Academic Programs

Strategic Goals

and Initiative
Academic Programs Subcommittee

- Stephen Angel (Faculty)
- Robin Bowen (VPAA)
- Alan Bearman (Dean – Library)
- Roxanne Kelly (Dean – Washburn Tech)
- Dan Lykins (Board of Regents)
- Pat Munzer (Faculty)
- David Sollars (Dean – SOB)
- Monica Scheibmeir (Dean – SON)
- Vicky Baer (Sec. Student Services)
- Marsha Shean (Chamber of Commerce)
- Rebecca Atnip, subcommittee secretary.
DATA:

Washburn Community:
- Steve Jenkins, Senior VP–Economic Development, Chamber of Commerce
- Jim Daniel, Director of Strategic Planning, St. Francis Health Center
- Brenda Deitrich, Superintendent, USD 437 School District

Academic Unit Strategic Plans
- Dean, College of Arts & Sciences
- Dean, Library
- Dean, School of Applied Sciences
- Dean, School of Business
- Dean, School of Law
- Dean, School of Nursing
- VPAA, Washburn University

Open Forums
- Student (1)
- Staff (3)
- Faculty (3)
Introduction

...provide opportunities for all students “to develop and to realize their intellectual, academic, and professional potential leading to becoming productive and responsible citizens.”

Strategic Goals – three categories:
- Program Development
- Organizational Structure
- Support Structures of the University
Ensure academic units meet the current and changing educational needs of students.

- Continue to enhance foundations in math, sciences, critical thinking, the arts and humanities, and ethical and moral values.
- Emphasize organizational structures that promote interdisciplinary learning and application of knowledge.
- Develop collaborations and support services with area schools, and provide and increase the quality/visibility of WU K-12 education teachers to meet the needs of area students.
- Increase the ability of academic units to respond quickly to changing scholarly, social and cultural, market and professional expectations for graduates.
- Build close relationships with community organizations and businesses to understand hiring demands placed upon employers.
Develop, support and promote signature learning experiences.

- Continue to provide a personalized private education at a public price.
- Continue to support general education as a signature Washburn experience.
- Provide transformational experiences in scholarly/creative, community, leadership and/or international travel for all students.
- Develop and sustain a model Honors program.
- Provide infrastructure for the multi-faceted recognition and communication of academic success stories (programs, students, and faculty).
- Develop high relevancy and/or high demand undergraduate and graduate programs that meet the needs of the region.
- Support the School of Law’s plans to improve its regional and national standing.
- Develop high relevancy and/or high demand online programs.
Provide a highly visible, centralized location for all of the health care programs on campus.

- Provide opportunities for greater collaborations between various health care units on campus.
- Increase experience of students with other health care professions.
- Integrate health information systems into the health care educational curriculum.
- Continue to respond to changing regional and state-wide demands in health care.
- Enhance existing medical services offered by the Student Health Services center.
Develop plans to evaluate all General Education courses to ensure their validity within the 21st century General Education program currently under development.

- Enhance foundational learning in Global Citizenship and Global Studies, Technology and Information Literacy, Quantitative and Scientific Reasoning, Communication, and Critical and Creative Thinking.
- Provide incentives to allow faculty to incorporate best practices in online and traditional in-person general education offerings.
- Provide incentives to allow the faculty who are the strongest technologically, to assist others to develop best practices in online general education.
- Ensure the ongoing evaluation of general education courses to ensure they are producing the desired learning outcomes.
- Provide ongoing evaluation of the general education program to ensure its value as a signature learning experience.
The Washburn University administrative structure needs to promote the primacy of academics.

- Establish a Provost system of academic governance and/or better utilize the current academic leadership structure.
- Ensure faculty centered academic initiatives.
- Enhance transparency and communication to ensure representative participation of all units in campus governance.
- Promote development programs for those faculty interested in administrative careers.
The growth of existing programs and the creation of new programs will be funded by the reallocation of existing budgets.

- Washburn must build on the areas where it has comparative advantages.
- Evaluation of all campus programs (academic, athletic, student life and support areas) must occur in a systematic way and appropriate actions taken.
- The process must be transparent, involve faculty, staff, students and the external community, and involve both quantitative and qualitative factors in the analysis.
- Existing programs with potential for growth and new programs must receive an increasing share of available resources.
Technology at Washburn University must first support the academic mission of the institution.

- Infrastructure (hardware, software, web presence, administration, and support services) needs to provide outstanding service to all stakeholders (faculty, staff and students) at the time of need.
- Academic units must receive outstanding technological support to plan for the constant evolution of technology and its uses in an academic environment.
- The use of technology needs to place Washburn faculty and students at the forefront of innovative learning, research and outreach in order to excel in their academic fields.
- Graduating students will understand and be able to use new technology specific to their discipline.
- The Washburn University community needs to lead the region in the use of technology as a transformative tool in the 21st century.
- The University Libraries need to be continually at the forefront of technological innovation.
Create a comprehensive academic support program to include a First Year Center (FYC).

- The FYC will adapt services to meet the needs of diverse student populations and expose all first time WU students to the Washburn experience, including a structured first year orientation and seminar series.
- Consolidate and improve academic support services to assist students from their first year until graduation.
- Faculty will continue to receive education to enhance learning in diverse populations.
Establish a permanent Center for Faculty Excellence as a resource for faculty development.

- Offer support for first year and senior faculty development.
- Provide support for the multiple roles faculty perform on campus and in the community.
- Increase interdisciplinary communication and activity.
Central to the intellectual, cultural and social growth of the campus are the University Libraries.

- Directly and substantially address the concerns of the 2008 HLC report.
- Support the Library as the center of campus interdisciplinary life.
- Support the Library as a central element in student achievement.
- Support the Library as a central function of student life.
- Support the Libraries need to remain at the forefront of technological innovation.
Summary

- By 2020, Washburn University will become and be known as the preeminent academic institution in the region - providing opportunities for all students “to develop and to realize their intellectual, academic, and professional potential leading to becoming productive and responsible citizens.”