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## Canisius College wants to build fitness center in Palisano Pavilion

Apr 3, 2019, 1:59pm EDT

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Canisius College plans to build an on-campus fitness center in its Palisano Pavilion, which exists a short walk from several residence halls toward the back of the Main Street campus.

The college's only current fitness-center facility exists in the Koessler Athletic Center. It is shared by the general student body and the dedicated sports programs of the Golden Griffins' Division I varsity teams.

College president [John Hurley](#) said Koessler's weight and aerobic space was built at a time when its intercollegiate sports program was much smaller. Now nearly 400 athletes representing sports played in every season use the space, crowding out other uses.

"We continue to see that the Koessler Athletic Center gets way overburdened," he said. "We need a space for our regular, non varsity athletes to work out."

Canisius has engaged CannonDesign to envision the space, which Hurley said will be a "practical, usable facility" with free weights, aerobic equipment, a studio for yoga and pilates and possibly spinning.

Hurley expects the project to cost under \$1 million and is looking for contributions from alumni to help fund it. He expects construction to begin this summer and to open the space to students sometime next fall.

"This is a critical piece of the recruiting strategy for Canisius," he said. "You need facilities like this to be able to attract students, and it's an important part of their health and wellness."

**Dan Miner**

Reporter

*Buffalo Business First*

CONTRIBUTED BY CANISIUS COLLEGE

A CannonDesign rendering of the new Canisius College fitness center in Palisano Pavilion.