

Academic-Division Priorities for FY 2009

1. Higher Learning Commission Follow-Up/Assessment Academy:

- Participate in phase 1 of the Higher Learning Commission Assessment Academy, a four-year project during which YSU will focus on all areas of assessment, including academic-program assessment; institutional “buy-in” to assessment; data-driven decision-making; general-education assessment; and integration of assessment with the Voluntary System of Accountability:
 - Gain acceptance into the Academy (August 2008).
 - Develop YSU’s Academy plan (September-October 2008).
 - Send a core team of faculty and staff to Academy training (November 2008); provide on-campus assessment training/workshops (2008-09).
 - Implement the joint Academic Affairs/Student Affairs Council on Teaching and Learning (spring 2009).
 - Complete the first annual Academy report (summer 2009).

2. Program-Specific Accreditations:

- Successfully complete self-studies and site visits for program-specific accreditations scheduled for FY 2009: e.g.,
 - Complete required licensure-program evaluations (due February 1, 2009) in preparation for the NCATE self-study due in fall 2009.
 - Apply for final accreditation of the Jazz Studies option in the Master of Music program.
 - Successfully complete the site visit for Histotechnology (October 2008).
 - Review, and implement as feasible, ABET recommendations received in August 2008.

3. Academic-Program Development:

- Seek Chancellor Fingerhut’s approval for the Bachelor of Arts in Gerontology and Associate of Applied Science in Radiography programs approved by the Board of Trustees on June 20, 2008.
- Present a full proposal for the Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis to OBOR’s Regents Advisory Committee on Graduate Study (fall 2008), and seek the Chancellor’s approval.
- Continue to implement the new Doctor of Physical Therapy program approved by the Higher Learning Commission in July 2008, and secure state approval for a transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy program.
- Implement the Master of Arts in Art Education approved by Chancellor Fingerhut in August 2008.
- Explore opportunities for collaborative and other program development that aligns with state, community, and University priorities (e.g., languages, geography, materials science/engineering, computer forensics, school psychology, integrated biology, partnerships with Lorain County Community College) (*Note: any doctoral-level programs housed at YSU would require Higher Learning Commission site visits/approval.*)

4. Academic Strategic Plan:

- Continue to address priorities identified for 2007-08:
 - Within the context of the Campus Master Plan, upgrade classrooms, learning/study spaces, and faculty offices (Goal I.5).

- Develop project plans for a new facility for the College of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (Goal I.6).
- Address the full-time/part-time faculty ratio; increase the presence of full-time faculty in the classroom (Goal II.5).
- Enhance faculty mentoring and professional development; implement faculty start-up funds procedures (Goals II.6 and II.7).
- Implement the strategic plan for distance education (Goal I.3).
- Continue to implement the “University College” to provide centralized, consistent, and comprehensive academic support for specifically identified student populations (Goal I.1).
- Focus on diversity, recruitment, and retention:
 - Strengthen institutional commitment to diversity through proactive recruitment and retention, resulting in annual increases in diversity among students, faculty, and staff (Goal II.3).
 - Promote internationalization of the YSU student experience (Goal II.4).
- Continue to support and to celebrate achievements in research and scholarship (Goal II. 8).
- Address additional *Academic Strategic Plan* priorities for 2008-09:
 - Serve as a catalyst for economic development:
 - Strategically allocate resources to support sustainable new and existing programs in interdisciplinary and disciplinary areas at all degree levels (Goal II.1—see Academic-Program Development, above).
 - Promote research and development activities, in cooperation with regional businesses, healthcare organizations, social service agencies, and other public institutions (Goal III.5).
 - Increase YSU’s role in preparing a skilled and entrepreneurial workforce (Goal III.6).
 - Increase graduate FTE incrementally to 650 by 2013 (Goal II.2).
 - Review the mission and vision of the Public Service Institute; increase unit productivity incrementally—40% by 2013 (Goal III.4).
 - Place engagement at the center of the YSU educational experience so that all students will encounter “the invitation to engagement” (Goal III.1).
 - Increase the quality and quantity of internships and service learning (Goal III.2).
 - Enhance partnerships between the University and other entities; strengthen cultural interactions between the University and the community. Continue to integrate the Youngstown Early College into the University community. (Goal III.7).

5. Dean Searches:

- Complete searches for Dean of Fine and Performing Arts and Dean of the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services.

6. Facilities/Technology:

- Within the context of the Centennial Campus Master Plan, break ground for—and begin construction of—the new Williamson College of Business Administration building.
- In collaboration with the Information Technology Division and Network Services, continue classroom technology upgrades, and upgrade/service the wireless laptops in Maag Library.

- Establish appropriate office space for the Coordinator of Academic Advising and for the Director of Distance Learning. Consolidate Academic Affairs support areas (Director of Assessment, Coordinator of General Education, Assistant to the Provost for Academic Budget, Coordinator for Advising, Director of Distance Learning, and Director of Degree Audit) in suitable space.
- Complete scheduled renovations for the Center for International Studies and Programs and for the School of Graduate Studies and Research.

7. Selected Emphases Shared with Other Divisions:

- Develop an institutional response; revise YSU's mission, vision, and core values; and define areas of excellence in response to Chancellor Fingerhut's *Strategic Plan for Higher Education, 2008-2017*.
- Work to assure that the community college implementation succeeds and does not harm the University.
- Under the leadership of the President's Office, develop YSU's "College Portrait" for the Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA); collect and report required data; and plan, schedule, and begin to implement the training/testing required for participation in the VSA.
- Conduct University-wide training in records retention/management.