

Points of Pride

September 2025



IUP Launches Impact 150 Comprehensive Campaign



On Saturday, August 23, following a [celebration carnival](#) and before a spectacular fireworks show, IUP officially launched its Impact 150 comprehensive fundraising campaign, the largest in the university's history. The [Impact 150 Campaign](#) is named in honor of the university's sesquicentennial celebration in 2025. As of August 1, the campaign has secured \$81,236,852—54 percent of the campaign goal of \$150 million—from 11,673 donors. Themes of the campaign are healthy students, healthy university, and healthy communities.

Healthy Students

IUP Student Creates Graphic for IUP Sesquicentennial T-shirt



Luke Leccia, a senior graphic design major at IUP from Elizabeth, won IUP's 150th anniversary T-shirt design contest. Leccia was recognized for his award-winning design during Saturday's [IUP 150th Carnival Celebration](#). T-shirts with his design were given free

to IUP students during the carnival. As the design contest winner, he receives a \$500 gift certificate from the IUP Co-op Store. "I don't really need a lot of books or other supplies for my major, so I'm hoping that I can help out some of my friends by using my gift certificate for books and other things they need for their classes," he said.

Second Annual IUP College of Health Sciences Run for the Health of It 5K Race Set for September 14; Donor Covers Registration for All IUP Students

IUP's College of Health Sciences' second annual "Run for the Health of It" fundraising 5K race/one-mile walk will be held September 14, with free registration offered to all IUP students. IUP alumnus Gene Ulishney, a 1975 IUP health and physical education graduate, donated \$5,000 to the program to cover the \$25 registration fee for any IUP student. Ulishney, originally from Latrobe, now makes his home in Parkland, Florida.

U-SOAR Program

Thirty-three students from majors across the university participated in the annual U-SOAR (Undergraduate Summer Opportunities for Applying Research) program.

IUP names Avery Moore new head women's volleyball coach

After a national search, IUP has selected Avery Moore as the tenth head women's volleyball coach in program history. The 2024-25 team won the PSAC Championship.

Men's Golf Sits Upon PSAC Throne With Top Team QPA

IUP's 3.522 team quality point average for academic year 2024-2025 ranks it as the best in the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC). The Hawks were the only men's golf team in the conference to record a team GPA of over 3.5. The Crimson Hawk golfers earned the fourth-highest team GPA of all the IUP athletic teams.

Gibney Named Academic All-America

Crimson Hawk Cross Country runner Dan Gibney was named Academic All-American by the College Sports Communicators. Gibney, who was an All-Region runner and All-PSAC First Team in 2024, was also recognized in the PSAC Fall Top Ten, the 72nd IUP student-athlete to make an appearance in the top ten.

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Healthy University

[IUP Receives Reaffirmation of Accreditation from Middle States Commission on Higher Education](#)

Following three years of self-study, analysis, and evaluation by a visiting team of educators representing the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, IUP's accreditation with the Middle States Commission on Higher Education has been reaffirmed.

[IUP Selected for Princeton Review "Best Colleges" Guidebook](#)

Based on surveys by students at IUP—which recognized the university for “highly personalized attention and support”—IUP has been selected for The Princeton Review's 2026 Best Colleges guidebook.

[IUP Vice President for Student Affairs Selected for Panel on Shaping Future of Education](#)



IUP Vice President for Student Affairs Thomas Segar was an invited panelist for a state-wide Higher Education Summit, held August 12 in Harrisburg. Segar was a panelist for “Shaping the Future of Education in Pennsylvania. In June, Segar was an invited presenter for a national conference sponsored by

the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Criminal Justice Collective Chairs' Workshop, a national, week-long event funded by the MacArthur Foundation.

[IUP Forensic Science Major to Begin Accepting Students for Fall 2025](#)

IUP will launch a new forensic sciences major for fall 2025. The forensic science program draws on collaborators from IUP departments and PennWest University. It will be administered by IUP's [Department of Anthropology, Geospatial and Earth Sciences](#) in the [John J. and Char Kopchick College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics](#). The new major, which will use existing courses and faculty, includes three specializations: Applied Crime Scene Investigation, Laboratory Forensics, and Digital Forensics.

[IUP to Host International Fulbright Recipients for Tenth Year](#)

IUP welcomed 22 educators from 13 countries, who will stay from August 13 to December 10 as part of the university's selection as a host for the Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Program for International Teachers. This is the tenth year IUP has been chosen for the program, which brings international primary and secondary educators who are Fulbright recipients in their home countries to the United States. As part of the program, the visiting teachers will complete professional development coursework at IUP and be guest teachers the Indiana Area School District and in the Pittsburgh Public School system.

[IUP Eberly College of Business MBA Program Selected for Best On-Campus Programs Listing by Princeton Review](#)

IUP's Eberly College of Business Master of Business Administration on-campus program has been selected as one of the top programs in the nation by the Princeton Review.

