

the allegheny
ARBORETUM
at INDIANA UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA



ANNUAL REPORT 2020–21



THE CHALLENGES WE FACE

What a year! We have all faced individual and collective challenges. The Allegheny Arboretum board also faced challenges, but continued to fulfill its duties the best it could via Zoom meetings and to implement board responsibilities. Trees were planted on campus and new dedication benches identified. Removed trees were “recycled” as part of the Harvest to Use Initiative. However, progress to develop Confluence Discovery Park were inhibited. As we look ahead, our focus will be to move forward with renewed energy to implement the Confluence Discovery Park 2030 Master Plan and to meet continuing challenges.

Although it happened after June 30, 2021, I am pleased to report that an anonymous donor contributed \$400,000 to the arboretum. A \$200,000 arboretum endowment fund has been established that will support the arboretum for many years, and the remaining funds have been placed in the arboretum’s cash account to be used, based on the recommendations of the arboretum board.

On behalf of the arboretum board and IUP, I wish to express our gratitude to the many of you who have generously provided support to the Allegheny Arboretum. The arboretum is an ongoing project that will continue to evolve as part of IUP and the Indiana community. Without your support, we will not be able to accomplish our goals.

There are many ways in which you can help the arboretum succeed. Toward that end, a form for your use is included on the last page of this report. We thank you in advance for your support. Please feel free to contact me. Until the next report, please stay in touch.

Cordially,

Jerry L. Pickering, Executive Director
Allegheny Arboretum Board
jlpicker@live.iup.edu

Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Robertshaw Building
650 South 13th Street
Indiana, PA 15705-1087



CONFLUENCE DISCOVERY PARK 2030 MASTER PLAN

In 2017, the Allegheny Arboretum and IUP were awarded \$220,000 from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Economic Development for a Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program Grant. IUP matched a portion (15 percent) of the total and contributed an additional \$33,000. The \$253,000 total was used to pay for development of the Confluence Discovery Park 2030 Master Plan that was completed in 2019.



Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, efforts to implement the master plan were suspended. However, in the spring of 2021, a tour of the site of the proposed park was given to Anita Stainbrook, environmental program manager, and A. Lee Negotte, project officer, from the Northwest Regional Office of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Members of the Confluence Park Committee led the tour. This was an important step because Indiana County has been placed in the Northwest Regional Office of the DEP and it is critical to work with and have support of the DEP.

Based on their recommendations, the arboretum board will need to select and hire an environmental consulting firm that will coordinate the implementation of the CDP master plan. One of the first steps will be to obtain funds for Phase II: Overview and Construction Documents, which will provide the engineering and construction plans for building the first phase of the five-phase master plan proposal. Efforts are being made to identify and obtain access to the environmental impact studies that were done on the site of the proposed park.

The Allegheny Arboretum Board and IUP will work with the environmental consulting firm, the University Advancement division, IUP Research Institute, and the Foundation for IUP to identify and apply for funding from public and private sources to implement the master plan. Attempts will be made to begin looking for potential funding sources in the coming year.



The Master Plan can be viewed on the Arboretum's website: IUP.edu/Arboretum.



The Confluence Discovery Park wetland functions as a stormwater retention pond that fluctuates throughout the year.



TREE PLANTINGS

One dedication tree was planted this past year.

2021-01, Red Oak, *Quercus rubra*

In Loving Memory of

Gealy Weston Wallwork

Friend of the Allegheny Arboretum

IUP Trustee, 1991-2017

From his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren



In addition, five dedication trees were selected.

2012-07A, Columnar Red Maple, *Acer rubrum* 'Columnar'

In honor of our family joined in love

Scott and Mary '91 Morgan Family

Donors Mary and Scott Morgan

2015-03, Pink Snow Showers – Weeping Cherry, *Prunus x 'Pisnshzam'*

In Loving Memory of Tammy Beale Ninosky, '93

Child Development and Family Relations

Donated by John Ninosky

2018-04, Triumph Elm, *Ulmus* 'Morton Glossy'

To our brave and joyful son, Charlie

Just like this tree you will grow and strong and tall but know that you will always be our little boy – and for that we are grateful.

