
The
Story
of
Student Affairs
at
Indiana State University
2005-2006 Annual Report

*A Year of
Assessment,
Action and
Service to Students*

Division of Student Affairs, Indiana State University
Dr. D. Thomas Ramey, Vice President

The teaching, the learning, the inspiration, the stimulation to think and to explore, the desire to create, the conviction to serve – those components of the classroom are the hallmarks of any quality university. But what about before classes, between them, in the evenings, on the weekends? How can learning be extended, activities be brought to life, meaning be added, experiences be maximized, advising and counseling be offered? How can classroom knowledge be coupled with practical application? How can the student – the whole student – be served in ways that complement the classroom, in ways that offer learning-while-doing, in ways that teach invaluable real-life lessons, in ways that show the university has a heart, in ways that provide life-long memories of being a Sycamore and engender life-time affection for ISU?

Each year, those are questions that present an agenda to the vice presidential office and 14 departments that make up the Indiana State University Division of Student Affairs. For decades, the division has:

- served the health, safety, housing, nutrition, recreation, career, and informational needs of students.
- worked diligently to inspire students to embrace leadership, responsibility, diversity, community, justice, and civility.
- formed a focus for out-of-classroom activities, experiences, entertainment, and support.

Yes, for decades all of those have been “what we do” in ISU Student Affairs. But in academic year 2005-2006, all of that took on new meaning in momentous new ways. For it was this year in which each part of the division looked closely at itself, and invited others to analyze it.

Here was the basic question: How well are Student Affairs units *actually serving* the real, contemporary and changing needs of students who look to those units for counsel, support, training, leadership opportunities, involvement, and activities?

A follow-up question: Are there gaps between what we *believe we do* and what neutral reviewers find us *actually doing*?

Division of Student Affairs Mission Statement

The Division of Student Affairs provides services, programs, resources, and facilities which assist students in defining and attaining their personal potential and educational goals and which support student success in the classroom. Units in the Division are organized to foster the development of competencies which contribute to student satisfaction and achievement and provide opportunities for meaningful co-curricular and extra-curricular involvement. Student Affairs staff seek to engage students and each other in collaborative learning, in developing coherent values and ethical standards, and in building supportive and inclusive communities within the University which are educationally purposeful, open, just, disciplined, caring, and celebrative.

To test those questions, Student Affairs undertook a major assessment program in 2005-2006. In this program, each ISU Student Affairs unit conducted a two-semester review of its effectiveness and efficiency.

During fall semester 2005, units performed a self-assessment of their strengths and weaknesses, drawing on standards established nationally for Student Affairs practitioners by the Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (CAS). Units for whom no CAS standards existed instead drew on standards used by other professional councils and associations. In one instance, Student Publications, CAS-like standards were written by the department and submitted to CAS for its consideration as a new area for which it might adopt standards.

As a second part of the division-wide assessment process, in spring semester 2006, broad-based committees drawn from campus and community analyzed and reviewed each Student Affairs department. In each case, a frank and comprehensive report was produced that offered feedback to departments and division leaders concerning areas of strength and also areas in need of improvement. Department heads used the fodder of these studies as part of their goals, objectives and assessment projects being planned for academic year 2006-2007.

The division's work on these assessment projects was of both high caliber and great importance. The work helps prepare the Student Affairs Division for being a major participant in the university's reaccreditation process in the rest of this decade.

While this assessment process took place, of course, the daily work of each unit proceeded with accomplishment. Experiential learning was alive and well. Through Student Affairs units, hundreds of students and dozens of staff members impacted the local and regional communities. The collective effect of these activities and initiatives provided a powerful complement to the classroom.

On the following pages, you will find departmental highlights from 2005-2006, tidbits of what we call ...

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>>>>> Many positive steps were taken in the long process of achieving one of the division's highest-profile projects: a new **STUDENT RECREATION CENTER** designed to better meet the fitness and recreation needs that are part of a vibrant campus's life. Student Affairs leaders in many departments, most especially in Recreational Sports and in the Vice President's office, focused closely during the 2005-2006 academic year on coordinating and updating the planning of the center. The project gained strong support in a student-body referendum in spring 2005. The referendum approved a student fee to help fund the center, complemented by private funding. University officials worked throughout the year to gain state approval for the project. When achieved, the recreation center promises to both be a favorite among then-current students and a recruiting advantage to help attract prospective students.

