

Task Force Reports - Visioning Project

East Tennessee State University

Academics: Programs & Opportunities

December 5, 2012



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1 | The Charge

- Ask BIG questions; be VISIONARY; dare to DREAM about academic excellence
- Focus on:
 - Undergraduate and graduate education
 - Opportunities in Academic Affairs
 - Initiatives spanning the entire university
- Advance three aims:
 - Participation
 - Completion
 - Learning
- Be selective in recommending major priorities



2 | Task Force Process & Methodologies

- 1) Envisioned success
- 2) Generated more than 50 ideas via Nominal Group Technique
- 3) Sorted ideas—Refer, Study Now, Defer Study
- 4) Identified themes and drafted vision statements
- 5) Assigned investigative teams to conduct research
- 6) Selected four visions, assigned new teams to refine
- 7) Finalized visions and top 10-12 proposals



3 | Aspirational Recommendations

ETSU will be recognized for distinctive programs and practices that promote excellence in undergraduate education.

- ✓ Encourage faculty engagement in academic advisement that incorporates research-based best practices.
- ✓ Create learning communities in which cohorts of students take linked general education courses.
- ✓ Advance a university-wide commitment to excellence in teaching by creating an instructional development center.



3 | Aspirational Recommendations

ETSU will have a global reputation for high quality, innovative, accessible graduate education that provides outstanding training, mentoring, and professional networking and community building.

- ✓ Adopt a more streamlined, agile process for approving program proposals.
- ✓ Provide competitive graduate assistantship and fellowship stipends.
- ✓ Offer more integrated and interdisciplinary graduate programs.



3 | Aspirational Recommendations

ETSU will use emerging technologies to enhance student learning, make college more affordable, and encourage participation in higher education.

- ✓ Use free online courses and alternate scheduling to ease entry into higher education by people for whom enrolling in college is a daunting prospect.
- ✓ Use online courses and related strategies to enhance learning and reduce the cost of college for students already enrolled at ETSU.



3 | Aspirational Recommendations

ETSU will be a showcase for distinguished programs in the arts and will provide inviting facilities, collaborative learning opportunities, and dynamic audience experiences.

- ✓ Develop a strategic plan for use of ETSU's arts facilities, including the Fine Arts Classroom Building (FACB) and existing facilities, and build the FACB.
- ✓ Plan and execute a major, long-term arts initiative.
- ✓ Embed art content throughout university curricula.



4 | Multi-year Activities

Vision	Activity	5 Years	10 Years
Undergraduate Education	Faculty participation in academic advisement	■	□
	General education learning communities	■	□
	Instructional development center	■	
Graduate Education	Streamlined program approval process	■	□
	Competitive GA & fellowship stipends	■	□
	Integrated, interdisciplinary graduate programs	■	
Technology	Ease entry via MOOCs & alternative scheduling	■	□
	Enhance learning, reduce costs via technology	■	
Arts	Strategic plan for arts facilities; build FACB	■	□
	Plan and execute a long-term arts initiative	■	
	Embed art content across university curricula	■	



5 | For Immediate Consideration

To advance excellence in undergraduate education and better serve the region and the larger world, create an interdisciplinary undergraduate program in renewable energy engineering.



6 | Summary - 4 Vision Statements

ETSU will be recognized for distinctive programs and practices that promote excellence in undergraduate education.

ETSU will have a global reputation for high quality, innovative, accessible graduate education that provides outstanding training, mentoring, and professional networking and community building.

ETSU will use emerging technologies to enhance student learning, make college more affordable, and encourage participation in higher education.

ETSU will be a showcase for distinguished programs in the arts and will provide inviting facilities, collaborative learning opportunities, and dynamic audience experiences.



7 | Comments & Questions



The Committee for 125

December 5, 2012



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