With love now and always, Mom and Dad

Donated by Stephanie and Brian Sell

2019-01A, Daimyo Oak, *Quercus dentata* 'Pinnatifida'

In Loving Memory of Chris McDaniel

English Ivy Beyond the Wall

Charter Member of

Rho Rho Chapter Of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

A woman of strength, perseverance and integrity

2019-01B, American Beech, *Fagus grandifolia*

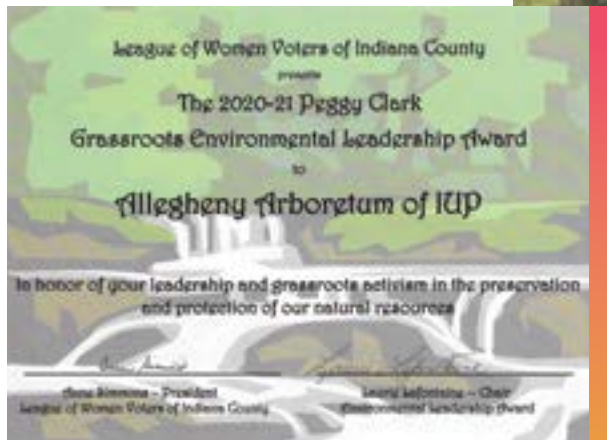
In Memory of Coach Chuck Klausung

IUP Football Coach 1964-69

Donated by Bob and Kathie Basehore '71

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS AWARDS

The League of Women Voters of Indiana County awarded the 2020 Peggy Clark Grassroots Environmental Leadership Award for an organization to the Allegheny Arboretum. The award was presented to Jerry Pickering by Kay Snyder at the summer meeting of the League of Women Voters at Yellow Creek State Park. In his nomination letter, Thomas Simmons said, "The Allegheny Arboretum demonstrates grassroots leadership by the collective action of community leaders and Indiana University of Pennsylvania professors in their efforts to effectively change how our regional flora is preserved and protected by educating others about local environmental conditions and the need to protect natural resources." The Allegheny Arboretum Board and IUP thank the League of Women Voters of Indiana County for this recognition and support.



BENCHES

Three plaques were placed on dedicated benches.

- In Loving Memory of Ruth and Richard Berry
From Friends and Family
- Friends of Billie Peffer Gresock '93
Her laugh was wonderful, wicked, and infectious.
- In Loving Memory of Dr. Robert and Rita Veslosky, Professor 1965 to 1985
From the Vislosky Family

DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE

The committee submitted its recommendations for the new John J. and Char Kopchick Hall science building that included the planting of several tree species removed for the construction of the new building. All recommendations were approved and most of the tree species that were removed will be replanted following the construction of the building, expected to be completed in time for the beginning of the fall 2023 semester.



Kopchick Hall

FERN HOLLOW COMMITTEE

In conjunction with the new Kopchick Hall, the arboretum has proposed to create a "Fern Hollow." The three green spaces located on the north side of the building will be planted with native ferns, fern allies, and native spring flowers. In addition, signage will be displayed that provides information about the fern life cycle, fern diversity, and the paleo-botanical history of ferns and their allies as the origin of coal and natural gas that are especially important in western Pennsylvania.



ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

A partnership between IUP and Soil Hub, LLC is supporting soils training and research conducted on the south campus woods, and is coordinated by Lara Homsey-Messer in the Department of Anthropology. Soil Hub is an approved PA Department of Environmental Protection training sponsor for Sewage Enforcement Officers and is contracted to develop and administer mandatory soils training courses for individuals in private industry, the public sector at the municipal, county, and state levels, and—importantly for IUP—to students interested in careers in environmental and natural resource sciences fields.



Soil Hub, LLC offers trainings at various locations across the state, including Shippensburg University in central Pennsylvania and Quakertown in eastern Pennsylvania. IUP is its western-most “soil hub.” Three, large, permanent backhoe pits are available for training.

At six feet wide, ten feet long, three-to-six feet deep, pit locations were selected to illustrate certain morphological properties, including bedrock weathering, wetland soil development, and the effect of topography on soil development. Students are trained to identify and describe soil horizons, texture and describe key soil features, and interpret the potential for archaeological sites based on the nature and age of soils.

