

Institutional Performance Plan Narrative - University of Washington January 2012

The University of Washington in 2011-12

The University of Washington is Seattle's largest employer and enrolls over 50,000 undergraduate, graduate and professional students each year. UW Educational Outreach educates an additional 40,000+ students via in-person and online degree and certificate programs and continuing professional education programs.

The UW attracts many of Washington's best and brightest students. In Fall 2011, the average GPA of entering freshmen (all campuses) was 3.7 and the average SAT score was over 1200. Additionally, 29 percent of entering freshman were first-generation college students, and 25 percent were Pell grant recipients.

Research and service are also central to the UW's mission. University researchers compete successfully for more federal grant dollars than any other public institution in the country. Faculty and student research produces groundbreaking discoveries across almost every field of knowledge; this research has resulted in the creation of over 250 new companies and the procurement of over 2,000 patent awards. In addition, the UW operates four area hospitals, which includes the region's only Level I trauma center, provides one-fourth of the state's charity care.

Ten-Year Trends

UW has made progress on a number of important quality measures in the last decade. Overall, the UW has increased the number of all degrees awarded by 40 percent and STEM degrees by 60 percent. The freshman retention rate has risen from 89.5 percent to 92 percent, and the six-year graduation rate has improved from 73.6 percent to 80.3 percent. The UW's retention and graduation rates are the highest in the state and compare favorably with peer institutions across the nation.

Additionally, from 2001 to 2011, the UW has more than doubled the total amount of awarded grants and contracts from \$708 million to over \$1.5 billion, more federal research dollars than any other public institution in the US.

Strategies and Challenges

Significant budget cuts over the last four years have made maintaining performance on these measures a challenge, especially as course sections have been consolidated, class sizes increased, teaching assistants reduced, and tutoring assistance cut. To protect core academic functions, the UW has worked hard to concentrate budget cuts in administrative units and to identify and implement business efficiencies. In this context, it is noteworthy that credit hours to graduation and average time to graduation have remained stable.

However, declining funding per student continues to threaten academic outcomes, and, in particular, affects the institution's ability to increase STEM enrollments, which are more costly than other major programs. Nevertheless, the UW will seek not only to at least maintain its performance on general

measures such as student retention and graduation rates through 2015, but additionally to increase degrees awarded as well as:

1. Enrollment in STEM degree programs
2. Enrollment of women in STEM degree programs
3. Enrollment of underrepresented minorities in STEM degree programs
4. Participation of undergraduates in UW research endeavors
5. Commercialization agreements
6. Start-up companies

Tracking student enrollment in these programs—in addition to degrees produced—will provide the UW with valuable “pipeline” data to monitor and track progress on STEM participation. Achieving these goals will require that the UW continue to implement budget reductions strategically, cultivate alternative funding sources, partner across the education spectrum in the state to address STEM pipeline issues, and match degree production to the economic needs of industry and the state.

In addition to increasing STEM enrollments and degree production, the University is committed to expanding and improving the economic impact of its growing research enterprise. While basic research is an essential part of our research mission, the ability to commercialize University research discoveries and launch start-up companies ensures that our research benefits the state’s economy.

**Institutional Performance Plan Metrics - University of Washington
January, 2012**

(a) Time and credits to degree *(sec.5, 2a, E2SHB 1795)*

Metric	Source	2009-10 Baseline	2014-15 Goal	2018-19 Full Funding
Time to degree - Full-time, First-time	local	4.5	4.5	4.5
Credits to degree - Full-time, First-time	local	180.1	180.1	180.1

(b) Retention and success of students from low-income, diverse, or underrepresented communities *(sec.5, 2a, E2SHB 1795)*

Metric	Source	2009-10 Baseline	2014-15 Goal	2018-19 Full Funding
Fall-to-fall retention rate: New Full-time, First-time	PCHEES	91.7%	91.7%	91.7%
Fall-to-fall retention rate: New Full-time, First-time - Pell Grant recipients	PCHEES	91.5%	91.5%	91.5%

* Fall-to-fall defined as Fall 2008 to Fall 2009

Metric	Source	2009-10 Baseline	2014-15 Goal	2018-19 Full Funding
Four-year Graduation Rate: New Full-time, First-time cohort	PCHEES	54.8%	54.8%	54.8%
Four-year Graduation Rate: New Full-time, First-time - Pell Grant recipients	PCHEES	49.7%	52.0%	54.0%
Six-year graduation Rate: New Full-time, First Time	PCHEES	80.3%	80.3%	80.3%
Six-year graduation Rate: New Full-time, First Time- Pell Grant Recipients	PCHEES	81.3%	81.3%	81.3%

(c) Degree-production in high-employer demand programs of study and critical state need areas *(sec.5, 2a, E2SHB 1795)*

Metric	Source	2009-10 Baseline	2014-15 Goal	2018-19 Full Funding
Total Number of Bachelor's Degrees Awarded	PCHEES	9,288	9,800	10,600
Number of Bachelor's Degrees Awarded - High Demand	PCHEES	2,904	3,070	3,330
Number of Bachelor's Degrees Awarded - Pell Grant Recipients	PCHEES	2,850	3,010	3,200
Total Number of Advanced Degrees Awarded	PCHEES	4,494	4,750	5,150

UW-specific metrics

Metric	Source	2009-10 Baseline	2014-15 Goal	2018-19 Full Funding
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Enrollment in High Demand Undergraduate Degree Programs	PCHEES	8,319	9,500	10,500
Enrollment in High Demand Degree Programs - Women	PCHEES	3,795	4,500	4,975
Enrollment in High Demand Degree Programs - Underrepresented Minorities	PCHEES	735	920	995
Undergraduate Participation in Research*	Local	9,000	9,500	10,000
Commercialization Agreements	Local	188	200	230
Start-up Companies	Local	7	18	30

*The metric is student quarters working on research under the close guidance of a faculty mentor.