

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**New Academic Directions**  
**Working Group C Report**

**Proposal: Merge Indiana University School of Liberal Arts and  
Purdue School of Science at IUPUI**

The Working Group found no empirical evidence or other reasons for combining the IU School of Liberal Arts and the Purdue School of Science into the IUPUI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

There is little to suggest that there would be significant synergies or cost savings resulting from a merger. Both schools are operating efficiently, and no perceived problems with the current organizational structure emerged in the group's interviews and surveys with stakeholders that would be solved by creating an IUPUI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

In comparing the 18 degree-granting schools at IUPUI on the basis of budget per credit hour, the Working Group found that the School of Liberal Arts ranks as the second most efficient school at IUPUI with a budget to credit hour ratio of \$480/credit hour. The School of Science ranks as the third most efficient school with a budget to credit hour ratio of \$519/credit hour. This demonstrates that both of these units are very efficient when measured against other schools at IUPUI.

Using the Delaware Study, the Working Group found that in all seven departments in the School of Science where there is data for peer departments, the School of Science at IUPUI had a lower student credit hour cost than its peer institutions. Likewise, in seven of eleven departments in the School of Liberal Arts where there was peer data, it had a lower student credit hour cost compared to peer institutions.

There is a strong sense that the School of Science and the School of Liberal Arts are appropriately sized for efficiency and effectiveness in their current structure. There is little prospect that a combined college would be an improvement over the current organization structure, especially since such a move would almost certainly lead to a new layer of bureaucracy and resulting increase in administrative costs.