There are several benefits of this partnership to IUP. First, in addition to IUP faculty being able to use the soil pits for classroom and thesis research, IUP students can take the DEP training courses for free. Second, Soil Hub provides exposure of IUP’s programming and resources to people who would otherwise have no interaction with the university. We’ve had people stay behind to talk about the Archaeology and Geosciences departments and ask about graduate programs. Third, it supports IUP’s mission to utilize partnerships to connect students and faculty with community partners and alumni in order to work towards building a strong, sustainable society alongside a robust economy. Finally, it offers students an experiential learning environment applied to the kinds of real-world situations that they will find themselves working in upon graduation.



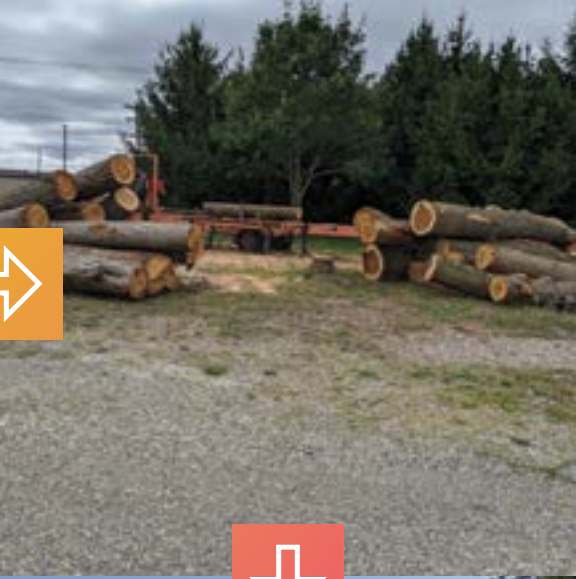
In 2021, Soil Hub, LLC offered two trainings for DEP, one in April, and another in August, with one more planned in October. Students in IUP's Archaeology BA and Applied Archaeology MA program are additionally conducting soils research at the pits during the fall semester as part of courses in Geoarchaeology and Environmental Archaeology. Finally, although COVID-19 intervened during the springs of 2020 and 2021, the pits are planned to be used by Indiana Area Senior High School students participating in the Pennsylvania Envirothon competition, an annual natural-science themed academic competition for high school aged students held each spring, which includes topics in Soils and Land Use, as well as Aquatic Ecology, Forestry, Wildlife, and Environmental Issues.

Faculty in the Biology Department continued to use the south woods for their classes in similar ways as last year, but the areas were used by more sections and more students than the previous year. One of the Biology 201 projects involved coverboard studies. These are an excellent way to determine the presence or absence of species of macroinvertebrates, amphibians, and reptiles without disturbing natural habitats. The coverboards are located using a compass and GPS coordinates. A new class project was "beat sheeting" for insects at the edge of the R&P parking lot on campus. The beat sheets are a way to sample insects from tree branches.



The South Woods 'Tick Project' continued with Thomas Simmons and his graduate student, Devin Lynch. His thesis research focused on environmental drivers of Lyme Disease including microclimate, habitat, and mammalian tick-hosts. This past year, they collected blacklegged ticks; had them tested by PADEP Vector Management Laboratory as part of Pennsylvania's statewide five-year tick-borne disease surveillance program for the pathogens causing Lyme disease, anaplasmosis, and babesiosis; live-trapped small mammals and took ear biopsies for pathogen testing; camera trapped medium-sized mammals; surveyed ground cover; assessed deer browse impact; monitored oak trees for acorn mast production; assessed small mammal habitat; and monitored above and below ground air temperature and humidity as well as soil moisture. Temperature, humidity, and moisture were measured continuously using six Onset HOBO dataloggers distributed throughout the woods. The dataloggers take readings every ten seconds throughout the year, integrate the data and produce microclimate profiles that can be analyzed for trends.





HARVEST TO USE PROJECT

As a result of the construction of John J. and Char Kopchick Hall, several trees had to be removed. This included a pin oak (*Quercus palustris*), tulip tree (*Lireodendron tulipifera*), and two large clusters of katsura trees (*Cercidiphyllum japonicum*, pictured) that were located in front of the former Leonard Hall.

In addition, a massive dead tulip tree was cut down in the Oak Grove during the summer. All of the large timbers from the trees were transported to the Wood Drying Building and cut into planks that were placed in the building for curing. The wood will eventually be used for Wood Center projects.



HAWK SCULPTURE

Raymond C. Kinter '67, M '68 provided funds for the creation of a bronze hawk sculpture to be placed on the IUP campus. In addition to the sculpture, funds were also provided for four dedication benches in honor of Kinter's four aunts. The funds for the project were placed in the arboretum's account as indicated in this report. Efforts to identify the location and subsequent design of the base and layout for the sculpture are being finalized. It is anticipated that the project will be completed in the coming year.





