



# **EXECUTIVE**

**May 5, 2022**

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**APPROVAL OF CONSTRUCTION OF  
SOFTBALL AND SOCCER FACILITIES**

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**REQUEST:**

Approval of construction of a new facility housing locker rooms, offices, and an indoor training area for the WKU Athletics Softball and Soccer Programs.

**FACTS:**

The softball and soccer programs currently do not have locker rooms or an indoor training area at the site where they practice and play their games. This facility would increase efficiencies in both programs by providing them a dressing, meeting, and training area at their competition site.

**BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS:**

The cost of this project will be paid by utilizing a combination of the WKU Athletics share of the exit fee revenue paid by the departing league members and funds generated by the Hilltopper Athletic Foundation. No expenses will be paid from the state budget.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

President Timothy C. Caboni requests approval of the construction of new facilities for WKU Athletics Softball and Soccer programs.

**MOTION:**

Approval of the construction of new facilities for WKU Athletics Softball and Soccer programs.



# WKU Softball/Soccer Complex



Located along  
Creason Street  
within the  
existing footprint  
of current  
Soccer/Softball  
competition  
center

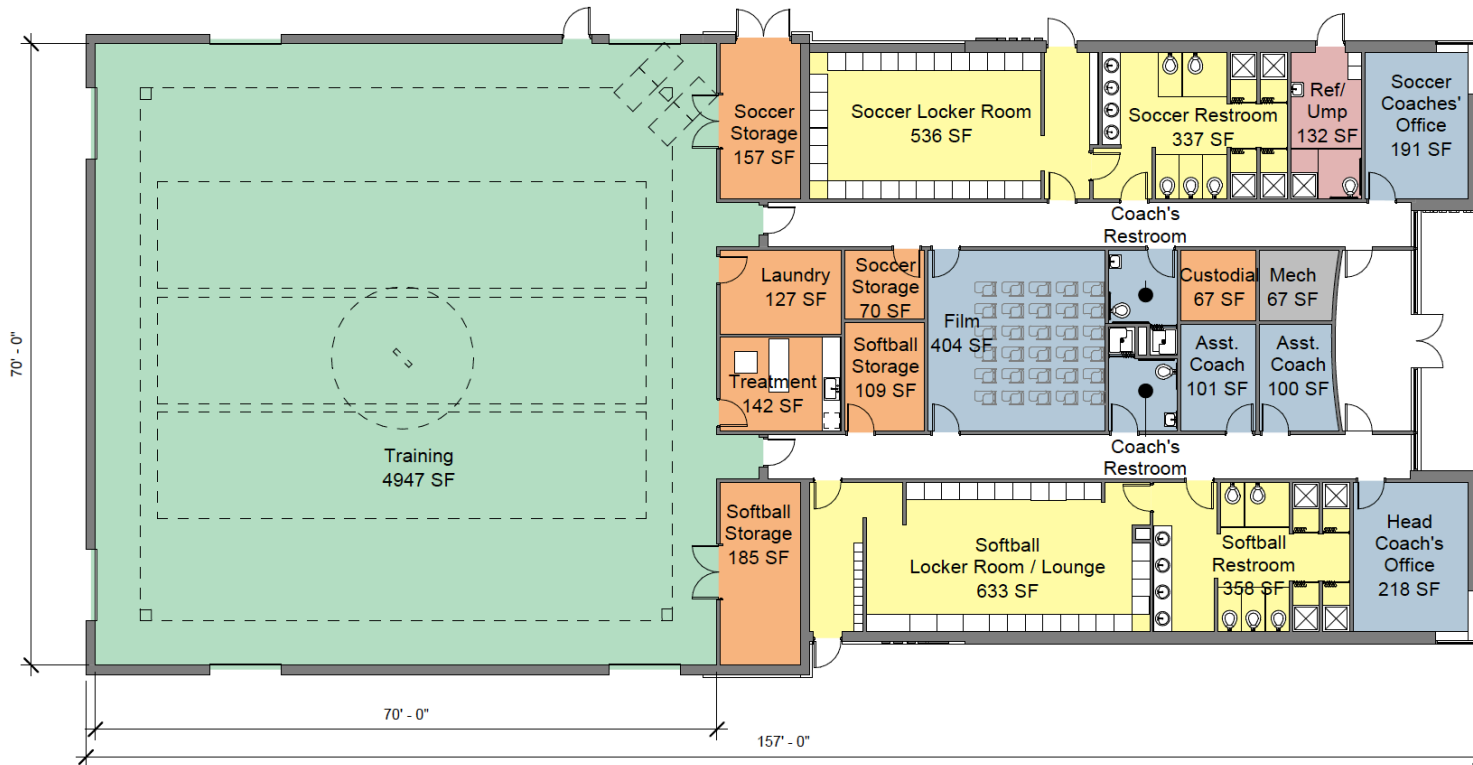
- Will serve as everyday locker room and office space for Softball team, and as gameday facility and meeting space for Soccer team
  - On-site accommodations for visiting team, and referees and umpires
- Space to receive medical treatment and injury care on site



Entire facility  
– 10,801 sq ft.