>>>>> In **RESIDENTIAL LIFE**, Burford Hall underwent an \$8.5 million renovation during 2005-2006. The renovation positions Burford as a model for halls that are designed to bring academics into the residential setting and to offer amenities important to today's college students. The hall's reopening was timed to allow it to accept first-year students who were coming to campus in August 2006. The new Burford Hall features double occupancy, air-conditioning, private baths for each room, first-floor activity rooms, a performance room, music practice rooms, wireless Internet connections, and laundry facilities. Burford also features theme housing for students in the College of Business, in the performing arts, and in aerospace technology.



Moving in to the new Burford Hall: First-year students and their families lug their belongings into the newly renovated residence hall which now features academic-theme housing, air-conditioning, performance rooms, wireless Internet, and other amenities.
ISU Public Affairs photo

>>>>> Quick, professional and pre-emptive medical work done by the **STUDENT HEALTH CENTER** staff prevented a potential threat to the overall health of the campus. In fall 2005, many ISU students had been exposed to a student from another university who was diagnosed with bacterial meningitis. Our health center's response prevented any cases at ISU.

>>>>> The departments occupying the Student Services Building responded admirably to a New Year's Eve 2005 fire. Thankfully, damage was relatively minor, but still the building had to be closed while repairs were being made and while the building was thoroughly cleaned. In the interim, the **STUDENT HEALTH CENTER**, **CAREER CENTER**, **STUDENT COUNSELING CENTER** and the **ATHLETICS MEDIA RELATIONS** office all relocated to other buildings and – missing very few beats – maintained their services to

students, employees, alumni and community. **PUBLIC SAFETY** deserves special praise for its immediate response to the fire and its coordination of other emergency responders, the media, and university officials.

>>>>> During the 2005-2006 academic year, the **STUDENT HEALTH CENTER** treated nearly 9,000 patients (not counting all immunization visits). During Sycamore Advantage, the center met with just more than 1,000 people concerning immunizations.

>>>>> The **STUDENT HEALTH CENTER** had an income of \$197,116 during fiscal year 2005-2006 from lab services, X-rays, medications, and treatments.

>>>>> In summer 2006, Dr. Kevin Loeb joined the **STUDENT HEALTH CENTER** as staff physician.

>>>>> A long-dreamed-of new venue for ISU's traditional trike and tandem races opened in fall 2005 with the dedication of the Michael Simmons Student Activity Center. The center became the focus for an area that has come to be called Recreation East. The area also is home to softball games, Marching Sycamores band practice, soccer events, and other exercise and sporting activities. The Simmons Center houses the Susan M. Bareford Memorial Classroom and features historical displays, bleachers, a covered observation deck, trike storage, and restrooms.

The office of **STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS** oversaw the opening and dedication of the Simmons Center, collaborating with ISU offices of Development, Facilities Management and University Curator.

>>>>> A grand total of nearly 56,000 persons took part in **STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS** events during the year: public programs (of which 94 were staged, a 10 percent increase over the previous year), the Homecoming Parade (2,100 participants in the parade, an estimated 10,000 spectators), Student Government Association voting (2,464), trike and tandem races (2,835 participants and fans), student group meetings, and student development sessions (leadership training, for instance).

>>>>> **STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS** also was instrumental in establishing University Religious Leaders as a group with which the university can articulate



Pedal power: Student trike racers compete on the track at the new Michael Simmons Student Activity Center.
ISU Public Affairs photo

on topics related to faith. As a result of the interaction, a session called “Practicing Faith During College” was added to the Knowing Sycamores orientation schedule for 2006.

>>>>> As an Alternative Spring Break project, the **STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS** office, working with ISU’s Center for Community Service and Public Engagement, took 37 Indiana State students and faculty members to Biloxi, Miss., and New Orleans to help with the Hurricane Katrina clean-up effort.

