

GOAL 1D

Improve retention in the student pipeline; increase graduation rates Fitness Center

Charge: Consider various aspects of the development of a fitness center on campus.

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Current Status

- Space accessible to students for recreation and exercise is “woefully inadequate”;
- Student health services at IUPUI are “marginally available” and hampered by small facilities in a non-central location;
- Good research has demonstrated that recreational sports and wellness opportunities on a college campus are not only an important factor in recruiting new students, but play an integral role in grade point indexes, retention and graduation. A recently completed study at Mississippi State University found that freshman students who even periodically use the wellness center have a significantly higher GPA than non participants and are 15% more likely to persist to graduation.

Recommendations

- Begin preliminary planning for a campus wellness center to incorporate intramural and recreational sports, sports clubs, student health services and counseling and psychological services; and
- Designate on the IUPUI master plan the area immediately south of the Campus Center as the proposed site for a wellness center.

Implementation

- Ask the Vice Chancellor for Student Life and Diversity to complete a funding model for both construction and operational expenses of the center and begin dialogue with students regarding funding; and
- Refine the space requirements for the units within the center.

Cost [To be determined as part of the implementation]