

Master Plan Online Survey

Question 2 - What features of the campus need to be enhanced and/or changed? What is missing?

Less litter and trash. I think the worst offenders are students and possibly even their parents. I have no ideas how to better educate them or instill in them a pride for preserving the quality of that environment. Perhaps staff in Student Affairs and Alumni Services would have some usable insights how to accomplish those results.

A Welcome Center for visitors is missing. Potential students and their parents, alumni, visitors have no idea where to park to visit campus unless it happens to be an open house day.

It would be nice to preserve Rambo House.

I think Milner Library and Bone Student Center should be joined, with a big public gathering space in the middle.

The block of northbound Main Street, just before Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology (CTLT) and north of the church being renovated, is REALLY SHABBY and creates a very poor impression. This should be integrated into campus - and/or incentive given to business owners to fix up these properties.

Although this has improved recently, we still need more public gathering places on campus. A coffee house for students, with acoustic music at night, would be great. Lots of students would choose this instead of the bars.

In general, we need more on-campus options for food, i.e. non-fast-food restaurants where people can gather (other than McAlister's).

The Center for Visual Arts has got to be revamped. Hopefully money will come in for this.

So many to list. To begin with, it is the filthiest campus I have ever been on and I have been affiliated with seven through the years. Last semester there were used condoms and boxer shorts on the stairway between Watterson Towers and Stevenson Hall for almost the entire semester, even after I reported it.

Stevenson Hall would have been better torn down and I am amazed the OSHA has allowed people to be exposed to these kinds of hazards that it has posed.

Aside from physical deficiencies, the quality of teaching, particularly in the case of some of the tenured faculty is horrific. I had a much more positive learning experience for my undergraduate and Masters studies.

The parking is a pain, especially if you commute. Paying the fees for a parking pass is not the money because the lots fill up so fast each day, and they are a good walk from the actual Quad. The new toilets in the updated buildings do not need to be automatic flush. Frequently the bathrooms will be full of unflushed toilets and when you try to push the little button to fix this problem nothing happens. Normal flushers work just fine.

First off, the Bone Student Center does not feel like a Student Center, It seems like it is just an extended part of the Braden Auditorium. A real food court would also be a nice addition to the student center.

The large concrete plaza on the north end of the Quad where the Old Main used to be located seems underutilized. A structure, such as a small amphitheater, with a stage facing towards the south, would be a great addition to that particular space.

The current Center for the Visual Arts is most certainly overdue for replacement or at the very least a complete renovation.

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Milner Library could use a major remodeling, it is not a very attractive or welcoming building, but has potential. This is also (to a slightly lesser extent) true of the Bone Student Center/Braden Auditorium/Brown Ballroom building.

Parking for commuter students needs to be more convenient. It is often located in odd or inconvenient locations and is rarely very close to most of the campus facilities. Better marking of and expansion of bicycle routes around campus would also be highly beneficial.

The ISU stadium lacks any character.

The Bone Student Center is too small and as a result does not provide the space needed to be the center of the University activities. Not enough 'friendly' space for students and or visitors to hang out especially on weekends.

Feeney Southside dining center should be renovated, not destroyed. It is an important part of campus and we cannot afford to lose another dining hall.

We need more food options. Three dining halls are not enough, we need more options to use our meal plan, and more options to use our flex dollars.

A value of history is what is missing. Normal, Illinois is a historic town and that fact should be celebrated rather than demolished.

We need the Phase I renovation of Hancock stadium.

Change or remove the tent-like structure in front of the library. It is not attractive.

Watterson Towers looks like a dungeon. The colors are very gray and institutional in appearance instead of inviting and comforting.

The greenery...keep it!...expand on it! Build a bandstand in the middle of the Quad as a permanent stage for events...and update some of the outside artwork (and repair/clean what is already there)!

Remove signs of aging buildings by better exterior and interior maintenance and upgrades.

Several older buildings currently in use now such as Student Accounts building (West Dry Grove Street) and Centennial Buildings seriously need attention. The Centennial Buildings are already slated for action but it is noticeably apparent the Student Accounts Building is not. The three departments which are part of this building are struggling to meet up with demand of the ever growing ISU where any number of buildings you access are renovated, updated with the newest technology, most have updated office equipment, the best hvac to enhance customers while transacting their business then there is the Student Accounts Building. It is like entering the 1950's. My belief is that this building has seen its better days and should be slated to be demolished. When it is painted the paint peels, when it rains the rainwater is directed to the bottom of the building and does not run off but runs into the footings causing erosion where you can actually see the rebar. The heating and air conditioning does not work so it is unbearably hot winter pre-air conditioning or cold summer pre-winter. Water does not work all the time and the restrooms break down often where employees do not have access to them for day(s) at a time - no one even cares enough to e-mail their division so employees can make other arrangements.

