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## Fort Wayne campus to separate from IU, Purdue

BY MICHELLE SOKOL  
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IU-Purdue University Fort Wayne might break away from its parent schools after a recent push by Indiana lawmakers.

The Select Commission on Education will hear public testimony on the issue at 1 p.m. Sept. 4 at the Statehouse.

IPFW has broken enrollment records — in the past 10 years, enrollment has grown by 28 percent.

The current enrollment of more than 14,000 students already surpasses three state colleges: Indiana State University, Vincennes University and University of Southern Indiana.

IPFW is governed by Purdue's administration under an

agreement renewed every five years. IU administration governs IU-Purdue University Indianapolis based on the same agreement.

Gov. Mitch Daniels, the next president of Purdue University, has announced he supports public discussion about the issue.

Sen. Dennis Kruse, R-Auburn, supports the idea of IPFW becoming an independent institution,

citing both the growth and alleged mismanagement.

"Many believe Purdue has not advocated well for IPFW in the past," Kruse said. "They say the needs of the school are often ignored in Purdue's evaluations of its finances, resources, administration and buildings. At the university's board meetings, its regional campus is allowed little

input." Kruse said the university's state funding is also affected due to the focus of capital projects and funding requests on the flagship campus in West Lafayette.

"Even though IPFW is the fifth-largest university in Indiana, its state financial support is one of

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### BASKETBALL

## FULL-TIME JANITOR ALL-TIME FAN

BY JESSICA CONTRERA | mjcontre@indiana.edu



Justin Wright stands at half court with his dust mop Tuesday in Assembly Hall. Wright is a finalist in ESPN's Hall of Fans competition. CAITLIN O'HARA | IDS

Justin Wright is not your average basketball fanatic. Where others stand and scream, he scrubs and sweeps. They show up early for tickets; he stays late for toilets. You might call him the janitor. But ESPN calls him one of the top-10 fans in the world.

Wright, a custodian at Assembly Hall, is a finalist in ESPN's Hall of Fans competition. On [www.thehalloffans.com](http://www.thehalloffans.com), readers can vote for the world's best sports fan.

Wright is one of 10 finalists chosen from more than 10,000 entries.

But unlike his competition, Wright doesn't just support his team — he works for it.

Five nights each week, the modern-day Mop Man kisses his wife and young children goodbye, drives his pickup truck to Assembly Hall and starts his 10 p.m. to 6:30 a.m. shift.

He doesn't mind the hours. He gets to be essentially alone with the building he loves.

"I hate to say it's my building or anything, but I feel like it's mine," he said. "I take care of it like it's my own."

He cleans the building from the bottom up: locker rooms, offices, bathrooms and hallways. But he always saves the best for last.

The court.

"When I'm sweeping, I look up and see the

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#### Vote now

Vote for Justin Wright to win ESPN's Hall of Fans competition at [www.thehalloffans.com](http://www.thehalloffans.com). Voting ends at 11:59 p.m. Friday.

#### Online only

For more photos and to hear Justin's story in his own words, visit [idsnews.com/multimedia](http://idsnews.com/multimedia).



Then-junior Caleb Porter and then-freshman Yuri Lavrinenko celebrate a Hoosier victory against University of Evansville and prepare for round two of NCAA tournament action. The Hoosiers defeated Bowling Green State University 2-0, sending them to quarter finals action. Florida International University defeated the Hoosiers 1-0 and ended their trip to the Final Four. ARBUTUS FILE PHOTO

## Former IU soccer player named MLS Timbers head coach

BY JUSTIN SCHOCKEY  
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Late Tuesday night, speculation began to rise about the possible move of Hoosier alumnus and Akron men's soccer Head Coach Caleb Porter to the Portland Timbers of MLS.

On Wednesday afternoon, that report was confirmed by Timbers General Manager Gavin Wilkinson.

"Caleb is ambitious and one of the most respected coaches in the nation," Wilkinson told [portlandtimbers.com](http://portlandtimbers.com). "He has consistently developed and produced talented players who have gone to excel in MLS. We feel that his mentality, personality, skill set and coach-

ing philosophy are a tremendous fit with the culture of the Timbers organization and we're excited to bring Caleb on as the Timbers' head coach."

That sentiment goes up the ladder as well. Timbers owner and President Merritt Paulson also commented on the hire in the report.

"Put simply, I believe Caleb Porter is the best young soccer coaching mind in the country," Paulson told [portlandtimbers.com](http://portlandtimbers.com). "He is the right fit for the Timbers on every level."

