



Reimagining Four Outdoor Campus Spaces

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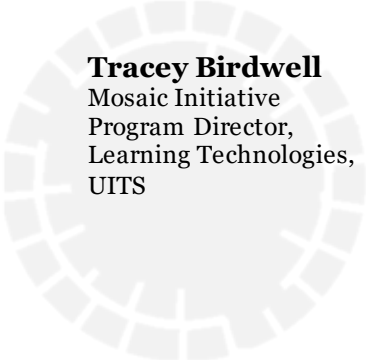
Purpose

In this proposal, we highlight four outdoor locations on the IUPUI campus that could, with limited additions, readily support student learning and public engagement. The locations--Magnolia Courtyard, Fountain Courtyard/South Breezeway, Taylor Hall Courtyard, and Wood Fountain--are all situated in the central corridor of campus. Our goal with this proposal is to generate conversation among campus stakeholders about the possibilities that small but transformational additions to these spaces could bring to the IUPUI campus community. Their prime locations mean that many campus stakeholders and visitors could use the spaces once changes are made. Each highly visible site offers different possible use-cases that are explored in this proposal.

Potential for Outdoor Spaces at IUPUI

Our outdoor campus spaces hold strategic significance for their potential to support student engagement on campus. IUPUI outdoor spaces could be systematically reconsidered in how they could serve students, including reflecting on how campus could expand and improve the offering of outdoor study spaces, add outdoor classroom spaces, and provide additional student group and event gathering spaces. Providing more locations for students to gather and learn also encourages IUPUI students to come to campus and to remain there for longer periods during the day. Student on-campus presence has the potential to foster increased engagement with peers and with the broader campus community. More students on campus (whether students are engaged with face-to-face courses, or online) could also increase campus revenue due to spending (parking, food, and usage of campus services) while on campus. Providing more outdoor spaces for students can support student engagement as IUPUI becomes more of a residential campus, and more students utilize the campus outside of typical class-meeting times.

Outdoor spaces also offer places where external stakeholders could meet, contribute to, and experience the IUPUI community. Visitors who come to campus (including prospective students) would be able to see students outdoors collaborating and engaging in campus activities.



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Space 1 | Magnolia Courtyard

The Outdoor Space

This location measuring 51' by 176' features a natural bowl shape, like a small amphitheater. Trees create a ring of shade and privacy along the outlines of the square. Buildings on all four sides of this green space block the wind. Sidewalks surrounding the space allow for accessible entrances to the area from any direction.



Potential Outdoor Classroom

We suggest that the Magnolia Courtyard would be a good candidate for creating an outdoor classroom. This classroom could be scheduled by instructors who wished to hold class outside for a class meeting and who wished to have resources similar to a classroom (seating, a presentation area, collaboration tools) to facilitate instruction.

The space could be used by small enrollment courses (such as FYE courses), and the space can be scheduled as needed. The Division of Undergraduate Education (DUE) already schedules this space utilizing IU's 25 Live classroom management system. Users of the space can request use of the space using a web form. DUE will also be able to store and deliver any resources needed for the use of the space.

An outdoor classroom could be used as a study space, as a gathering space for student groups, and for university events, such as school graduation ceremonies, press events, and events for external groups.



What features can we add to the space to support student and community engagement?

- Seating under the shade of the trees for 35 students
- Power near (or within) the seating
- A platform in the center of the space to support and covering over the platform
- Sound amplification

Space 2 | Fountain Courtyard/South Breezeway

The Outdoor Space

This location measuring 51' by 236.5' includes the spaces around the fountain and the shaded area under the SPEA/Business building. These two spaces could be reconceived as one large, cohesive multi-varied learning zone.

Potential Outdoor Study Spaces

- 1.) The flat space that surrounds the fountain boasts brick and concrete surfacing and could gain additional seating with solar panels for extended outdoor study. Sidewalks surrounding the space allow for accessible entrance to the area from any direction.



2.) The shaded area under the BS building has ample square footage and protection from rain and sun. The space could also gain additional seating and study tools (like moveable whiteboards) for student collaboration. Movable wind barriers, power, and wireless networking could be added. The grassy area in-between these areas could also support informal learning with the addition of shaded tables and seating.



What features can we add to the space to support student and community engagement?

