Response To The Report:
Vision Of the Ideal Campus Environment
"VOICE IUPUI" (April 2008)

Response Group Members: Kenneth Durgans, Garland Elmore, Eduardo Nieto,
Dawn Rhodes, Uday Sukhatme, Pratibha Varma-Nelson and Karen Whitney (Chair)
Response Report Completed: May 2009

Introduction

During the Fall 2007 and Spring 2008 five groups of students supported by staff enthusiastically convened to take up President McRobbie's call to consider what might comprise a Vision of the Ideal Campus Environment at IUPUI. This 2008 report (http://life.iupui.edu/dos/voice.html) elaborates upon five themes presenting evidence based suggestions for future action.

Ten months later the President has called for a review group to consider the 2008 report and to advance recommendations to Chancellor Bantz for campus and university consideration. The review group met in April 2009 reviewed the 2008 report and developed a summary of the 2008 Report presented in the next section.

With mindfulness to current concerns related to resources of time and money this response thoughtfully advances several results oriented next steps. While none of the items were deemed completed most items are in progress. Of the 20 items recommended for further attention it is advised that 4 Taskforces should be commissioned to further study 8 items in greater detail.

Summary Review of April 2008 Report

Twenty (20) items in five thematic areas were presented in the 2008 report. This table presents the 20 items with a comment on their current status as of April 2009. The next section provides a narrative for each of the thematic areas.

Thematic Area	Currently Underway	Completed	Needs Further Study
1)Intellectual Environment a. Increase classroom comfort	x		x
b. Increase faculty # using active learning	x		
c. Increase # of classroom with flexible space and furniture	x		x
2) Off-Campus Environment a. Increase students' social support networks			x
b. Increase number of comfortable off campus places			x
c. A more family friendly campus			x
d. Increase student awareness of off campus services/programs	x		

Thematic Area	Currently Underway	Completed	Needs Further Study
3)On-Campus Living Environment a. Competitively priced new housing.	x		
b. Competitively priced meal plan	x		
c. Green spaces, common areas, etc.	x		
d. Integrate academics by including classroom space ….	x		
e. Recreational spaces	x		x
4)Social Environment a. More effective communication to students re campus events/programs/services	x		x
b. Offer programs at different times/days	x		
c. Classroom as social environment			x
d. More homey/welcoming spaces on campus	x		
5) Support Services Environment a. Greater student organization involvement	x		
b. Value students as individuals	x		
c. Increase promotion of services to grad students	x		x
d. Increase students awareness of existing services/programs	x		x

Currently Underway

1) Intellectual Environment

The IUPUI campus is becoming widely known for its innovative learning environments. The Center for Teaching and Learning provides leadership and administrative support to the campus Learning Environments Committee (LEC), which helps with renovation and creation of formal and informal learning spaces on campus. During the last five years, the planning of new construction and renovation of existing spaces in IUPUI buildings has expanded in shared corridors, lobbies and outdoor spaces. During fiscal year 2007-08, the LEC allocated its $135,000 budget to fund a broad range of campus space improvement projects. In the current academic year $139,000 were allocated to a variety of projects.

2) Off-Campus Environment

Conceptualizing the ideal off-campus environment is a broad and challenging task. Heretofore campus efforts regarding off campus environments have been in conjunction with the learning enterprise in the form of off campus venues for teaching, research and service. There are co-curricular ventures lead by Campus & Community Life that organize co-curricular, service and social activities usually in downtown Indianapolis.   The Review Group has recommended that of the many opportunities expressed in the Off-Campus section of the report that the social, retail and entertainment development of Indiana Avenue is a priority in terms of creating the ideal off-campus student environment.

3) On-Campus Living Environment

Campus housing has modestly increased over the last 10 years to housing almost 1,200 students. The campus master plan calls for housing approximately 10% of the student enrollment (3,000-4,500 students). This year (2009) the campus is completing the planning stage of the next phase of campus housing designed to add 500 more beds to the campus. Completion of the next phase will accommodate approximately 1,700 students. All four items suggested to achieve the ideal living environment are included in the plan for the next phase of housing.

4) Social Environment

Significant progress regarding the development of the social environment has been made at IUPUI over the last 18 months. The opening of the Campus Center, establishing a Fraternity and Sorority Life Program, increasing the number of students living on campus, increasing the number of student organizations, improving student health and fitness and the development of multicultural programs and services are intended to move the campus closer to the ideal social environment. It is anticipated that the recommended Taskforces will present findings that will guide further efforts toward achieving the ideal social environment.

5) Support Services Environment

For over 10 years, IUPUI has marshaled significant resources toward improving support for students. Most notably, the services and programs lead by University College are internationally recognized as a model. Much has been accomplished and much is yet to be achieved. Efforts to move closer to the ideal revolve as much around increasing students' awareness and understanding of the existing support services and programs as well as the continued development and maturation of these support programs and services.   It is important to specifically consider graduate student support needs and to expressly communicate the availability of services, programs and facilities for graduate students at IUPUI.

Completed Items

It is the consensus of the Review Group that while some items have made more progress than others none of the items or themes has advanced to the extent that they can be judged as completed.

Needs Further Study Items

The Review Group recommends that 4 Taskforces be formed to further study 8 items outlined in the 2008 report. For each Taskforce a chair has been recommended. Should these Taskforces be authorized further work would need to be done by the Review Group to detail the expected outcomes, process and timeline for each Taskforce.

1) **Intellectual Environment**
   <u>Taskforce For The Evaluation & Improvement of The Learning Environment</u>
   (Recommended Chair: Pratibha Varma Nelson)   The Taskforce will further study
   recommendations 1.a, 1.c and 4c.

2) **Off-Campus Environment**
   <u>Taskforce For The Development of Indiana Ave</u> (Recommended Chair: Karen
   Whitney) The Taskforce will further study recommendation 2.b.

3) **On-Campus Living Environment**
   <u>Taskforce For The Development of Recreational Spaces On Campus (</u>Recommended
   Chair: Jason Spratt)   The Taskforce will further study recommendation 3.e.

4) **Social Environment**
   4.c. is recommended for further study as a part of the Taskforce for the Evaluation &
   Improvement of The Learning Environment.

5) **Support Services Environment**
   <u>Taskforce To Improve Communication and Promotion of Student Services, Programs
   and Facilities For Undergraduate and Graduate Students</u> (Recommended Chair:
   Rick Ward) The Taskforce will further study recommendations 4.a, 5.c and 5.d.

New Items

At this point no new items for action are recommended. It is anticipated that new items
may emerge from the suggested Taskforces.

<u>Conclusion</u>
The Review Group suggests that they meet regularly to monitor progress toward results
regarding the items suggested for further study with periodic progress reports to the
Chancellor.