Before coaching at Akron, Porter began his college soccer career at IU, where he played with

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### ELECTION 2012



## Hoosiers relate to Ryan's RNC rhetoric

BY CLAIRE WISEMAN  
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TAMPA, Fla. — During Wednesday's proceedings at the Republican National Convention, Indiana's delegates heard from speakers emphasizing the importance of change.

Pete Seat, an alternate delegate and Indiana's GOP Communications Director, viewed Republican Vice-Presidential candidate Paul Ryan's acceptance speech from delegate seating just off the floor.

Ryan's message resonated with Seat most because of what he called his ability to appeal to young people. He especially loved Ryan's description of fading Obama campaign posters, he said, because he knows many young people are ready to vote for a new candidate this time around. All in all, Seat said, the nominee's speech was "awesome."

As in the days before, the blue walls of the convention

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## Commissioners add voting space at Curry Building

BY MATTHEW GLOWICKI  
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Space for early voting will almost double with the recent decision to expand available space in the Curry Building at 214 W. Seventh St.

The building will also provide more shelter from possible inclement November weather for those waiting to vote.

New space will be made available by an early move of the Parks and Recreation Department, a permanent move previously

planned. It will vacate its space in the Curry Building and move to its new home in the City Hall - Showers Building at 401 N. Morton St.

The decision by the Monroe County Commissioners, including Commissioner Iris Kiesling, comes after a delay in solving the overflow site situation by the Monroe County Election Board.

"I think this will be very good for handling overflow," Kiesling said.

Concern about the need for an

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Justin Wright cleans a pane in a glass door Tuesday at Assembly Hall. Cleaning the doors is Wright's least favorite task.

PHOTOS BY CAITLIN O'HARA | IDS

## » FAN

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banners, and sometimes, I just get chills," Wright said. "To think about all that has happened here ... all the games, the talks, the history ... it's just, it's just awesome."

Although 29-year-old Wright grew up just minutes from Assembly Hall, he only witnessed "all that happened" on television. Wright's great-grandmother, who raised him, could never afford to take him to games.

Still, Wright credits her for instilling his love of IU athletics.

"I'll never forget the first time she drove me by Assembly Hall and Memorial Stadium," Wright said. "I

was 5 or 6. She said, 'There's where all the basketball and football players play.'

"Every time we drove by after that, I smashed my face up against the window and looked for the players and coaches. I thought they were going to come out in their uniforms or something."

Today, Wright is known for how hard he works to support those players and coaches, said Bob Gilmore, custodial supervisor of IU athletics.

"He cares. He takes pride in what he does," Gilmore said. "He's an excellent custodian. But he's an even better coworker, dad, husband and all-around excellent person. I hope he wins."

For Wright to win, he has to be in the top three of the

10 finalists. If he wins, he'll be inducted into the Hall of Fans on ESPN's Connecticut campus and featured in ESPN The Magazine.

He'll also receive \$500 and an all-expense-paid trip to New York.

Wright has never been to New York. He said if he wins, he'll use the trip to celebrate his seven-year anniversary with his wife, Christa.

He's also aching to share the spotlight.

"This isn't just for me," he said. "I want it to be for the crew I work for, for Indiana athletics and for all of Hoosier Nation."

But no matter the results, Wright said, he'll still be loyal to IU basketball and Assembly Hall.

A month from now, he'll



Justin Wright's keys hang out of his pocket Tuesday at Assembly Hall. Wright cleans the home of the Hoosiers from bottom to top every night, Sunday through Thursday.

be back to the same routine.

"Yeah, I'm cleaning toilets and doing some nasty stuff, but I love it here. I'm

not going anywhere," he said.

"I've got to see them get another banner"

## » IPFW

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the lowest, year after year," Kruse said. "If the college were to become a separate institution, it would potentially be able to receive more state funding as well as more financial support from the local community, some claim."

Kruse speculated the solution could be as simple as a name change. Kruse said the IU and Purdue names help make degrees more sought after by students, but the regional campus receives far less funding than its namesake.

"One idea is to rename the college Fort Wayne University, Fort Wayne State University or University of Northern Indiana, allowing IPFW to become its own entity but keep its affiliation with Purdue and IU," he said.

But students have

"Even though IPFW is the fifth-largest university in Indiana, its state financial support is one of the lowest, year after year. If the college were to become a separate institution, it would potentially be able to receive more state funding as well as more financial support from the local community, some claim."

Sen. Dennis Kruse, R-Auburn

expressed concern with either scenario.