Softball  
locker room  
– 633 sq ft.

Soccer  
locker room  
– 536 sq ft.



Gross Square Footage : 10,801 sf

- 4,947 square foot training area that includes three batting tunnels and enough space for Softball to have a full infield practice, and Soccer to have group skill training
- 404 square foot film/meeting room that both teams can access



- **Currently, all student-athletes and officials must use same restroom facilities as general fans**

- **Neither team currently has any team facilities at their fields of play, nor accommodations for visiting teams/officials**
- **Softball must go to Diddle Arena to change, meet, shower, etc., approximately 0.6 miles from the field across busy intersection at University Blvd./Russellville Rd./Avenue of Champions; it must also share/schedule current batting cages with Baseball**
- **Soccer must go to the third floor of Houchens-Smith Stadium to complete its gameday needs**

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**PROVOST EMERITUS APPOINTMENT**

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**REQUEST:**

Approval of Provost Emeritus status for Dr. Cheryl Stevens.

**FACT:**

Dr. Cheryl Stevens served as the Acting Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs from April 2019 until her sabbatical leave on July 1, 2021. Prior to her role as Acting Provost, Dr. Stevens served as Dean of the Ogden College of Science and Engineering from January 2012 until March 2019. In addition to serving as Provost and Dean, she also served as President of the WKU Research Foundation and Director of the Applied Research and Technology Program at WKU.

During her tenure as Acting Provost, Dr. Stevens successfully navigated WKU through the COVID-19 pandemic and helped facilitate the switch to fully remote learning. She provided the students, faculty, and staff with encouragement, direction, and support during uncertain times. As the Dean of Ogden College, Dr. Cheryl Stevens established the Department of the Psychological Sciences and the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, supervised the design and construction of Ogden College Hall, and completed a total redesign and renovation of Kelly Thompson Hall. She led the Women in Science and Engineering group, fostered a shared governance throughout the college, and developed a vision that unified the college. She exemplified the values of Ogden College, which are to “Empower, Connect, Serve.”

Dr. Stevens retired from her position on December 31, 2021. President Caboni recommends the Board of Regents approve the designation of “Provost Emeritus” for Dr. Stevens based upon her almost 10 years of service and her distinguished record of achievement at the University.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

President Timothy C. Caboni recommends that Provost Emeritus status be awarded to Dr. Cheryl Stevens.

**MOTION:**

Approval of Provost Emeritus status for Dr. Cheryl Stevens.

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**PHILANTHROPIC NAMING REQUEST FOR  
ROBERT “RB” AND BOBBYE BELWOOD BROWN TURF AT THE  
ROTC PHYSICAL TRAINING FIELD**

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**REQUEST:**

Approval of the philanthropic naming of the Robert “RB” and Bobbye Belwood Brown Turf located at the ROTC Physical Training Field in recognition of generous gifts from retired LTC Robert Brown and Bobbye Belwood Brown.

**FACTS:**

Retired LTC Robert Brown and Bobbye Belwood Brown of Frankfort, KY are both 1973 WKU alumni. RB earned a Bachelor of Science in Accounting while Bobbye earned a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology.

RB was Commander of the Corps of Cadets during his senior year at WKU and was a Distinguished Military Graduate. During her years at WKU, Bobbye was Captain of the Rebelettes drill team.

For more than 40 years, RB has been a State Farm Insurance Agent in Frankfort.

This philanthropic naming request is recommended in recognition of Robert and Bobbye Brown’s generous gifts to the ROTC program.

**BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS:**

The College of Education and Behavioral Sciences will cover the cost of the sign for the area.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

President Timothy C. Caboni recommends the philanthropic naming of the turf at the ROTC Training Field to the Robert “RB” and Bobbye Belwood Brown turf.

**MOTION:**

Approval of philanthropic naming of the Robert “RB” and Bobbye Belwood Brown turf located at the ROTC Training Field.