Allegheny Arboretum Board Changes

Ruth Berry, a long-time member of the Board, passed away January 8, 2021. For several years, she had been a board member, district chair of the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania, and a member of the Indiana Garden Club.

Denise Leggett was replaced by Laura Herrington, the new Executive Director of the Indiana County Tourist Bureau.

Jason Mackovyak was replaced by Daniel Waterhouse, the new Executive Director of Engineering and Construction at IUP.

Two members left the board:

- Erin Janetski, Biology Department, IUP
- Meghan Twiest, Department of Professional Studies in Education, retired from IUP

Budget

Balance 7/1/20	\$41,130.95
Donations:	\$14,433.56
Expenditures	\$6,351.34
Plaques, tags	\$191.23
Annual Report	\$2,250.00
Art in the Arboretum Awards	\$500.00
Donor Display Sutton Hall	\$376.65
APGA Membership	\$150.00
IUP Foundation Fees	\$2,883.40
Hawk Sculpture	
Donation	\$21,000.00
Expenditures	\$13,000.00
Remaining Balance	\$8,000.00
Balance 6/31/21	\$57,908.97



2021 - 2022 Proposed Activities

- 1 Hire an Environmental Consulting firm to coordinate efforts with the arboretum board, IUP, DEP, and other agencies to implement the Confluence Discovery Park 2030 Master Plan.
- 2 Continue to inform the university and Indiana community about the Confluence Discovery Park 2030 Master Plan.
- 3 Assist IUP in the completion of the installation of the hawk sculpture.
- 4 Begin discussion between the arboretum board and IUP to develop a strategy to implement Allegheny Arboretum Management, Operations, and Business Plan.
- 5 Continue to carry out arboretum “basic” functions:
 - Coordinate tree plantings and bench donations
 - Update, maintain and mount accession tags
 - Maintain tree accession list
 - Update, order, maintain, and mount tree plaques
 - Coordinate bill payments and budget
 - Write and supervise the publication of annual report
 - Maintain and update “Friends of the Arboretum” donor wall
 - Update the arboretum’s web page
- 6 Continue to implement the goals of the following committees:
 - Fern Hollow Committee
 - Plant Selection Committee
 - Confluence Discovery Park Phase 1 Implementation Committee
- 7 Continue to evaluate and revise the Allegheny Arboretum web page.
- 8 Continue to cultivate contacts with local organizations.
- 9 Continue to work with administrators, faculty, and students at IUP to promote Allegheny Arboretum-related projects.
- 10 Continue to implement the goals and objectives of the Allegheny Arboretum.



Friends of the Arboretum

Anonymous (5)

John Benhart and Jacque Nygren
Benhart M '98

Dirk Berry and Karen Berry

Arthur Berry '80

Luke Blahut

Faye Bradwick and Donald Lancaster

Marjorie Bucci

Karen Niemic Buchheit '78 and
Peter Buchheit

Jose Carranza '65 and Carmy Gregg
Carranza '64, M '80

Brian Cauthen

Michelle Choromanski

Matthew Egner '00

George Evans and Karen Evans

Michelle Fryling and Calvin Fryling

James Garrettson and
Deanna Garrettson

Joseph Holuta '80 and Jayne Wallwork
Holuta '78

Marlene Cribbs Joyce '97 and David
Joyce Jr.

John Kilmarx and Beth Kilmarx

Nicole Knox

Henry Kukula '87 and Marilyn Berry
Kukula '89

Mary Ludwig and Michael Ludwig

R Craig Martin '72 and
Margaret Kremer

Pat Mazanek '73, M '82 and Patti

Shannahan Mazanek '74, M '86

Mary Ordakowski Morgan '91 and
Scott Morgan

John Ninosky '93

Tejash Patel M '11

Tonya Patterson

Susan Pickering '85, M '89 and
Jerry Pickering

Ivan Querry and Kathryn Querry

Lisa Russell '91

Brian Sell '05 and Stephanie
Sell '10, M '19

Daniel Shively and Joanne Shively

L Richard Staffen M '69

Dennis Stover '76 and Regina Dressel
Stover '75

Ron Thomas and Gerri Thomas

Gordon Thornton

Holly Travis M '03, D '07

Donald Vargo and Susan Vargo

Vislosky Family

Sandra Whitson

Harold Wood and Helen Wood

Alpha Kappa Alpha

League of Women Voters for
Indiana County

PARSE Indico Chapter





A canopy of River Birch (*Betula nigra*) accent the walkway between Ruddock Hall and the Suites on Maple Street East