I like the new Alumni Center (except for the color), but it is an island of its own. Work with the Town to better connect this area with the main campus area through signage street lamp flags, etc. The purpose I thought was this to be an entrance to the campus, but it does not accomplish this because it does not flow together.

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The Milner Library and Bone Student Center area of campus needs improvement. The plaza between them is mechanically unsound and the future Milner Library and Bone Student Center projects should emphasize the use of this area for greater support of the campus community as a whole .

Recreational facilities for alumni and retirees.

Better central parking or shuttle service.

Older buildings torn down making better use of centralized services.

We need a different spot for Financial Aid, Student Accounts, cashiers and transcripts. These all need to be close together or in same building for the convenience of the students and alumni.

There is a need on the west side of town for more gym/workout facilities. While I understand that ISU Recreation Center is for the students first, I am hoping the new facility will be big enough to accommodate community members also. If the price is reasonable enough, it will be a good revenue source for the University and it will be a good way to build more ISU pride in the community.

The Student Accounts Office. It is off campus and away from the students. Please incorporate it back. Also, the Bone Student Center could use a facelift. I know your working on it, I hope it happens soon.

The Bone Student Center is not student-centered.

The football stadium lacks "curb appeal".

Horton Fieldhouse looks terrible from the outside.

We need campus-wide wireless (inside and out).

A real student center. While many improvements have been made to the building, it is what it is. The space is inadequate by professional standards and not well designed to serve as a student center. I have been to far lesser institutions that have far better buildings to meet the needs of students. Enough of the renovation – let us use the Bone Student Center parking lot as the staging area for a new building, and put parking underneath the new facility... in my opinion this is worth the bond issue.

We would benefit from a real football stadium. When I first came to campus, I sincerely thought that there was a high school stadium situated at the middle of our campus. I realize we need private money to develop this, but I hope the University will aggressively pursue these funds.

Bone Student Center needs to be enhanced in square footage and design; this project is overdue.

Prominent entrances to campus for visitors are missing -- need one for guests coming from north and west and another for guests from east/Uptown Normal.

A centrally-located cultural center (housing ethnic studies programs, TRIO, co-curricular diversity programs) is missing.

Cardinal Court needs to be significantly enhanced or replaced with other on-campus apartment living options.

History where visitors can mingle and share ISU's rich heritage.

Change location of Student Accounts Building as this building has lost its effectiveness and this building lacks effectiveness in reaching the very populace they are trying to reach.

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The art building is terrible! The roof leaks onto all of our electrical equipment when it rains, the ceiling and floor are covered in mildew, there is no ventilation or windows, it is like being in prison except the government would not put prisoners in this building!!!!

More residence halls or on campus housing

Additional surface parking for employees so they are not forced to pay the higher rate for garage parking

The upkeep of the grounds seem to be slacking off (area around south campus/construction zone is left unkempt).

Continue to help with parking for students, staff, and guests.

A lot of the buildings built in the 60's, 70's & 80's (all the dorms, DeGarmo Hall Centennial East & West, Turner Hall, Milner Library, Julian Hall) look dated and bring down the aesthetic of the campus. They should be replaced or renovated (think Schroeder hall). Any new buildings should be built to last and fit in with the historic look of the campus, the College of Business building is a good example. The renovation of Hancock Stadium is past due. Students, alumni and the community deserve better and this should a high priority. No more putting it off.

Missing is more housing, as an ISU employee and a Normal resident, I see developers lurking wanting to build more student apartments. While it may be great for the tax base, it destroys neighborhoods, and NO ONE wants them near their homes, and their buildings are just plain ugly. We refer to The Oaks as the Federal Pen and the Junction as the baby ca-ca building. Spare the town by building housing that students want to live in. Partner with developers, but retain control over how the property is maintained, especially if you build with someone on South Campus. As it stands now there seems to be no accountability for apartment owners maintaining the appearance of their properties, the University has the power to change that model.

Remove Rambo House! Eyesore.

There is a lot of missing turf over by the College of Business building.

I would love an outdoor amphitheater on the Quad for music and dramatic performances.

Center for the Visual Arts and Centennial East and West are in great need of remodeling.

Horton Fieldhouse facilities are out of date.

The Bone Student Center needs to be more for students. The Student Accounts department needs to be more centralized or maybe even in the Bone Student Center.