>>>>> **STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS** also was a prime participant in raising funds, promoting, and recruiting volunteers to help build a Habitat for Humanity house on campus, later to be located in town.

>>>>> **PUBLIC SAFETY**’s dispatch area was selected as the back-up site for a critical community emergency services center – namely its new consolidated 911 center that coordinates all police, fire, and ambulance services countywide. That designation came at the same time that ISU Public Safety became a voting member of the Vigo County 911 Advisory Board, which oversees the local 911 system.

>>>>> Staffing changes during this academic year in the **PUBLIC SAFETY** force raised the percentage of females to 25 and the percentage of African Americans to more than 10. Additionally, 25 percent of sergeants were female, and 100 percent of corporals were either female or African-American.

>>>>> **PUBLIC SAFETY** organized a countywide disaster drill that included emergency responders from city, county and state police, ambulance, hospital and assistance agencies. The department also was an active participant in Terre Haute’s “National Night Out” event, which attracted 8,000 visitors to Deming Park. The program is designed to introduce children to police and other emergency service providers in a friendly way. The event featured free food, games, rides, and entertainment. Further, the department participated in three Junior Police Academies sponsored by the Terre Haute Police Department. The academies placed middle-school children in week-long academy environments to teach them about police work.

>>>>> For the first time, **RESIDENTIAL LIFE** provided online housing renewal



Reaching out to young citizens: Officers from ISU Public Safety introduced these youngsters from ISU’s on-campus day-care center to the friendly roles that police play to protect and serve them.
ISU Public Safety photo

sign-ups for returning students. The department also converted confirmation information to electronic form, delivering it to the student's portal e-mail address. These were early steps in Residential Life's plan to make paperless such operations as housing payments and roommate matching.

>>>> RESIDENTIAL LIFE conducted nearly 450 in-hall programs for more than 8,000 attendees. Surveys of students conducted during the year gathered 192 ideas for future programs.

>>>> HULMAN CENTER has since its inception been a venue where campus and community converge. With management of the Hulman Center returned to Student Affairs during 2005-2006, that convergence

accelerated with several aesthetic changes beginning to take place to the building's exterior: sound (ISU music), Sycamore blue lights, and banners. All were designed to add a new environment to greet visitors and add school spirit. Inside, new blue and gray seats in the arena's lower level and new interior signage also have enhanced the sports, entertainment, cultural, and community events the building hosts. Among those events, of course, are the spring and fall ISU commencement celebrations, events at which Hulman Center is the university for graduates, families and guests. A remodeling of the center's ticket office was kicked off in summer 2006 and was designed as a way to make the building more accessible and more inviting to visitors and customers. The changes help position Hulman Center to further enhance its connection to the community, as downtown Terre Haute is transformed by the addition of two new hotels, as a cooperative campus-city parking garage goes up, and as the ISU connection to downtown is solidified by the eventual move of the College of Business to the Federal Building at Seventh and Cherry streets.



Commencing life after ISU:
Twice each year, Hulman Center becomes the venue for the granting of academic degrees, led by President Lloyd W. Benjamin III (at podium).
ISU Public Affairs photo

>>>> HULMAN CENTER also created internship and practicum opportunities for students in the Music Business and Recreation and Sports Management programs.

>>>> In INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS, Sycamore teams won four conference championships. The women's basketball and women's tennis teams both won regular season championships. Men's cross country and men's outdoor track and field won their sports' outright conference championships.

➤➤➤➤ For the third time in four years, **INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS** in 2005 hosted the NCAA Division I Cross Country Men's and Women's National Championships, bringing to Terre Haute thousands of athletes, coaches, families, and fans. ISU was to host the 2006 national championships (and the earlier pre-nationals), and in August 2006 the NCAA announced that ISU would again host the national championship meets in 2007. The course, developed by coach John McNichols and his staff, is hailed as one of the best cross country courses in the nation – indeed in the world. The meets also have presented Terre Haute and Vigo County with multi-million dollars of tourists' spending over the years that ISU and the course have attracted the events.

