

Actions & Metrics for Strategic Plan

School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science



6-13-07

GOALS

GOAL 1: Attract and support a world-class and diverse faculty, staff, and student population.

Student Quality

Attract and retain bright, motivated, and creative undergraduate and graduate students.

Actions - Undergraduates

- Target high quality Community Colleges and high schools from which to recruit. Start with high schools/colleges where our top students are coming from.
- Tie \$1,000 work-study awards to a professor and their research for high quality students
- Look into developing marketing and outreach documents
- Target top students with our scholarships

Metrics - Undergraduates

- ACT Scores
- Number of AP credits coming in
- % on probation
- % going on to graduate school
- Innovations in Research

Actions – Graduate students

- Scholarships to raise bar, tie in undergraduate
- Update our web site - Updated regularly
- Advertise positions on web more frequently
- Target specific colleges to recruit from
- Graduate forum to discuss expectations

Metrics – Graduate students

- GRE Scores
- Number of peer reviewed papers submitted before graduating
- Innovations in service and leadership
- % getting jobs that require a MS or PhD (depends on their degree)

Diversity

Educate and promote diversity and its importance to our faculty, staff, and students, providing a framework for successfully attracting and retaining a diverse faculty, staff, and student body.

Actions (Separate Diversity Plan already developed)

- Hold a seminar to educate all on the importance of a diverse community of scholars
- Poll students, faculty, staff on the definition of diversity
- Develop a poster on diversity

Metrics

- Compare our numbers to our aspirational/peer universities
- Increased percent diversity

Ecologically Sustainable Buildings

Determine the feasibility of making the U.J. Noblet building ecologically sustainable.

Actions/Metrics

Bring in an architectural firm to evaluate space and needs

GOAL 2: Deliver a distinctive and rigorous discovery-based learning experience grounded in science, engineering, technology, sustainability, and the business of innovation.

Incorporation of Sustainability in Educational Programs

Integrate the concept of sustainability into our educational programs.

Actions

- Discuss and define sustainability
- Survey how many faculty have sustainability and environmental law in courses already and list them.
- Survey how many classes incorporate landscape problem-solving skills.
- Find out what students are taking for their free elective courses (are students taking more sustainability courses in their elective classes?)

Metrics

- Summary of how many courses have sustainability with list of goals to add course content addressing sustainability issues
- Summary of the percent elective courses where sustainability is emphasized

GOAL 3: Establish world-class research, scholarship and innovation in science, engineering, and technology that promotes sustainable economic development in Michigan and the nation.

Sustainable Economic Development

Develop a Michigan Conservation Corps program for at-risk youth, centered at the Ford Center, to weave an educational program with the development of a "first of its kind" self-sustaining community inspired by Henry Ford's model sustainable community. This community will be rebuilt using instruction in new technologies for biofuels, alternative energies, and natural resource conservation and be directed at Michigan's economic development programs.

Actions

- Look for funding opportunities

Metrics

- Funding acquired for MCC program

Global Partnerships

Develop specific partnerships for graduate student and faculty exchanges with universities and other agencies in Taiwan and China. Other potential partners may come from Switzerland, Norway, and New Zealand.

Develop partnerships with other US universities and other agencies with a high proportion of minorities. One potential is with the University of Hawaii – Hilo.

Actions

- ❑ Develop global partnerships concentrating on those listed above
- ❑ Determine funding sources for students to receive international experience

Metrics

- ❑ Number of memorandums of understandings
- ❑ Number of faculty with strong global partnerships and what these partnerships entail

Research Thrusts

The School's research thrusts for the coming years will be concentrated in the following areas:

Genomics (Biomass utilization, Biotechnology, Ecological Genomics)

Global Climate Change

Sustainable Ecosystem Management (Wildlife Ecology, Bioenergy,

Invasive Species, Social and Spatial Context)