Missing-A central area for student academic/financial needs. A place that a student can go and visit Admissions, Academic Advisors, Student Accounts, Financial Aid, Cashiers and other services without travelling all around campus or even off campus.

Affordable parking.

I would like to see the student visited areas of campus closer together. It would make it easier for students trying to get around campus, especially during beginning and ending of semesters when they are trying to get things in order such as finances and such.

The structure (inverted roof) between Bone Student Center and Milner Library is sort of ugly, and I have heard it does not work very well. So, it would be nice if that area could be made more attractive. Also, I think it would be nice to enclose the bridge between the Bone Student Center and the Quad. It is very windy up there. Maybe, it could be enclosed, but with glass windows, so it would be safe.

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Integration of architecture and beautification of the campus with defined entrances to the campus would improve the visual impressions and atmosphere for the entire campus and visitors to the campus. It lacks distinctiveness and definition upon arriving from any direction. (Go visit Western Kentucky University to see how they have reconfigured approaches to the campus).

Football stadium..... it is an embarrassment to the university.

I think that the older buildings need to be upgraded to Ethernet standard. Some of the old buildings are still using token ring and that is not good for the speed we need to use.

When older buildings are replaced or remodeled, they need to resemble the majority of present buildings, so there is some continuity in the type of architecture campus wide.

Some of the buildings appear to be a hodge-podge of whatever was popular or different at the time it was built.

The effort to represent all the state trees is nice but the grass on the Quad cannot seem to fill in well. Maybe an effort to make soil and tougher grass seed improvements once construction is completed.

Parking. The parking lots are in bad condition and are eyesores. For future structures, please consider designs that incorporate parking beneath the footprint of the building. It may be the best use of available space, and diminishes the look of vast areas of concrete.

Pedestrian walkways over the busy roadways (College Avenue near Turner Hall, area of University Street, etc.) going through campus, close to campus or outside of campus where students interact with motoring public. The pedestrian walkway from Kingley intersection and College Avenue headed to Turner Hall during the daylight is horrible then add darkness when moving across for night Redbird Arena games is taking your life into your hands. As you know, no motorist will stop or slow down or follow "rules of the road" when pedestrians are in the walkway anywhere, so please save us by putting in pedestrian walkways for ISU student, parents, staff, employees, visitor, alumni. Help us save our lives.

The Bone Student Center is in serious need of renovation and expansion. It is too small for the number of students, faculty, staff, annuitants, and community members that it tries to serve. The recent "patches" are very nice, but it needs a DEEP renovation and expansion.

We are missing a faculty/staff club--a place that could cater to the faculty and staff that has good food at a reasonable price.

The Bowling and Billiards Center should not be a separate building from the Bone Student Center. Fill in the area in between with an expansion/connection. Rehabilitate the exterior and interior of the Bowling and Billiards Center.

Bone Student Center food offerings and the Bowling and Billiards Center.

ISU is missing a building dedicated to technology. We have technology units, both administrative and academic, spread across campus. Technology is the backbone of our lives today and ISU should step up to dedicate the proper resources to make sure we are committed to technology on campus for all students, faculty and staff. A dedicated building, resource and staff would ultimately benefit every interaction for ISU.

There is no building dedicated to technology on campus. Technology is the common thread of our lives in today's world. Administrative and academic resources on campus could benefit from being housed in a state of the art facility. Think of the advances ISU could make in reaching out to students, faculty, staff and the outside world with proper resources.

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Gateways could be more attractive as people approach campus.

All the boulders and large rocks in the Quad and surrounding area. The worst would be all the concrete in front of Stevenson Hall. I would like to just see a natural environment there instead -- trees and grass.

A new football stadium. We need to do more than improve the current facilities and we need to quit pushing it further in the future.

Some of the exterior buildings, sidewalks, cornerstone, edging, etc. need to be updated or fixed sooner to accent the visual appeal of the University.

Construct a second science laboratory facility to support Biological Sciences and Physics. This should be expanded to also include the Chemistry Department which currently resides in Science Laboratory Building. In Chemistry, we are 'full' and yet are hiring new people to start in fall of 2010 and they will require laboratory space. Over the last 30 years, the Chemistry Department has changed from a more teaching intensive department to a more research intensive program and this requires more equipment and space. It appears that this issue has not been addressed in the Masterplan.

Too many programs are limited by their facilities. This is especially true in the sciences. For these programs to grow, it is absolutely necessary for new and expanded facilities, either a new building or an expansion to an existing building. Certain buildings (Moulton Hall, Felmley Hall) are too old to be used as modern laboratory facilities and should eventually be replaced. The high-rise dormitories are a bit of an eyesore, but realistically cannot be replaced I suppose!

