

University Priority Selection

University of
Wisconsin-Stout



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FOCUS 2015 Goal

Develop knowledge, respect and validation of differing values, cultures and beliefs in students, faculty and staff

Develop and implement an action plan for using the results from the UW System Climate Survey.

- UW-Stout participated in phase 3 of this UW System initiative
- Survey was administered in spring 2011 and results are expected June 2011
- Survey will identify areas that may need to be addressed so that UW-Stout can continue to create a welcoming environment for faculty and staff members and students from diverse backgrounds.

Identify additional goal statements for Inclusive Excellence that supplement the UW System required goals. Identify action items to achieve these new goals.

- There are currently 7 goals for Inclusive Excellence:
<http://www2.uwstout.edu/content/bpa/planning/actionplan/ieplan.pdf>
- All existing goals are required by UW System
- Discussion at pre-retreat meetings suggested that UW-Stout should add some supplemental UW-Stout goals for Inclusive Excellence and develop action items for those new goals.

Develop a proposal to address the requests that have been submitted for providing dedicated staff and resources for specific services to specific populations. The proposal should include how we can address the need with existing resources. Examples include, but are not limited to, LGBTQ, Veterans, Campus violence prevention, Native American population.

- Several requests have been made for new positions to provide dedicated services to specific students groups. However, resources to add new positions are limited, especially given upcoming budget cuts.
- Pre-retreat discussions identified the need to review the growing number of requests, identify the needs for the campus, and determine how they can be met with existing resources.

Develop an action plan to address the issue that, on the exit interview survey, of those who report, racial/ethnic minority faculty/staff resign, are non-renewed or are dismissed at much higher rates than white faculty/staff.

- A review of diversity facts and figures indicated that there are differences in self-reported reasons for leaving UW-Stout among racial/ethnic minorities and non-racial ethnic minorities:
<http://www2.uwstout.edu/content/bpa/planning/spgretreat/2011/diversityff11.pdf>
- This trend was also reported in the 2010 diversity facts and figures.

FOCUS 2015 Goal

Expand early and ongoing experiential learning opportunities including undergraduate applied research and entrepreneurship

Achieve 100% participation in experiential learning by the time all undergraduate students graduate. Ensure that 100% of academic programs require experiential learning in the major. Develop an action plan to achieve 2015 targets.

- UW-Stout has set a goal for 100% of students to participate in experiential learning prior to graduation
- A review of facts and figures in this area indicates that 86% of students participate in such experiences:
<http://www2.uwstout.edu/content/bpa/planning/spgretreat/2011/explearnff11.pdf>

Expand the fall 2010 university priority on learning communities, to enroll greater numbers and achieve higher targets.

- UW-Stout has set a goal for 2015 to exceed national comparisons:
<http://www2.uwstout.edu/content/bpa/ir/perform2015/indicator6.pdf>
- A fall 2010 university priority was launched to achieve this goal:
<http://www2.uwstout.edu/content/bpa/planning/univprio/2010/explearnb.pdf>
- We are on target to exceed this target in 2011-12
- Some schools set much higher targets and have improved university-wide retention rates

Increase participation in high impact practices at UW-Stout, as defined in the NSSE survey. Develop a plan for achieving FOCUS 2015 targets for high impact practices.

- UW-Stout has set a target to exceed national comparisons on participation in HIP's:
<http://www2.uwstout.edu/content/bpa/ir/perform2015/indicator6.pdf>
- Performance on this metric is tracked in the Accountability Report
- Pre-retreat discussion identified the need to increase our focus in this area, as these initiatives are often also tied to increased retention rates

Implement the proposal from the fall 2010 university priority implementation team for forming a committee to define and track service learning at UW-Stout.

- A fall 2010 university priority was established to coordinate service learning and civic engagement:
<http://www2.uwstout.edu/content/bpa/planning/univprio/2010/explearn.pdf>
- An implementation team developed a standardized definition and proposal for the implementation of extra-curricular and co-curricular activities in a transcript or portfolio.
- The team also recommended that a group be formed to look at service learning.

Expand opportunities for undergraduate student research, including identification of ways to allow faculty to devote more time to this, as proposed on the university priority survey responses and by the CORE committee.