➤➤➤➤ Academically, the Sycamores continued to hit the books. Leading the way was the women's basketball team, which, besides winning the regular season on the court, was No. 2 in academic ranking among the nation's Division I programs. Of all student athletes, 52 percent attained a cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 or higher during the spring semester. The overall GPA for all student athletes averaged 3.01.

➤➤➤➤ Women's basketball player Melanie Boeglin was selected player of the year in the Missouri Valley Conference.

➤➤➤➤ John McNichols (coordinator of men's and women's track and field and men's track and cross country coach) and Jim Wiedie (women's basketball) both won conference coach of the year honors.

➤➤➤➤ **INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS** bid goodbye to Andi Myers after her six years as Director of Athletics. She was succeeded by Ron Prettyman, who had previously served as athletic director at California State University at Dominguez Hills.

➤➤➤➤ Men's basketball coach Royce Waltman experienced his 300th win during the 2005-2006 season, which began with eight consecutive wins, including a rousing victory over in-state rival Indiana at Hulman Center.

➤➤➤➤ Football coach Lou West began his first year of rebuilding that athletic program, and Lindsay Meggs was hired to take over the baseball program.

➤➤➤➤ ISU's newest varsity sport, women's golf, was approved in 2005 with play beginning in fall 2006. Mike Whitson was hired as coach.

➤➤➤➤ One of ISU's most distinctive and truly harmonious student groups, the



Midcourt marvels thank the fans:

The five senior members of the 2005-2006 ISU women's basketball team bid adieu. The five are (from left): Kristen Weddle, Ashley Clark, Erin Hendrickson, Lisa Verhoff, and Melanie Boeglin. In addition to dominating on the floor, the 2005-2006 team was No. 2 in the nation in academics. *ISU Public Affairs photo*



Ebony Majestic Choir, hosted a 35th-anniversary reunion of past and present members. The celebrative reunion included a concert in Hulman Center. The group's music was recorded onto a CD. The **AFRICAN-AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER** is the Ebony Majestic Choir's home base.

>>>>> The Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Commemoration Dinner, the Miss Ebony Pageant, and a Kwanzaa Celebration were among other high-profile activities presented by the **AFRICAN-AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER**.

>>>>> The **AFRICAN-AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER** also planned and hosted in February 2006 the inaugural Black Leadership Conference – subtitled “Engaging Students in Leadership Success.” The conference, which will become annual when it recurs in February 2007, drew more than 100 participants representing institutions from across the Midwest.

>>>>> The office of **STUDENT JUDICIAL PROGRAMS** continued to fulfill the university's necessary disciplinary function and enforcement of the Code of Student Conduct, protecting the rights both of those aggrieved and of those accused. The Code was converted to a Web-based document, greatly reducing the cost and staff time involved in printing and disseminating the code in hardcopy form.

Reuniting in majestic song:
Past and current members of the Ebony Majestic Choir melded their voices and energies at the group's 35th-anniversary reunion in September 2005.
ISU Public Affairs photo

➤➤➤➤ **STUDENT JUDICIAL PROGRAMS** also coordinated the work of the Academic Integrity Task Force, which reviewed best practices in that area and has recommended revisions to the university's existing academic integrity policies and procedures.

➤➤➤➤ The All-University Court, which works in concert with **STUDENT JUDICIAL PROGRAMS**, had all of its 18 seats filled, increasing the body's effectiveness.

➤➤➤➤ **RECREATIONAL SPORTS** hosted more than a combined 70,000 hours of participation in its programming array: self-directed recreation, intramural teams (230), Get Fit, climbing wall, outdoor recreation, and community use of facilities.

➤➤➤➤ **RECREATIONAL SPORTS** also continued its long-established practice of offering students on its staff experiential learning opportunities in managing recreation sports programs, field experiences, and other practicum situations. The department also offered graduate assistants opportunities to develop their professional interest in recreation-related activities.