Laboratory facilities (particularly in terms of available square footage) for the sciences is severely lagging behind the needs of department, faculty, and their research groups. Given the emphasis ISU is now placing on research, the amount of funding faculty are going out and getting, and the number of students performing research in these laboratories, there is a need for at least an additional building. In some cases there are a dozen or more students conducting research in a laboratory designed to safely accommodate five or six people. Many of the faculty would have double the research space if they were at peer institutions.

University between College Avenue and Beaufort Street needs to be permanently closed as does School Street between College Avenue and Front Street. Both currently create significant pedestrian hazards, particularly given that local motorists do not yield to pedestrians in crosswalks. A pedestrian bridge crossing the College Avenue-Mulberry Street and School Street intersection would be both a safety and a visual enhancement.

The campus needs to be more residential. There need to be a higher percentage of students living on campus to promote campus unity. This needs to be done while at the same time meeting the desire for more space and privacy by modern students.

It would be really nice to link core campus buildings by a bridge/tunnel system, so students, staff and faculty could traverse campus more easily in adverse weather. Other schools have done this.

ISU needs to have a green/sustainable building policy. All new building and all renovations need to be constructed with energy conservation, environmental protection, and long-term savings in mind.

Infrastructure improvement of historic facilities.

Modern technology advanced centrally located facility for the Honors Program.

Keep trying to open yourselves to the community. Wayfinding would be something worth looking into.

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The Bone Student Center is outdated and lacks functional seating for studying, and informal meeting. There is also no general sitting, or meeting place other than the small area on the top floor. It feels cold and uncomfortable when you are in there, and there is no clear wayfinding since the layout is so jumbled. Also, even though the Quad is beautiful, there is minimal seating anywhere on the Quad. It would be nice to be able to sit outside and enjoy the beauty when the weather is nice.

Many of our buildings (e.g. Turner Hall) were designed for an era with very different instructional expectations. Where educational buildings used to be just functional, today they must be attractive for recruiting and retaining students and faculty, and also support modern instructional methods - team work breakout space, Wifi, food, etc. Think College of Business vs. Turner Hall. Buildings as remote as Turner Hall could also use a coffee/lunch kiosk with a Starbucks like atmosphere of Wifi, group networking space.

Turner Hall is located far from the main campus. There are no pleasant venues for students to meet in the building. Although the building is undergoing renovation, it is not clear any such space will be added. Perhaps a team work breakout space with Wifi, food, and coffee could be added.

With all due respect to those involved with the project, someone needs to re-open the pathway between the College of Business building and McCormick Hall so students do not have to walk around the College of Business building in order to get to the Quad.

A lot could use rehabbing and just working on general maintenance and upkeep so keep the place looking nicer instead of a bit run down.

I REALLY want to see parking improved. I lived in Hewett my freshman and sophomore years, and I am an art major. We had to get large materials like pieces of wood, even plywood at times and it was hard parking far away and having to take the bus. I am very privileged to be able to bring my car to ISU, but even as a sophomore, I did not get into a close parking lot until halfway through the year. I think that the area around Hewett/Manchester can be fixed. Also, I would like to see the circle drive outside of Hewett/Manchester fixed, even it means ripping out the grass right out front. It is insane trying to come back on weekends, especially Thanksgiving and winter break, and even spring break, because there are only two loading spots.

We need a true student center. Bone Student Center is doing the job.

As a student with a disability I would like to say that there are a number of enhancements to the physical and non-physical aspects of the ISU campus which need desperate improvement. The first of which is better, proper, ADA compliant signage in all academic, residential, and public use buildings. I have noticed the more difficult and inappropriate way, as a student with a visual impairment that there is a large deficit in the amount of proper ADA compliant signage marking room numbers/names, directional signs, and in some minor instances, elevators with misprinted braille numbers. I attended classes in DeGarmo Hall for a few years and found it difficult to locate rooms without having to request assistance or do what a Dept. of Special Education does and find a chair to stand on so as to read the faded, ancient brown plaques with what I'm assuming is a yellowed white numbers room number signs. On my first orientation and mobility lesson on campus to help learn specific buildings where I would have classes my fully sighted instructor had so much difficulty in finding a room in DeGarmo's basement that we were forced to ask in the Education office where the room was located. We were told that the sort of confusion we experienced occurs very often in the basement by everyone. Second I have a friend who attended ISU during the remodeling project in Tri-towers, she lived in one of the open halls at the time and was experiencing health problems with her knee. This person eventually had to undergo surgery and was in a (manual) wheel chair for a period of time. During this time immediately following the remodeling of the area including the dining center, she found that because of the high gradient of the ramp going into the dining center she was unable to wheel herself into the dining center without assistance from another person. She discussed the issue with Disability Concerns but was not provided much

