

CHANGING THE TRAJECTORY OF SCIENCE TEACHING AND LEARNING ON CAMPUS



IUP celebrated the **opening of John J. and Char Kopchick Hall**, the university's new \$90-million, 142,536-square-foot science and mathematics building, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on November 2. The building will be open for classes in spring 2024.

Overall university enrollment is **up by nearly 5 percent for fall 2023, and enrollment of new, first-time students is up by 16 percent**, the highest number of new, first-time students at IUP since 2018. This is the first time in 11 years that overall enrollment has increased at the university.

IUP will celebrate a total of 521 graduates, including 13 students who completed their undergraduate studies with perfect 4.0 grade point averages, at two ceremonies on December 16. Graduates include 349 bachelor's degree recipients, 139 master's degree recipients, 28 doctoral degree recipients, and five associate degree recipients.



IUP Fall 2023 Enrollment

Overall enrollment: **9,254**

First-Year Students: **2,002**

+4.8%
increase from fall 2022, the first time IUP's enrollment has increased in 11 years

+23%
increase in international students

+16%
increase from fall 2022 and the highest number since 2018

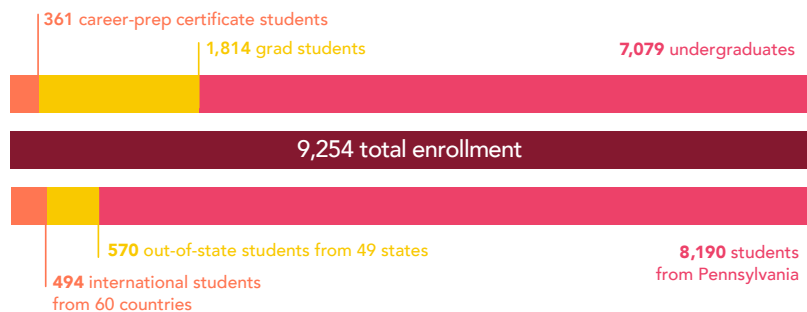
74%
of students graduated from high school with a GPA of 3.0 or higher

+12%
increase in career-prep areas like paramedic training and culinary arts

841
military-affiliated students

3.42
average high school GPA

+13%
dual-enrollment students (high school students enrolled in IUP courses)



CHANGING THE TRAJECTORY OF SCIENCE TEACHING AND LEARNING ON CAMPUS (CONTINUED)

IUP received \$2,097,074 from the federal Department of Education for the **Hawks SOAR Program at IUP — Student Opportunity for Achievement and Readiness**. This program will focus on improving retention and persistence rates for IUP's Pell-eligible, first-generation, and underrepresented minority students by expanding upon a student success outreach model and improving institutional structures and campus culture to be more proactive and responsive to the diverse needs of students. This grant funding will augment established initiatives within IUP's Student Success Infrastructure, launched in summer 2023.

A \$171,961 grant from the federal Department of Health and Human Services for the Nursing Loan Forgiveness Program **provides loan forgiveness (85 percent of existing loans) for students in the master's and doctoral nursing programs** who commit to serving as a nursing educator at any accredited school of nursing or as a clinical educator at an accredited health facility for four years.

Micaela Jebitsch (economics), Thomas Oraskovich (sociology and political science), and Emily Spezialetti (sociology) have been selected from a pool of exemplary nominees to be the **second cohort of Justice Research Fellows** at the Administration and Leadership Studies Research and Training Center. The Justice Research Fellowship allows the students to participate in "real life," practical mini-research projects with IUP faculty and to attend training and experiential learning opportunities.

IUP's Office of International Education helped Khadija Zakki (Geography-Geographical Information Science and Geospatial Technology master's program), originally from Guelmim, Morocco, to receive a **grant from the Institute of International Education** designed to help international students continue their studies when a natural disaster, war, or other crisis happens in their home country. Zakki is IUP's 10th international student to receive this funding.



A CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO RURAL HEALTH

Following a national search, Miko Rose, a board-certified physician in psychiatry and neurology who is nationally known for wellness programming, **has been selected as the founding dean for IUP's proposed college of osteopathic medicine**.

