What is the Sonnentag Complex?

The Sonnentag Complex is a new proposed facility featuring a major event center, a new wellness and fitness space, and a new Mayo Clinic Health System clinical location offering sports medicine, human performance enhancement and imaging services.

The major event center would replace UW-Eau Claire’s nearly 70-year-old Zorn Arena (which we know is suffering structurally and operationally) and add new recreational fitness space to relieve pressure on the overused and understated McPhee Strength and Performance Center, Ade Olson Addition and the Great Fitness Center. It will also provide a recreation facility close-to-home for those students living off-campus. The Sonnentag Complex would deepen the impact of your time at UWEC and provide the resources necessary for a healthy, happy college experience.

Plus, Zorn Arena is Wisconsin’s biggest indoor facility. Replacing it with a fully air-conditioned, flexible 5,000+ seat arena will allow major performances, musical guests and sporting events to stop in Eau Claire, enriching the student experience and our community’s cultural scene. It will also provide a new venue for UW-Eau Claire’s commencement ceremonies.

This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that benefits everyone in the community.

How might it benefit you?

- Cardio & Strength Training Equipment
- Sustainable Design & New Pollinator Habitat
- New Venue for Commencement
- Group Exercise & Wellness Programs
- Major Events

Wellness and Fitness Spaces: The wellness and fitness spaces offer students access to cardio and strength training equipment, free weights, group exercise areas, spin classes, special wellness programs as well as access to sport courts and locker rooms.

Event Center: The City of Eau Claire has come together with other community partners, to build a fully air-conditioned, flexible 5,000+ seat arena that can host major concerts and performances and entice large sporting events and tournaments to stop in Eau Claire. It will also be the new venue for UW-Eau Claire’s commencement ceremonies.

Mayo Clinic Sports Medicine and Imaging Clinic: Mayo Clinic Health System will construct a new clinical location as part of the Complex, where they plan to offer sports medicine, human performance enhancement and imaging services and conduct collaborative research.
How can you help this move forward?

This is your opportunity to pay it forward to future Blugolds. You will be asked to vote on the recreation referendum during elections. Voting in favor of the recreation referendum will provide greater access to recreation facilities in more convenient locations. Whether you live on- or off-campus, Blugolds deserve access to recreational opportunities that support their physical and mental health.

Without the Sonnentag Complex’s community partners, students would pay significantly more money every year for a smaller, less effective facility that doesn’t meet the needs of our student community. Our alumni and our community want us to achieve more, together, creating opportunities for future Blugolds as a result.

Who can you contact with questions?

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