[IUP Council of Trustees Approves Academy of Culinary Arts, Baking and Pastry Programs as Associate in Applied Science Degree Programs](#)

IUP's Council of Trustees approved a proposal to shift IUP's Academy of Culinary Arts and the Academy's Baking and Pastry Arts programs from clock-hour to credit-bearing programs. This approval allows students who complete the Culinary Arts or the Baking and Pastry Arts program to receive an Associate in Applied Science degree. This new format begins with students enrolling for the fall 2025 semester.

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Healthy Communities

IUP Proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine Earns Candidate Status from Accrediting Agency

IUP has earned “Candidate Status” from the American Osteopathic Association’s Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation. Part of the successful accreditation process is securing clinical training sites for students; as of September 1, IUP has secured 230 percent of the needed clinical training spots, surpassing the 120 percent required for accreditation. Recent formalized agreements include:



IUP, Conemaugh Miners Medical Center Sign Clinical Training Affiliation Agreement for Proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine Future Students

IUP, Wayne Memorial Community Health Centers, Wayne Memorial Hospital Sign Clinical Training Affiliation Agreement for Proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine



IUP, Chan Soon-Shiong Medical Center at Windber Sign Clinical Training Affiliation Agreement for Proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine



IUP, Conemaugh Meyersdale Medical Center Sign Clinical Training Affiliation Agreement for Proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine

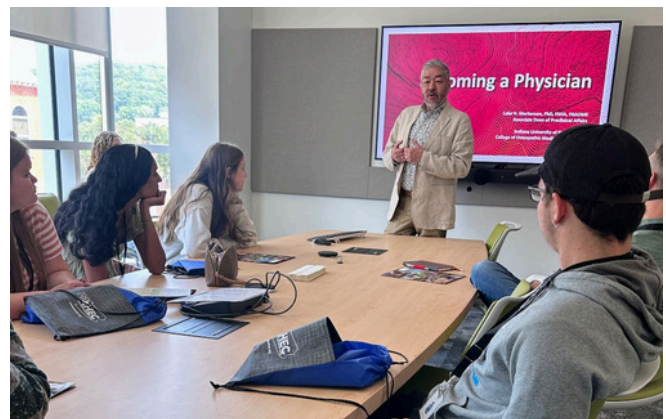
IUP Students Participate in US-China Youth Program on Health Sciences and Culture



Six students in IUP’s College of Health Sciences participated in an international conference in China on medicine and health through the U.S.-China Youth Program on Health Sciences and Culture, and an IUP faculty member was an invited presenter for the conference.

Ohio College of Osteopathic Dean Emeritus and Wife Make Donation to IUP Proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine

John (Jack) and Linda Brose, of Athens, Ohio, have gifted \$25,000 to IUP for its proposed college of osteopathic medicine.



IUP Part of Healthcare Education and Learning Pathways Event for Area High School Students

IUP hosted 22 area high school students and 14 of their teachers for the collaborative Healthcare Education and Learning Pathways (HELP) Summer Experience in June. This program, organized, facilitated, and sponsored by the Armstrong–Indiana Intermediate Unit (ARIN-IU), IUP, Indiana Regional Medical Center, and Westmoreland County Community College, follows a one-day expo held in February for students at Lenape Tech by the Armstrong Indiana Career Pathways Partnership that included presenters in health care professions and education, including IUP.

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IUP Graduate from Harrisburg Gifts \$50,000 to IUP Proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine



John Ninosky, a 1993 criminology graduate of IUP from Harrisburg, has gifted \$50,000 to IUP in honor of his late wife, Tammy Beale Ninosky, a 1993 IUP child development and family relations graduate. The donation will

establish the Tammy Beale Ninosky Memorial Scholarship, to support future IUP students pursuing a degree offered by the IUP proposed college of osteopathic medicine, with preference given to students who have experienced the loss of a parent.

Department of Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency Credits IUP Team with Assisting in World War II Pilot Identification

On July 11, the Department of Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency distributed a news release about the identification of a World War II soldier who died in December 1944, crediting the work of an IUP field school in assisting in identifying the late soldier's remains.

IUP Hosts Uncrewed Aircraft Systems Workshop for High School Teachers



From June 23 to 25, IUP hosted a workshop on uncrewed aircraft (drones) for 18 teachers in 16 Pennsylvania school districts and educational organizations: Armstrong, Butler, Cambria Heights, Franklin Regional, Indiana, LIFE Male Steam Academy, Mars, Mt. Lebanon, Pittsburgh Public Schools, Purchase Line, South Allegheny, St. Joseph's Christian Academy, Intermediate Unit 4, and Intermediate Unit 28.

IUP Graduate from Blair County Gifts \$50,000 to IUP Proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine



Thomas R. Smith, an IUP graduate who had an almost 40-year career in education and supporting high school students, has gifted \$50,000.

IUP Proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine Founding Dean Is Panelist for Rural Economic Development Summit, Hosted by Philadelphia Fed

The founding dean of IUP's proposed college of osteopathic medicine, Miko Rose, was a panelist during the [Rural Economic Development Summit](#) on June 3, hosted by the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. Rose's panel discussion discussed "What Can Be Done in Rural Pennsylvania? The Power of Partnership."