Dr. Rose comes to IUP from Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine, where she is associate professor and chief of the Division of Psychiatry in the Department of Clinical Medicine and assistant dean for Clinical Education. She is also an associate professor and program director of the Joy Initiative Wellness Program at Michigan State University. She founded the Joy Initiative at the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine and College of Osteopathic Medicine schools. She completed her medical training at Michigan State.

Dr. Rose's appointment was announced during the **second annual Pennsylvania Mountains Rural Health Conference**, cosponsored by IUP and Indiana Regional Medical Center and hosted by IUP to mark National Rural Health Day. Close to 150 people attended the conference, including many IUP students and IRMC residents.

IUP and IRMC launched season two of the **podcast Rural Health Pulse** in November to mark Rural Health Day. Shows are recorded by students in the IUP Department of Communications Media under the direction of Mark Piwinsky (Communications Media) and are produced by IUP Director of Strategic Partnerships Christina Koren. Jim Kinneer, IRMC's chief human resources officer, serves as the host for the shows. Season two featured

national healthcare expert and IUP graduate Nick Jacobs, of Windber, for "Promoting Integrative Wellness in a Rural Community."



STUDENTS GIVING BACK

Students working with the Office of Annual Giving raised more than \$200 and collected clothing and nonperishable items for **IUP's Food Pantry and Help Center** through the first "Indiana Scares & Cares: A Spooktacular IUP Student Aid Screening," held at the downtown Indiana Theater.



For the 14th year, IUP's 24 fraternities and sororities continued a holiday tradition of helping families in the Indiana community, **collecting \$4,145.80 for Indiana County's Salvation Army.**

More than 1,300 homeless veterans will receive Christmas stockings with needed toiletries through IUP's Rho Tau Chi military service fraternity's **Homeless Heroes Holiday Stocking Project**. This is the seventh year for the project.

IUP Men's Ice Hockey raised more than \$2,500 for the **Western Pennsylvania Veterans Association**. The funding provides financial assistance for medical expenses, housing, utilities, transportation, and other basic needs to area veterans and their families. Over the last four years, the club has raised and donated more than \$7,300, making the group one of the organization's top-10 contributors.

Men's Ice Hockey also collected 200 stuffed animals during the fourth annual Teddy Bear Toss Game to donate to Indiana Regional Medical Center's pediatric floor; over the last three years, the club has donated more than 450 stuffed animals to IRMC.



Common Goods, an annual pop-up store featuring laser-cut paper packages designed by students in Sharon Massey and Sean Derry's 3D Design and Digital Fabrication classes, raised **\$500 to benefit the Future Makers Fund**, a catalytic funding stream for emerging makers. Students used a laser cutter in STEAMSHOP, IUP's interdisciplinary makerspace, to create precision-cut multiples of their designs.

The IUP Ambassadors student-alumni group donated its **\$500 Homecoming float prize** to the IUP Food Pantry and Help Center. This is the first year that the Ambassadors entered a float for the competition.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

On December 10, the IUP Men's Rugby Club defeated the University of Memphis to win its third Division II national championship in two years. This is the first 15s national championship for the club, which won its first 7s national title in 2022 against the University of Lander and its second against North Carolina State last spring. College rugby's two seasons—15s in the fall and 7s in the spring—refer to the number of players allowed on the field.



ADVANCING OUR COMMITMENT TO STEM, STEAM, AND RESEARCH

Sean Derry and Sharon Massey (Art and Design) received a **\$70,000 Moonshot Grant** from Remake Learning, a peer network for educators and innovators in the Greater Pittsburgh region. The Moonshot Grants are designed to help makers reimagine the future of learning. Derry and Massey's project, "Studio Stream," will repurpose a Japanese mini truck into a traveling earthbound communications satellite and cocreate an internet-based radio station, working with rural teens in Brownsville.

IUP's STEAMSHOP hosted the **second annual Future Makers Forum** event with Michigan-based product designer and entrepreneur Michael Nashef. The event also included an opportunity for students and members of the public to participate in a hands-on 3D printing workshop in IUP's STEAMSHOP.