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assistance at that point other than a suggestion to move to Southside where no ramp or assistive device/individual would be necessary as is the case at both Watterson Commons and Linkins Center. It is a terrible fate for any student who attend this university and must go through such a degrading, debilitating experience as being forced to go hungry (as she said she did on several occasions) because no one would help, forced to move to another area of campus because a newly (or older) renovated area of campus does not have a legitimately ADA compliant ramp to enter a building, any building, especially a dorm or dining center. There is no excuse for such inaccessibility or stupidity on the part of the university, its divisions, or the contractor who worked in or on the buildings to not be fully compliant with the ADA, a law which is nearly 20 years old (signed into law on July 26, 1990). Third, but certainly not last or least, ISU, though better than some universities, has a great deal of work to be done to really be understanding and willing to work toward a better community, one which is accessible, welcoming, open to all people, and one which strives for diversity. I have attended ISU for several years now and have seen how even in the Special Education Department there are issues of finding professors willing to provide or continue to provide appropriate and reasonable accommodations in classes. I have had good and bad professors, some who are open and willing to help in whatever way possible, and those who say they will but go back on promised accommodations or simply "forget" on a weekly, daily basis that there is a need for certain reasonable accommodations such as enlarged printed handouts, emailed handouts ahead of time so if the copy is bad or material needs text conversion it may be done so in a timely manner, one which supports the student requiring such accommodations to be able to participate fully in class discussion. I have also seen a severe lack of knowledge regarding technical know how, understand or any other awareness of computer software/hardware which may provide a student accessibility to use lab or classroom computers across campus, including in the Special Education Assistive Technology Center (SEAT Center) where I once had a class and it required the director of the center nearly 1/2 to 3/4 of the semester to make one computer fully updated with one software program so I could enlarge the screen and be able to fully participate, function, and utilize the computers at the same time, in a timely manner as my fellow classmates. After being patient and waiting two weeks following an initial contact I spoke with the same person who told me he would get on it however after waiting another week I found my trial version of the software out of time and unable to be utilized. I then requested and received support from Disability Concerns who I had been keeping in contact with throughout the same time period. After they made their phone calls the software program was installed but not for another week. I then found that the person who installed it (the person in charge of the SEAT Center) had not in fact activated it and fully double checked that it was fully functioning so I let him know that he needed to activate the copy and had X amount of days to do it in before I would not be able to use the program again. It took nearly the entirety of another trial period (approximately 30 days) for the software to be properly activated and installed correctly. I do not find this to be acceptable in any lab especially one which is supposed to be for and of technology for people with disabilities. This all took place after I had to highly encourage Disability Concerns to urge the university to update their version of this enlargement software across campus because the version located on campus and the more up to date copies of other software such as MS Office were incompatible with one another. Since then I have seen improvement in how often the university updates their copy of both Zoomtext (the screen enlargement software) and JAWS (a screen reading software) in computer labs across campus however the technical awareness of such software, updates for it, and understanding of issues or installation procedures for such software along with the other assistive technology around campus has not improved much at all. These 3-4 issues are only the beginning of what I, one individual with a visual impairment, sees as needed enhancements around the ISU campus. These do not include the desperate need for improved pedestrian systems at college and school street and at any point along Main St. If you need any idea as to why these crossings are dangerous just watch the students who cross diagonally at College and School so they do not have to deal with the complexities of the intersection (not to mention the poor quality, very small curb cuts at that intersection).

"Green" aspects, energy efficiency, better air and acoustics

Turner Hall needs a facelift on the outside of the building similar to what was done on Schroeder Hall. While the building is functional, it is not attractive for recruiting and retaining students and faculty. This building houses

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modern technology programs and is one of the buildings visitors see when they attend sporting events at the Arena. Why not make it a showcase type of building. Turner Hall is also rather remote from the rest of campus and could use a coffee/lunch kiosk with a Starbucks like atmosphere of Wifi and group networking space.

The heating and cooling system needs to be fixed for all of the buildings. Have a moderate temperature for offices in the different seasons so that it doesn't waste money on heating and cooling.

Fell Street flooding! An Olympic size pool and updated swimming facilities.

Please give us more bars within walking distance. I am tired of University of Illinois kids saying that ISU means "I screwed up". If we could create a sort of green street like they have...where there are things to do... I think we would have less people roaming the streets with nothing to do.

I think the areas just outside the Quad should not be separated by major roads, or any roads at all. The central campus is very nice and convenient.