In Koch Arena, Wichita State has a sports complex in which we can take tremendous pride. Credit must be given to the Roundhouse Renaissance campaign of 2002-03, an investment in the complex that continues to pay dividends. But much has happened to Shocker Athletics in the years since. For one, the number of student athletes has increased about 40 percent. Secondly, fan interest in WSU volleyball and women’s basketball has grown as those programs delivered winning seasons. And then there’s the men’s basketball program. Building on an NIT championship in 2011 followed by five successive NCAA tournament appearances, the Shockers have been in the national limelight ever since.

To keep pace with the growth and success of WSU sports programs, the WSU Foundation and Shocker Athletics seek to raise $12 million to build a new Student Center and to renovate offices in Koch Arena.

In creating a culture of academic success, Wichita State puts high demands on its student athletes. We need to invest in them at the level they invest in us.

That is why the Koch Arena expansion project will focus heavily on student success. Funds raised in the campaign will pay for a new Student Center, a 48,000-square-foot building dedicated to the academic, personal and professional development of our student athletes.

The three-level complex, located immediately south of Koch Arena, will include these features:

**LOWER LEVEL** — a weight and conditioning center with floor-to-ceiling glass walls looking out onto Cessna Stadium; a media room and student lounge also will be located here.

**MAIN LEVEL** — a multi-purpose room for large meetings, with the capacity to provide training table service; an office complex for track & field, cross country and golf coaches and support staff will also be on this level.

**UPPER LEVEL** — a 3,000-square-foot study hall (compared to 1,800 square feet in the existing facility), tutoring rooms, computer center and 620-square-foot conference room.

The new Student-Athlete Success Center will replace the Downing Academic Learning Center inside Koch Arena, which has been an invaluable resource for student athletes the past 12 years. As evidence of that, the graduation rate for WSU student athletes is 16 to 18 percent higher than the rate for the general student population. Also noteworthy: Our 275-plus student athletes have a grade point average of more than 3.0.
There’s an intensity and a wow factor on the Koch Arena court that few college venues in the country can rival. That level of excellence, however, doesn’t carry over into the arena’s cramped and well-worn offices housing basketball and volleyball programs. Recruits and their families expect these facilities to reflect the legacy of the programs they’re considering joining.

To address this, the Koch Arena renovation project will enlarge, update and reorganize office space to make it more welcoming, functional and inspiring. The plan features these elements:

- Offices for the track & field, cross country and golf programs will move to the new Student Center, nearly doubling available space on the second level of Koch Arena for the men’s and women’s basketball and volleyball programs.
- Renovation will include additional office space for basketball and volleyball to accommodate growing staffs, attractive and comfortable seating areas, conference rooms and a well-designed footprint.
- Offices for sports marketing, media and development will move to an updated and renovated complex on the first level, in the space now occupied by the Downing Academic Learning Center.

These improvements not only will provide more appropriate facilities for recruiting and important meetings, they also will result in a more efficient and professional environment for the coaches and staffs working diligently to advance Shocker Athletics.

**WSU ATHLETIC PROGRAMS**

**A RECORD OF SUCCESS**

- **MEN’S BASKETBALL:** Five consecutive NCAA appearances, 2012-2016
- **WOMEN’S BASKETBALL:** Three consecutive MVC tournament titles, 2013-2015
- **BASEBALL:** 27 NCAA tournaments and 20 MVC titles
- **SOFTBALL:** MVC champions, 2014 & 2016
- **VOLLEYBALL:** Nine NCAA tournament appearances since 2004
- **MEN’S GOLF:** Eight consecutive MVC championships, 2008-2015
- **WOMEN’S GOLF:** Three straight MVC champions, 2014-2016
- **MEN’S TENNIS:** 25 MVC team titles
- **WOMEN’S TENNIS:** Eight consecutive NCAA appearances, 2009-2016
- **TRACK:** 24 MVC championships, most recently the women’s title in 2016

**ADDITIONAL PROJECTS FOR KOCH ARENA**

The Koch Arena fundraising campaign will provide funds for two additional projects: moving the Shocker retail store to a larger space in the arena and renovating and reconfiguring the Champions Club to improve visitors’ experiences.

**STEPPING UP TO LEAD**

As members of the WSU Athletic Facilities Leadership Council, the following people will help guide the campaign to raise private funds for Koch Arena and Eck Stadium improvements:

- **Tom Dondlinger, chair**
- **Bill and Dorothy Cohen**
- **Debbie Haynes**
- **Clif Larison**
- **Elliot and Chonci Lekawa**
- **Leon Lungwitz**
- **Eric Namee**
- **Nate Robertson**
- **Renae Ryan**
- **Steve and Lisa Sutherland**

*A fee of 5 percent is assessed on gifts to the WSU Foundation.*

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