➤➤➤➤ In an attempt to document student learning outcomes, the **OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS RESEARCH AND EFFECTIVENESS** began developing a way to assess and measure those outcomes in factors such as critical thinking, self-awareness, communication, diversity, citizenship, membership, leadership, and relationships. A pilot study survey was planned for the fall 2006 semester to gather baseline data. The instrument could blossom such that in the future it might be administered to all incoming first-year students and then be used each succeeding year to track those students' growth and development throughout their ISU careers.

➤➤➤➤ The **SARE** office also supported survey research in concert with the Indiana Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking and with Universom Communications dealing with student and employer perceptions of the current "world of work."

➤➤➤➤ The **CAREER CENTER** met in career counseling sessions with just more than 2,500 individual students and alumni (nearly 3,800 sessions) during this academic year. Within the grand total, the center served nearly 1,850 undergraduate students (each counted once only), or 22.9 percent of the undergraduate student body. Of the 2,500 students counseled, nearly 23 percent were minority students. Almost 60 percent of the 3,800 visits involved Student Employment, the office through which students find jobs to support their education. Other leading reasons for visits to the Career Center were: resume and



Playing where the varsities play: Women's intramural basketball teams from the Recreational Sports program play an all-campus tournament championship game on the Hulman Center floor.
ISU Recreational Sports photo

cover letter advice; practice job interviews; and career counseling.

>>>>> The **CAREER CENTER** attracted 1,250 students and alumni to a series of three career fairs consisting of career opportunity fairs in fall and spring semester and a teacher recruitment fair at the end of spring semester. Notably, 14 percent of those attending the three career fairs were African-American and 6.6 percent were international students. Also of note, 13 percent of those attending were ISU alumni.

>>>>> The **CAREER CENTER** hosted the inaugural Rex Breeden Internship Institute in April 2006. Breeden, a 1942 graduate of ISU, underwrote the funding for the event, which offered employers and ISU students a venue for together learning to plan and manage effective internship programs.

>>>>> The **CAREER CENTER** also was active in: 1) promoting experiential learning in ways such as internships; 2) making in-class presentations more than 170 times to about 8,000 students; 3) extending Sycamore Career Link, an online forum and marketplace where employers and potential employees meet, to nearly 2,000 students; 4) facilitating on-campus recruiting for nearly 70 employers who connected with about 275 students; and 5) offering a series of networking and dining etiquette workshops designed to teach students how to “work a room” and successfully navigate a formal meal with a potential employer.

>>>>> As a result of its internal self-assessment (following CAS guidelines), the **CAREER CENTER** adopted new mission statement language, seven new goals and 22 new objectives.

>>>>> **HULMAN MEMORIAL STUDENT UNION** produced 6,401 events during the 2005-2006 academic year, an increase of 201 events over the previous year.

>>>>> To expand building safety, **HMSU** provided an enhanced emergency response plan that involved training for staff and floor captains at each level of the building. The ground-floor Information Center has become an emergency command center.

>>>>> **HMSU** also improved event production in Dede II and Dede III by replacing those rooms’ sound systems, complementing the qualities of its grandest meeting room, Dede I.



Paving the path to vital careers:

A vendor discusses employment opportunities with an ISU student at one of ISU’s three annual career fairs.

ISU Career Center photo

>>>>> The **HMSU** remodeled Sycamore Lounge (formerly Sam's) in an upscale fashion with new lounge furniture groupings and expanded audio and video equipment. It also began to offer free billiards, periodicals, new board and card games, and additional power outlets for laptops. The space is an open lounge during the day and can be reserved during evenings. After reopening in its new format, the lounge was such a hit with students (or so a survey found) that daytime hours were extended until 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

>>>>> Student Affairs officials were key forces in forging relationships with two new corporate partners. After months of discussions, Pepsi was selected as ISU's exclusive beverage supplier. Part of that agreement was achieved with the assistance of Nelligan Sports Marketing, ISU's new athletics partner that is working to widen ISU's sponsor relationships.

>>>>> **STUDENT PUBLICATIONS**, the umbrella office for the Indiana Statesman and iQ magazine, continued to provide experiential learning opportunities in journalism, advertising, and peer management to as many as 100 students over the course of a year.

