GOAL 1 STUDENT SUCCESS

Strategies

- Improve retention and graduation rates
- Create greater access to, and increased utilization of, student support services
- Support EWU faculty and staff in their ability to foster student success
- Expand campuswide commitment to student success
- Create a system that improves performance of students in developmental courses to accelerate their progress toward a degree

2012-2013 Actions

- Consolidate academic advising services .......................................................... Academic Affairs
- **Develop Learning Commons*** ........................................................................... Academic Affairs
- Complete study/recommend change of EWU’s academic calendar .............. Academic Affairs
- Expand Summer Bridge Program ........................................................................ Academic Affairs
- Redesign and implement new approach to developmental mathematics .......... Academic Affairs
- Launch four-year degree pathway ...................................................................... Student Affairs/Academic Affairs
- Improve residential experience ........................................................................... Student Affairs/Business & Finance
- Improve services to veterans ................................................................................ Student Affairs

*DEVELOP LEARNING COMMONS

There has been a flurry of activity at the JFK Library during the summer as staff worked to complete Phase I of the Learning Commons project – a key action for student success. The Learning Commons centralizes essential student support services, while giving students from different disciplines and fields of study the opportunity to enhance their skills and work together in ways they never could have before on campus.

The Writers’ Center, the Program Leading to Undergraduate Success (PLUS) and the Multi-Media Lab (formally the MARS Lab) have all been relocated to the Commons. As the university moves forward through successive phases it will be able to add other services students have indicated they want placed in the Commons. The Commons will become a place where a student’s entire learning career at EWU will be supported. They will be able to move seamlessly from one service to another.
GOAL 2 INSTITUTION OF INNOVATION

Strategies

- Create the EWU Virtual Campus
- Utilize partnerships and collaborations to develop new programs
- Enhance and support faculty research programs

2012-2013 Actions

- Utilize eLearning, offer degree programs and certificates .................................................. Academic Affairs
- Expand faculty use of technology ......................................................................................... OIT
- Launch Alternative Energy Center* ..................................................................................... Academic Affairs
- Establish dual admissions program with Community Colleges ............................................. Student Affairs/Academic Affairs
- Explore new grant and/or start-up funds .............................................................................. President’s Office

*LAUNCH ALTERNATIVE ENERGY CENTER

Eastern has high hopes of becoming the regional epicenter of alternative energy education, with a state-of-the-art demonstration site proposed for the Cheney campus. Continued progress has been made with project scoping and predesign work. The site would provide research opportunities for Eastern’s engineering students while serving as a place for K-12 education students to learn renewable energy instruction.

EWU envisions a small classroom structure that contains an engineering lab equipped with user-friendly data kiosks and the latest sustainable building features where students can explore solar installations, a wind turbine and a fuel cell.

The demonstration site would also be open for fieldtrips by area schoolchildren, grades 3-12, who could take advantage of a mini-solar car raceway, solar boat troughs and an activity pad where they might run their own experiments. The university has committed resources for the initial site preparation, and funding is being secured through a number of public and private grants.

GOAL 3 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Strategies

- Strengthen student, staff and faculty participation in community-based activities
- Increase the presence and involvement of EWU leadership in the community
- Strengthen existing relationships and create new relationships with external groups

2012-2013 Actions

- Launch Institute for Community Engagement* ................................................................. Academic Affairs
- Increase internship participation by 5 percent ................................................................. Student Affairs
- Expand partnerships with Cheney .................................................................................... President’s Office

*LAUNCH INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The faculty concept for an Institute of Community Engagement will begin operation later this fall and will aid students and faculty in the development of service learning opportunities.

A director for Community Engagement was hired this summer to help fulfill this key goal of the university, which will focus on outreach efforts in the greater Spokane region. The new director will oversee the Institute, co-located in Cheney and Spokane. Eastern expects the Institute to become a place where members of our region can find support and assistance for projects, internships and volunteer activities.
GOAL 4 VISIBILITY

Strategies

- Increase media exposure
- Leverage and market EWU’s success
- Develop an internal and alumni pride campaign

2012-2013 Actions

- Initiate Public Phase of EWU’s Capital Campaign .............................................................. Advancement
- Study feasibility of Gateway Project* ............................................................... Advancement
- Develop Community Engagement Magazine ............................................................. Advancement
- Continue to leverage Athletics for increased community engagement and visibility ..... Athletics

*STUDY FEASIBILITY OF GATEWAY PROJECT

The Gateway Project is a proposed multi-use facility that would makeover the football stadium and take Eastern game day and campus life to a whole new level. In addition to 8,000 new seats on the Washington Street side of Roos Field, the Gateway facility hopes to incorporate concessions, leased commercial space, suites and an academic success center.

During the summer, the university initiated the feasibility study phase in order to determine if the university can do something of this magnitude and how it would serve the mission of the university. The feasibility study will also identify revenue streams and measure costs and will be followed up by initial design documents.

The hope is that the Gateway Project will act as a unifying structure on campus, bringing the academic and athletic components of the university closer together, while providing an inviting entrance to campus.