Allegheny Arboretum Board Members

W. Thomas Borellis

Assistant to the VP for Administration and Finance for Special Projects, IUP, retired

Marge Bucci

Indiana Garden Club

Carla Eichman

Evergreen Garden Club of Indiana

Charles Flynn

Musser Forest, retired
Treasured Trees Nursery, owner

Beth Ann Harrington

Director, Wood Center
Art Department, IUP

Barbara Hauge, RLA, ASLA

UpStreet Architects, Inc.
Assistant Executive Director,
Allegheny Arboretum Board

Laura Herrington

Executive Director, Indiana County
Tourist Bureau

John Kilmarx

Associate Vice President for Academic
Administration, IUP

Christina J. Koren

Corporate and Foundation Relations,
University Advancement, IUP

Jerry L. Pickering

Executive Director, Allegheny
Arboretum Board
Biology Department, IUP, retired

Robert Pollock

Penn State Cooperative Extension

Susanna Sink

Interim Vice President
Administration and Finance,
IUP, retired

Holly Travis

Biology Department, IUP

Michael Tyree

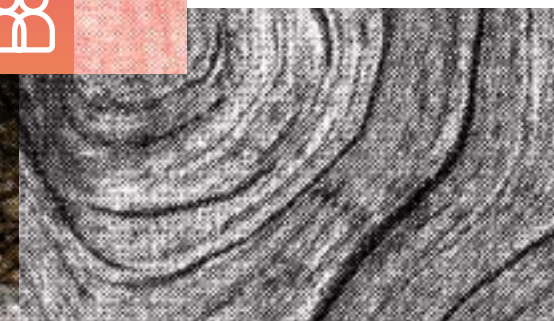
Biology Department, IUP

Daniel Waterhouse

Executive Director of Engineering and
Construction, IUP

Whit Watts

Geography and Regional Planning
Department, IUP, retired



**“If man is not
to live by
bread alone,
what is better
worth doing
well than the
planting of
trees.”**

Federick Law Olmsted

With Your Support...The Allegheny Arboretum at IUP continues to grow, but additional funding is needed in order to continue the efforts of the arboretum. Operating solely through private funding, the Allegheny Arboretum is grateful for the continued support of individuals, businesses, organizations, and foundations.

Since January 2000, the arboretum has planted, nurtured, and developed green spaces on the IUP campus. The restoration and revitalization of the Oak Grove; planting of trees and placing of benches in recognition of friends, family, and loved ones; creation of new niche gardens; and so many other developments have been accomplished through the efforts of everyone involved with the Allegheny Arboretum at IUP.

Your gift makes a difference. Each tree, each garden, each bench leaves a legacy of memories for students, families, friends, and the Indiana community. To make your gift, complete the form below, visit www.iup.edu/giveagift, or call the Office of Annual Giving at 724-357-5555.

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Please accept my gift to the Foundation for IUP and designate it to

Project of greatest need Project of my choice _____

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Visit www.iup.edu/giveagift to make a one-time or recurring gift online.

Or, please make checks payable to the Foundation for IUP and mail to Foundation for IUP, Sutton Hall, Room G1, 1011 South Drive, Indiana, PA 15705.

Does your employer, spouse's employer, or former employer (for retirees) match contributions to higher education? Visit www.matchinggifts.com/iup to see if you can double the impact of your gift by including a matching gift form from your employer.



The Foundation for IUP is a 501(c)(3) organization; gifts to the foundation are tax deductible as per IRS regulations. The official registration and financial information of the Foundation for Indiana University of Pennsylvania may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 800-732-0999. For calls that originate outside of Pennsylvania, the telephone number is 717-783-1720. Registration does not imply endorsement.

C2025/2021AFAFFINITY/AF21/8481



Indiana University of Pennsylvania

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Indiana, PA 15705-1087

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This report summarizes the activities of the Allegheny Arboretum Board from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and presents some projects the board will pursue in the coming year.