Tracy Eisenhower, of Indiana, a higher education professional with two decades of experience in sponsored research, grants management, and administration, was selected as the **executive director of the IUP Research Institute** by the institute's board of directors

IUP received almost **\$20 million for sponsored research and projects** during the last fiscal year, almost double the previous years' funding totals. Funding for the 2022-23 fiscal year includes the largest grant in IUP history — \$11 million for cybersecurity education — and additional projects with local, state, national, and international impact. Of the nearly \$20 million in grant funds, more than \$11.4 million is for public service programs, \$3.6 million is for programs for academic and student support, more than \$3.2 million is allocated for research projects, and more than \$1.5 million is for scholarships.



ALUMNI RECOGNITION

Charlene Mickens Dukes, a 1980 graduate of IUP, a 2008 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient, and president emerita of Prince George's Community College, was selected for the **2023 Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education's Keepers of the Flame Award**. The first female president of Prince George's Community College, she was honored during the State System's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Summit.

EXTERNAL RECOGNITIONS

U.S. News & World Report selected IUP for its 2024 Best Colleges ranking.

The **Wall Street Journal and College Pulse** have selected IUP as one of America's Best Colleges 2024.

All four programs at IUP's Academy of Culinary Arts have received "exemplary standing" status from the **American Culinary Federation Education Foundation Accrediting Commission**. This is the highest accreditation standard offered by the commission.

A video produced by members of the Division of Student Affairs won a **2023 Mid-Atlantic Emmy award from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences**. This is the first time that a video produced by the university has been nominated for, or has won, an Emmy award.

Students in the Communications Media Life Broadcast class won a third **Crystal Pillar Award** from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences for the live broadcast of the 2022 Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference football championship game.

EXTERNAL RECOGNITIONS (CONTINUED)



Chief Information Officer Bill Balint is EdScoop's **University Technology Leader of the Year**. The awards, now in their second year, honor the most influential people and projects in the higher education technology community.

IUP is ranked highest on the list of the state and region's public universities selected for the **Military Times 2023 Best for Vets: Colleges list**. More than 1,000 schools were considered for the listing, which honors institutions the magazine's editors describe as delivering "the best experience for military students."

Intelligent.com selected IUP's online programs (overall) at the undergraduate and graduate levels and the online programs in interior design, food and nutrition, and criminology as the **best in the nation**.

For the first time, IUP has been selected as a **College of Distinction**. Institutions chosen for the honor must demonstrate a commitment to providing a high-quality undergraduate education that focuses on hands-on learning, strong student-faculty relationships, a vibrant campus life, and successful outcomes.

IUP's online criminology master's program has been ranked by Forbes.com as one of the **top six programs in the nation**. It is the only Pennsylvania program in the top six. Editors selected institutions based on student outcomes (overall graduation rate and median earnings 10 years after graduation), affordability, the student experience, accreditation status, and selectivity.

IUP's cybersecurity bachelor's degree program has been **ranked eighth in the nation for affordability** by Cybersecurity Guide.



President Michael Driscoll was selected as one of the commonwealth's **50 top leaders over the age of 50** by *City & State Pennsylvania*.

David Hanauer (English) was included in the "**World's Top 2% Scientists**" list of top-cited scientists in the field of education and linguistics. The list was compiled by Stanford University using Scopus data provided by the Elsevier Data Repository. This recognition means that of all the citations of scientific research during the 2021-22 academic year, Dr. Hanauer was in the top 2 percent of most cited scientists in research publications.

JUST ONE MORE...

The late Patricia Hilliard Robertson, a 1985 biology graduate and 2000 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient, was honored in December with the **naming of Northrop Grumman Corporation's Cygnus mission, NG-20, in her honor**. Dr. Robertson completed her medical degree and was selected for the astronaut program in 1998, achieving mission specialist status. She died after a plane crash in 2001. IUP continues to honor Dr. Robertson with a scholarship in her name, presented annually during Research Appreciation Week's Women in Science event.