- Additional seating
- Outdoor power outlets
- Wind baffles
- Glass boards on walls under BS building

Space 3 | Taylor Plaza

The Outdoor Space

This location measuring 155.5' by 166.5' is located north of Taylor Hall and west of the Business/SPEA building and includes a flat concrete surface that is accessible and highly visible in the main academic corridor of the IUPUI campus. In the past, this has been a location for temporary structures such as large tents to support student events. The space is adjacent to a grove of sycamore trees where Adirondack chairs and string lighting has recently been added.



Potential Student Event and Social Space

We propose a permanent open sided pavilion be erected in this location, providing covered space for up to 200 people. Seating would include movable tables and chairs to support multiple types of uses, including informal studying and collaboration. A small movable stage would be provided for speakers when there are large groups. Power and wireless networking would be provided in the pavilion. In addition, we could expand the collection of Adirondack chairs and string lighting

already in place.



What features could we add to the space to support outdoor learning?

- Distributed sound amplification
- Table and chairs
- Video display system
- Movable stage
- Additional Adirondack chairs and lights



Space 4 | Wood Fountain

The Outdoor Space

This location measuring 179' by 256' is an open stretch directly in front of and across the street from the Herron School of Art. The space is flanked on the west end by Wood Fountain and at the east end of the greenspace could be an outdoor display area for public art. Art featured in the space could be chosen through collaboration with the Herron School of Art and the Campus Art Collection Curators. The space could be used for university events, student gatherings, class meetings, and individual reflection.



Potential Public Art Space

This space could contain public art that is intended to be interactive. All visitors would be encouraged to touch, climb, sit, and play on the installed art pieces that would serve both as an art installation and support for gatherings in the space. Seating in areas (and perhaps study tables) around the art could support students and visitors in their engagement with the outdoor art displays.

What features can we add to the space to support outdoor learning?

- Public art
- Seating near shaded trees

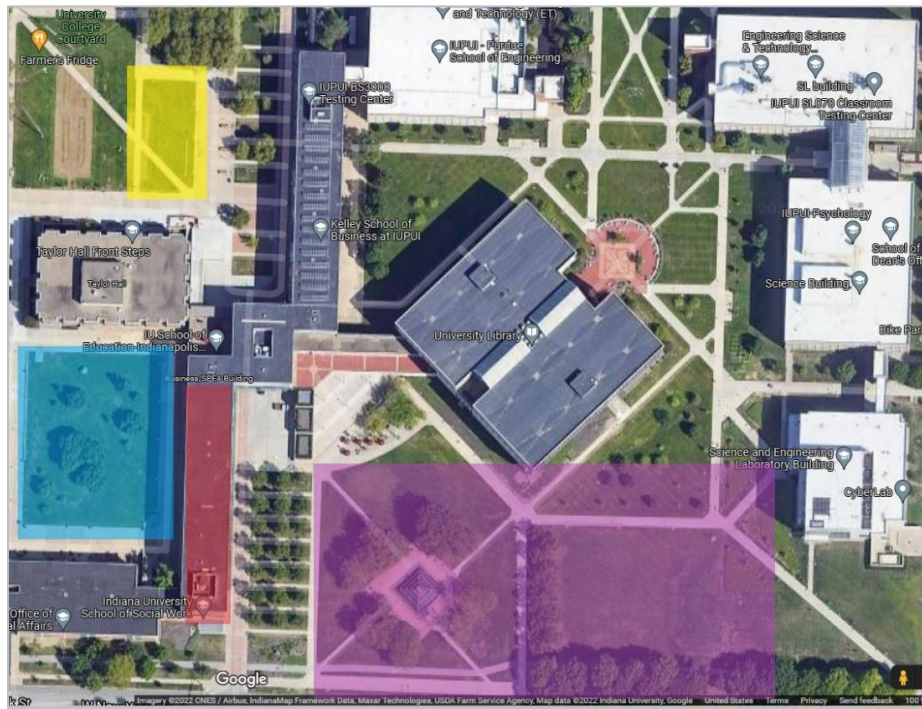


Summary

Even though IUPUI is an urban campus, the master plan for IUPUI assigns ample greenspace to the core of campus. Our plan is to complement the greenspace designs with modifications that will allow IUPUI to maximize the utility of its space while providing new and innovative variety in the spaces available for engagement and outreach on our campus.



Map of four zones



Yellow = Taylor Plaza

Blue = Magnolia Courtyard

Purple = Wood Fountain

Red = BS Breezeway