

The Vision for IUP's Future

November 20, 2013

Indiana University of Pennsylvania is a scholarly community where teaching, research, and service ~~shape-empower~~ students into to become innovative leaders ~~and~~ while enhancing transform communities throughout the world. ~~in Western Pennsylvania and beyond~~. Remaining true to its traditions, IUP ~~continuously~~ assesses ~~social and research~~ society's needs and opportunities and ~~adjusts to~~ meets them.

Students are ~~well-prepared~~, hardworking, ready to learn, and come from diverse cultures, places, and backgrounds. Energetic, dedicated, and diverse staff and faculty members welcome them to a personal, vibrant college home. Students ~~are part of strong living learning communities and have~~ participate in many intentional and interconnected learning experiences opportunities to grow and lead in their studies, in their lives, and in the world.

Professors are active scholars and teachers in their disciplines who work together to expand their impact. They engage students in carefully designed open-ended, hands-on experiences to reinforce and enrich what students learn in the classroom. Professors use technology to enhance student learning and augment the face-to-face and peer-learning experiences that are the foundation of excellent education.

Alumni say their student experience was the best preparation for work and life. They continue to find joy in the bonds they built as students and the new connections they make with faculty and staff members, students, and other alumni. They are proud and they choose to invest in IUP's future.

IUP and the communities it serves work together to build a strong society and ~~abundant robust~~ economy. ~~Events~~ IUP uses partnerships and activities to connect community members, students, faculty and staff members, and alumni, building a commitment to their shared future.

IUP values

- Demonstrating an excellent return on educational investment.
- Knowing ~~our~~ students as individuals by name who work closely with faculty and staff members.
- ~~Offering a range of programs responsive to the needs of students and society.~~
- Responding to the needs of students and society with a range of innovative programs and scholarship.
- Employing evidence in decision making and in demonstrating results.

- 41 • [Drawing on IUP's tradition in Indiana and western Pennsylvania to serve students](#)
- 42 [worldwide.](#)
- 43 • ~~Providing education in appropriate locations throughout western Pennsylvania.~~
- 44 • ~~Learning and working in small-town locations accessible to a thriving city.~~
- 45 • Enjoying ~~beautiful,~~ [historic, inspirational, and](#) functional campuses and facilities.
- 46 • Using ~~distance learning~~ technology to reach place-committed students [and enhance](#)
- 47 [learning for all.](#)
- 48 • Celebrating engaged, successful alumni.

Explanation of Significant Changes

Note that the highlighted identifies significant changes. Other changes to word order, syntax, punctuation, and the like are not highlighted.

Paragraph 1

Line 4 – deleted “scholarly,” which some thought invoked negative aspects of the ivory tower.

Lines 5-6 – “shape” and “transform” changed to less negative “empower” and “enhance.” Broadened impact to the world and cleaned up language a bit.

Lines 7-8 – Ground our response in our traditions – we won’t abandon who we are to chase needs; cleaned up language a bit to make more active and based on comments.

Paragraph 2

Line 10 – altered description of students to allow strategic planning to define “ready to learn” instead of using “well-prepared,” which some thought excluded key parts of the students we should serve.

Line 11 – added more aspects of diversity based on comments. The broadened definition connects nicely to international students, which many wanted added. Added to the description of staff and faculty to capture comments about their energy and dedication and to recognize that we want diversity everywhere, not just in our students.

Lines 12-15 – removed “living-learning communities” since some felt it wasn’t broad enough or was inside jargon. Broadened opportunities to study, life, world to include curriculum, residence life, Greek life, community service, study abroad, etc. Added words “intentional,” “interconnected,” “learning experiences” because of comments about the need to better connect individual student experiences (curricular, co-curricular, extra-curricular) in a more holistic design.

Paragraph 3

Lines 17-18 – added teaching to scholarship based on comments. Added “who work together” to recognize and encourage faculty members to work together particularly in inter- and cross-disciplinary teams while not using that jargon.

Line 18 – inserted “carefully designed” because of comments about a curriculum being more than a series of disconnected courses.

Paragraph 5

Lines 28-29 – no one liked the word “abundant” and someone suggested “robust.”

Line 29 – many thought that “events” wasn’t a big enough concept, but some liked it. Thus the change to “partnerships and activities,” which can include events, the application of big ideas, etc. “Partnerships” also emphasizes the key point of working together.

Values

Lines 35-36 – comments made it clear that knowing students’ names wasn’t deep enough to capture what we are. Other comments added the importance of how accessible our faculty and staff are to students.

Line 37 – replaced this with lines 38-39 based on comments.

Lines 38-39 – Based on comments, refined description of responsive; tightened language; added “innovative” based on comments; included “scholarship” not just academic “programs” based on comments.

Line 40 – a wide range of comments highlighted the need to further define and quantify what we are doing and what we want to improve. This, coupled with IUP’s already strong use of data in decision making, led to a value being added.

Lines 41-44 – an attempt to synthesize the importance we place on where we are now and our history with the clear desire to serve students beyond our historical region. There were mixed opinions about mentioning Pittsburgh or mentioning each of today’s locations by name. I chose to be more general.

Line 45 – emphasized historic and used “inspirational” instead of “beautiful” based on comments.

Lines 46-47 – responded to the clear comments that technology wasn’t all about distance learning, so generalized the value while still mentioning place-committed students.