as the state’s engine of workforce development, offering affordable degree 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.

**About the Ivy Tech Foundation**

The Foundation’s most important function is to provide support for Ivy Tech Community College beyond state appropriations and student fees. Its overall program of work focuses on meeting student needs. The Foundation’s work is made possible by donations from friends of Ivy Tech. The Foundation distributes these donations as designated by the donor to support students and the College’s strategic initiatives.

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