

Academic Affairs Priorities and Initiatives

This list of priorities emerges from activities within Academic Affairs **not** covered by other unit planning leaders in the Academic Division (e.g., deans). The priorities listed below include examples of the focal actions planned for 2009-11. They assume few new resources, except those achieved through internal reallocations, and public and private external support.

- 1) Improve the quality and availability of information used in decision making. Reduce unnecessary duplicative data collection and reporting functions.
 - The institutional research function will be strengthened by an experienced Director, credible and timely information, stronger analytic and decision making tools, and enhanced coordination with related functions across the university.
- 2) Enrich the context for academic decision making by expanding the information available, making it available at unit level when possible, and establishing a regular, cost-effective cycle for information management. Examples of new/updated information to be available this next year or two: Delaware Cost Study; National Survey of Student Engagement; Collegiate Learning Assessment; and internal studies of undergraduate student academic success.
- 3) Contribute to accomplishment of HECB Strategic Master Plan Goals.
 - Expand the number of programs that meet educational needs in the region and offered through University Centers, in cohort formats at other locations, and/or through partnerships.
 - Replace leader for Extended Education and Summer School with someone with established track record and attractive vision for the role that Western could play in extended education.
 - Support faculty consideration of additional online courses in appropriate areas, particularly when those courses contribute to completion of WWU programs.
- 4) Increase the preparation of Western students for roles as global citizens and leaders.
 - Expand international student matriculation from community colleges in Washington through articulation agreements and collaborative programming.
 - More thoroughly integrate global issues in curriculum (Title V1-A and submit Title V1-B funded).
- 5) Expand participation in and/or enhance impact of programs that contribute to Western's signature quality and therefore help to attract and retain top students.
 - Community-based applied research, service and other learning opportunities serving student and regional needs
 - Honors Program
 - Marine Science Undergraduate Program

- Study abroad
 - International curricular content
 - Leadership 'across the curriculum'
- 6) Increase the diversity of Western's faculty and staff.
- 7) Improve Western's performance on key performance metrics in Performance Agreements.
- Increase number of student completing their degrees in six years
 - Increase number of students completing their degrees in four years
- 8) Continue Western students' and region's access to high stakes and certification tests by increasing revenue and achieving operational efficiencies.
- 9) Seek opportunities to increase revenue to support core academic functions.
- Within the division: Expand summer school, conference coordination, non credit courses, out of state students, and Intensive English program, expand research and service contracts, increase indirect recoveries
 - In partnership with other divisions, catalyze campus conversations and focused initiatives supporting/pursuing: next campaign; strategic enrollment planning; federal funding; and private foundation support.