>>>>> **INDIANA STATESMAN** and **iQ** students amassed 41 awards in state and national contests for news, commentary, and advertising. Two efforts by Statesman students were judged national finalists in Society of Professional Journalists Mark of Excellence Competition for college students. In that same competition, iQ won first place at the regional level.

>>>>> The **INDIANA STATESMAN** was beneficiary of a \$4,000 Experiential Learning and Community Engagement Curriculum/Research Award from the university. That award funded a readership survey conducted by Dr. David Worley's Communication 303 (Research Methods) class. In that class setting, the Indiana Statesman played the real-world role of client in shaping the survey instrument.

>>>>> The **STUDENT COUNSELING CENTER** continued, as it has for several years, to increase its contact with students while needs for its services have risen dramatically. In 2005-2006, it saw nearly 500 individual students in nearly 3,800 sessions, an increase of 15 percent in number of students and 10 percent in number of sessions. Those



Lounging upscale in new Sycamore spot: Sycamore Lounge (formerly Sam's) took on a new look and offered new relaxation options for students during study breaks and casual meetings. *Hulman Memorial Student Union photo*

numbers meant the center provided services to 4.7 percent of the student body. The range of services provided includes: counseling for depression; anxiety and obsessive-compulsive disorders; relationship concerns; post-traumatic stress disorder; sexual assault; sex abuse; substance abuse; and personality disorders.

➤➤➤➤ The **STUDENT COUNSELING CENTER** also widened its outreach through its Student Health Promotions programs that were presented in classes and to groups. Topics covered included alcohol abuse, conflict resolution, eating disorders, sexually transmitted diseases, stress management, substance abuse, nutrition, suicide prevention, time management, and sexual assault prevention. The department's outreach educator presented 296 sessions reaching more than 8,000 students. Additionally, the SCC staff attended 163 classes to make presentations. SCC staff also presented mental health and lifestyle information at Sycamore Advantage, Knowing Sycamores, and new-student orientation within Intercollegiate Athletics.



➤➤➤➤ In the area of experiential learning, the **STUDENT COUNSELING CENTER** continues to serve as a training ground for ISU graduate students in psychology who are in the process of becoming psychologists. The center also provided opportunities for co-op students from ISU's Community Health program.

➤➤➤➤ The **STUDENT COUNSELING CENTER** also developed or assisted in the development of the University's involuntary medical withdrawal policy, a self-destructive behavior policy, and a suicide prevention program.

➤➤➤➤ Student Affairs' two long-time corporate affiliates, **BARNES AND NOBLE BOOKSTORE** and **SODEXHO DINING SERVICES**, continued to provide excellent service to students and the whole university community.

➤➤➤➤ **SODEXHO** served more than 859,000 meals in residence halls and more than 625,000 meals in its retail operations (examples: 7,900 Burger King Whoppers and 16,000 soft tacos from Taco Bell). Sodexho also donated almost 9,000 pounds of prepared food items to a local food pantry.

➤➤➤➤ Six food handlers from Terre Haute's 14th and Chestnut Community Center were trained by **SODEXHO** concerning safe food handling.

➤➤➤➤ **SODEXHO** created a new partnership with ISU Admissions that ensured

Reaching out for better health: Student Counseling Center outreach educator Aimee Janssen-Robinson shares information on weight and nutrition with two ISU students.
Indiana Statesman photo

that all prospective students experienced residence hall dining during campus visits.

>>>>> Four Student Affairs colleagues were awarded the **PRESIDENT'S MEDALLION AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**: Jan Arnett, Dean of Students; Bonita Odom McGee, Director of Student Judicial Programs; Arnie Karagis, Sodexho catering operations manager; and Bob Warn, ISU's long-time baseball coach who retired in 2006. The awards were given in recognition of outstanding service and dedication to ISU.



Foursome honored for excellence: Four Student Affairs staff members were among seven honored in summer 2006 with the President's Medallion Award of Excellence. They are: Jan Arnett (top left), Arnie Karagis (top right), Bonita Odom McGee (above, left), and Bob Warn (above, right). Presenting the awards were President Lloyd W. Benjamin III and Mike Alley, President of the ISU Board of Trustees. *ISU Public Affairs photos*

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