"We already struggle with our diplomas not being as good as IU or Purdue diplomas," former student John Regan said. "That's getting better, but it would be a major disservice to all of the students like me who went because they wanted a Purdue or IU degree that could be obtained locally. I'd want all my tuition refunded if I couldn't even get a Purdue-backed degree after all is said and done."

Assistant Vice President for Purdue External Relations Chris Sigurdson was not willing to speak about whether the quality of degrees from Fort Wayne would deteriorate without the parent schools, but he stressed the importance of the name on the diploma.

"I think there is value in a Purdue degree. It's been proven," Sigurdson said. "A survey by the Wall Street Journal indicates that Purdue is the fourth most popular name for (job) recruiters. That's one indication."

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current Head Coach Todd Yeagley for former Head Coach Jerry Yeagley.

The latter described Porter as a prototypical soccer coach.

"He was a competitor and a great leader," Jerry said. "He led by example and held his teammates accountable."

Jerry said Porter resembles a type-A personality, and fit in well with the staff he had at IU and the program he was trying to run.

"He is a very driven individual," Jerry said. "My advice to him usually during our conversations was to be sure to keep balance. His teams reflect his personality because there's no place for anybody who isn't going to be an honest, hard worker."

Playing with the Hoosiers from 1994-97, Porter lettered each year and was a three-year captain for the team.

He helped IU to two College Cup appearances and was named runner-up for the Hermann Trophy in 1997.

The San Jose Clash then drafted Porter in 1998 with the 26th overall pick.

He only played four games with the team before being signed by the Tampa Bay Mutiny in 1999. After several knee injuries delayed his development, Porter decided to retire as a player on June 30, 2000.

Following his professional career, Porter returned to IU as an assistant coach for six years under Jerry Yeagley and former Head Coach Mike Frietag.

While at IU he was an assistant coach and the team went 98-25-14 and produced 10 All-Americans.

The Hoosiers also won back-to-back NCAA championships for the Hoosiers in 2003 and 2004.

Porter then took the head coaching position at Akron in 2005. Immediately, the Zips were put on the map, tallying two Mid-American Conference titles in Porter's first two seasons.

Steve Goff, a soccer insider at The Washington Post, said Porter passed up an opportunity to coach professionally for D.C. United in 2009.

The decision did not go unrewarded. The following year, the Zips won the NCAA championship.

While at Akron, Porter earned the highest winning percentage among active NCAA Division I coaches with a career coaching record of 106-17-14.

Although excited for the future, Porter issued a statement highlighting the rest of the Akron season.

"I am truly excited and honored to be provided this unique opportunity to coach the Portland Timbers, an organization that in a short time has established itself as a model franchise in Major League Soccer," Porter told *portlandtimbers.com*. "I know that Merritt and Gavin are committed to long-term success for the Timbers, and come December, I will be completely focused."

Porter said he will not comment further until after the end of the 2012 season at Akron.

Indiana will face Akron and Porter on Sept. 7 as both teams travel to South Bend for the Mike Berticelli Memorial Tournament.

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overflow site to accommodate the heavy Curry Building traffic arose at Election Board meetings in recent weeks.

An original proposal involved opening up space at the Showers Building to handle crowds of voters.

At an Election Board meeting last week, Election Board Chairwoman and Republican member Judith Smith-Ille did not vote to approve the proposal, citing a need to consult her party's chairman and investigate parking issues.

This delayed the hiring of seasonal workers to man satellite voting sites.

Kiesling said the Election Board simply wasn't aware of the option to have the Parks and Recreation Department move early. Kiesling called the process a juggling act, a "musical offices" of sorts. When Monroe County Clerk Linda Robbins heard the idea, she was all in favor, she said.

"We're very happy," Robbins said. "We have no further need for the extended hours or days at any of the locations."

The expansion of Curry space also simplifies the overflow situation, consolidating voter attention to one building instead of two.

Kiesling and Robbins said there are enough parking spaces at the Curry Building, though they will have to work with the City of Bloomington to free up city-owned spaces on Morton Street.

Robbins said parking might be an issue, as the city has been reluctant to free up spaces in the past.

Other decisions concerning the election season, including poll opening and closing times, operating dates of voting satellite sites and any additional amendments to the list of sites have yet to be decided.

"We should have had all this done in August," Robbins said.

She noted the problems with securing satellite voting dates and times, caused by the extended decision period.

The remaining issues will be addressed at the Sept. 6 Election Board meeting. Robbins said these matters would not drag on beyond then.



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