The
Cross Country
House

Hall preference:
1) Adams
2) Kemp

Proposal:
"The mission of the cross country house is to promote the progress of
student health, education, and leadership through involvement with the
community and campus. As runners, we strive to do our best on the cross
country field and the classroom through hard work and determination. These
characteristics will ensure that we will represent Illinois Wesleyan University to
the best of our capabilities and provide a fresh and sophisticated voice to those
unfamiliar with the university."

We truly believe there is no "I" in TEAM. Each day, we make our way to the
Shirk center and prepare for the day's workout. We leave all other stresses behind as we
strive to help one another get through each and every mile. This quality is pertinent to the
communal theme because it proves that we are truly here for one another; each individual
committed to helping his or her teammate on and off the field.

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With majors ranging from English to Biology, Music to Math, the atmosphere of such a diverse community will guarantee that each individual will receive the assistance needed to maintain academic success. As we strive to better ourselves and others, this attitude will transcend to all students of Wesleyan, thus promoting academic prosperity on the campus as a whole.

Events that our community has planned will help develop character and leadership. These programs are the following:

**Community Programs:**
1) Volunteering to work meets
2) Working the annual homecoming 5K
3) Festival of Trees

**Campus Programs:**
1) Titan EMS
2) Cross country housing and tours for freshman
2) Conducting campus tours for parents

**Residential Programs:**
1) Parents Weekend
2) Team game nights
3) Team dinners

The head coach of the cross country team, Greg Huffaker, invests a lot of time in contributing to the wellness of his athletes. Coach Huffaker encourages each and every one of us to be better athletes, teammates, and students. Having been a collegiate cross country runner himself, Coach Huffaker is easily able to relate and understand the many
demands that play upon student-athletes. Since most of the cross country runners also compete on the track team and therefore run year round, Coach Huffaker and track coach, Chris Schumacher, are always available for any guidance and support that we may need.

As in any sport on any campus, our team spends a great deal of time together. We are constantly coming up with new ways in which to come together and bond as a team. Whether it is playing intramural softball, starting up a game of capture the flag or ultimate Frisbee, or going on an adventure to Emack and Bolio’s to consume the Emack Attack, we are always looking for ways to get to know one another better and have fun at the same time.

One of the amazing aspects of going to college is getting to know people from all walks of life. Our community has members from Poland, China, Japan, and Africa. Meeting people who are not accustomed to the American lifestyle provides a healthy learning experience that can best be described as exponential for every individual involved.

We believe our idea stands out from others because this would be the first time the university has had a cross country house and each member is very excited to be a part of such an experience. We feel that this opportunity is once in a lifetime as we have many members leaving to study abroad in the future. Each of us is committed to hosting monthly meetings to tackle any issues, problems etc that need to be addressed. We feel that enthusiasm and commitment will not be lacking from these meetings because each of us has already shown that these qualities are not an issue as we go to practice every day and are always willing to make each other smile.