- This item was considered as a university priority for fall 2010.
- Several comments on the 2010 university priority survey indicated a need for this initiative:
<http://www2.uwstout.edu/content/bpa/planning/spgretr eat/2010/upideas.pdf>

FOCUS 2015 Goal

Further develop
and execute
integrated
enrollment
management

Develop and implement an action plan for using the results from the minority graduation study, conducted as part of a fall 2010 university priority.

- A study was proposed in a fall 2010 university priority:
http://www2.uwstout.edu/content/bpa/planning/univ_prio/2010/diversity.pdf
- 35 racial/ethnic minority students participated in the study
- A report from this study will be available in September, 2011

Develop an action plan for increasing the profile of the new freshmen at UW-Stout and propose changes to the enrollment headcount targets (as proposed in the Growth Agenda) based on anticipated increased retention and graduation rates for the new freshmen.

- Our current enrollment goal is 9,500 for the year 2025. We are currently 6 years ahead of our target.
- Pre-retreat discussion identified the need to re-examine our enrollment targets.
- Previous modeling has been done that suggests if we increase our student profile, our retention rates will increase, which allows us to reduce the target for new freshmen while still maintaining the same overall enrollment.

Develop an action plan for achieving FOCUS 2015 and Growth Agenda 2025 6-year graduation targets for all students and for racial/ethnic minorities.

- UW-Stout currently meets or exceeds all Growth Agenda targets except for those relating to 6-year graduation rates.
- The goal for 2025 is to close the achievement gap for racial/ethnic minority students, and to achieve a 6-year graduation rate of 58.4% for all groups.

Develop an action plan for maintaining retention rates at or above targets based on the results from the Retention Return on Investment and Gateway studies, conducted as a follow up to a fall 2009 priority.

- Retention rates had been flat for several years (70-71%) and were slightly under targets and then increased substantially to 75% in fall 2009.
- A fall 2009 priority identified the need for multi-year retention plans:
<http://www2.uwstout.edu/content/bpa/planning/univprio/2009/enrollmgmt.pdf>
- Several committees were formed and several next steps were recommended, including an ROI study and Gateway study. Results will be available in June, 2011.

Review the credits to degree requirement for each major and make recommendations for moving toward FOCUS 2015 targets. As part of this review, identify the “core” of each major, and review the continued need for specialized courses and specialized expertise.

- A FOCUS 2015 target for credits to degree has been set for 124.
- Pre-retreat discussion identified the need to review credit to degree requirements by major and identify the core of each major, and consider reducing credits to degree.

FOCUS 2015 Goal

Focus on Sustainability: Implement Key Elements of the President's Climate Commitment and Educational and Applied Research Initiatives

Continue work on the energy conservation policy and the waste reduction policy, as started in the fall 2010 university priority.

- A fall 2010 priority was started in this area:
http://www2.uwstout.edu/content/bpa/planning/univ_prio/2010/sustainb.pdf
- A cost-benefit analysis is currently in progress

Continue to integrate sustainability into the curriculum, via classroom experiences, research projects, general education courses, as started in the fall 2010 university priority.

- A fall 2010 priority was started in this area:
http://www2.uwstout.edu/content/bpa/planning/univ_prio/2010/sustain.pdf
- A list of action plans for integrating sustainability into the curriculum has been created. A definition of sustainability in the curriculum has been presented to the Senates. The sustainability website includes a list of potential sustainability projects.

Develop a proposal for moving toward the goal for “scope 2 Greenhouse Gas emissions.” Make recommendations for any needed target adjustments.

- A FOCUS 2015 goal has been set to have a 10% reduction (from 2008) in Scope 2 emissions (purchased electricity) as part of the Governor’s mandate
- A review of facts and figures indicated that we are behind on that target:
<http://www2.uwstout.edu/content/bpa/planning/spgr retreat/2011/sustainff11.pdf>
- Pre-retreat discussions identified the need to revisit this target and develop a plan for achieving a revised target.

Increase visibility of sustainability, including an increased web presence, more publicity and more presentations.

- This item was considered as a university priority for fall 2010.
- Several comments on the 2010 university priority survey indicated a need for this initiative:
<http://www2.uwstout.edu/content/bpa/planning/spgr-etreat/2010/upideas.pdf>