

FOREWORD



The fundamental mission of Indiana University is excellence in research and education, and essential to both sustaining and enhancing this excellence even further are the University's facilities—the laboratories, classrooms, arts performance spaces, libraries, residence halls, athletic facilities, and much more. These all support, in numerous vital ways, research and education at Indiana University, and they collectively make a vital contribution to student life and to the broader life of the University community.

It follows that lack of adequate facilities can directly affect Indiana University's aspirations for excellence. For example, a study completed in 2005 noted that lack of space "... represents possibly the biggest single impediment to IU reaching its full potential as a research university."

Over the last few years, the University, with the approval and strong support of the Board of Trustees, has embarked on an aggressive campaign to significantly expand and enhance its facilities in pursuit of its missions of excellence, especially on the Bloomington and Indianapolis campuses.

But such a campaign requires careful planning to ensure that all of the myriad factors that can affect the most efficient functioning of these facilities are taken into account—factors such as campus population growth, enhanced campus social development, preservation of historic campus elements, renovation and restoration needs, transportation, residential accommodation, land use, environmental impact, sustainability, local community impact and interaction, provision of utilities and communications infrastructure, and many others.

In short, Indiana University requires master plans for the future development of both of these campuses that can guide the thoughtful development of both campuses in accordance with a set of fundamental planning principles that provide consistency in decision making, the ability to make informed decisions, predictability, and the most effective use of resources. Ultimately, such plans will preserve and enhance all that is most fundamental to the character of these campuses.

Master plans have a great history in the development of rationally-planned—though human-centered and human-scaled—communities like universities, not only providing guides for wrestling with the thorny day-to-day problems of facility planning, but also providing a coherent vision of the future to inspire and lead.

Although there have been master planning efforts of great quality and distinction for both campuses in the past—most notably that of the legendary Olmsted Brothers for the Bloomington campus in 1929—there was a strong need for new master plans for both campuses that fully reflect the contemporary realities and aspirations of these campuses as they strive to reach new levels of excellence.

These were the goals that I set for the development of the Indiana University master plans when we started the process of their development in 2007. Less than two years later, the fundamentals of these plans were complete and were approved by the Board of Trustees in February 2009. It was noted that these would be followed over the following year by volumes providing all of the detailed analyses and studies behind the plans. This volume, providing a detailed description of the master plan for the Indiana University Bloomington campus, is the first of these. This is the most substantial and comprehensive plan of its type ever developed for the campus. It provides a superb and far-reaching vision for the future development of the campus that is the result of the synthesis of data and input from a myriad of sources and of deep reflection that in turn resulted in a plan that is sensitive to the great traditions of the campus while describing a carefully conceived path to an even more impressive future.

I would like to thank all the faculty, staff, and students (thanked by name later in this volume) who have contributed so much to the development of this master plan. I would also like to congratulate Indiana University's master planners, SmithGroup/JJR, and the University's Master Planner and SmithGroup/JJR Chairman, David King, for an outstanding and exciting plan that will guide the development of the campus for decades to come, and in doing so, ensure that Indiana University will be one of the great universities of the 21st century.

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