

Kansas State University Performance Report 2013

Indicator 1: Increase the number of historically underserved students enrolled.

Our performance on this indicator showed strong directional improvement over the baseline from the three-year history (three year average of 2,884 students), even though the final outcome fell 10 students short of the target. The target represented a stretch goal, a 20% increase over the baseline, and our performance also showed a 20% increase over the baseline. Our recruitment of historically underserved populations is strong, and we are continuing to improve our retention rates.

Indicator 2: Increase the number of degrees awarded in STEM fields.

Our performance for this indicator exceeded the target. The target was set for an increase of 5.7% over the baseline (three year average of 1,830 STEM students). We achieved an increase of 11.7% over the baseline, showing strong directional improvement. The increase can be partially attributed to the Engineering Initiative; however, that effort was only in the early stage of development in 2013. We see this increase continuing in the future as the Engineering Initiative continues to move forward. This initiative calls for our College of Engineering to nearly double its current size over the next 10 years.

Indicator 3: Increase the number of students who successfully complete the First Year Seminar.

Our performance for this indicator exceeded the target and showed directional improvement. The target (760 students) was set for an increase of 50% above the baseline (three-year average of 496 students successfully completing the First Year Seminars). The actual performance of 794 students reflected an increase of 60% above the baseline. The baseline trend, however, suggested that such a performance level was possible. The First Year Seminar program is one of our key programs as we pursue higher rates of first-to-second-year retention. Such programs allow students to connect better to faculty, their peers, and their studies. In the past year, we offered sections of the First Year Seminar in the spring semester for the first time. Our ultimate goal is to have every first year student have access to some first year experience.

Indicator 4: Increase the number of undergraduate adult learners (age 25+) enrolled.

The target for this indicator was set for a 10% increase over the baseline (three-year average of 1,933 adult learners). Our performance was 15 learners short of the target, for a strong directional improvement of 9% over the baseline. Most of the students counted in this indicator enroll in our distance learning programs, and many are seeking to complete a degree that they began earlier in their lives. We feel that the enrollments in distance learning will continue to rise, as we initiate more bachelor degree completion programs aimed at this specific population. Considering the number of people in the state of Kansas who began but never completed college, we feel this is a tremendous opportunity to improve the Kansas workforce. In addition to Kansas students, our distance programs attract students from all 50 states.

Indicator 5: Increase the number of undergraduate students participating in research.

The target for this indicator was set for about a 6% increase over the baseline (three year average of 1,378 students). Our performance exceeded the target by nearly 350 students, for an increase of nearly 24%. While such improvement was not predicted so quickly, it should be noted that this indicator is one of our K-State 2025 goals. The count for this indicator includes students involved in formal research programs (e.g., University Honors, Developing Scholars, McNair Scholars, and the Johnson Basic Cancer Research Center), and students receiving a C or better in classes for which a research project is significant portion of the grade for the class. One factor that seems to be making a difference is that all of the colleges are more actively recruiting students to participate in research-based classes. While the number of students in formal research programs around the university has actually decreased due to funding issues, the number of students receiving a C or higher in classes where a research project is a major aspect of the grade increased greatly. More departments and programs are offering research classes, as strategic plans are being implemented to move K-State toward high level performance for this goal.

Indicator 6: Increase the number of participants in community-based research and outreach projects.

Our performance in this indicator exceeded the target by over 300%. The challenge for our assessment of determining the number of participants in community-based projects has been in establishing a reliable and consistent method for gathering the data. Our past attempts to measure our performance in this area were clearly only scratching the surface of our full impact on Kansas communities. In the past year, we have been developing a survey instrument (the Engagement Benchmarking Tool or EBT) that could be sent out to all faculty – on campus, off-campus and extension – in order to develop a complete and accurate picture of our engagement with Kansas communities. We administered the EBT in December 2013, and the response from faculty was overwhelming. The EBT will continue to be used in the future. This will allow us to monitor our performance on numerous types of activities and information, so that we can better report and continuously improve our ability to assist Kansas communities.

Indicator 7: Increase total research expenditures.

The target for this indicator was set for a 15% increase over the baseline (three-year average of \$158.7M), clearly a stretch goal. Our performance slightly exceeded the target for this indicator, showing significant directional improvement over the baseline. The strong performance on this indicator demonstrates that our faculty members continue to be successful in writing grants that are relevant in the global science communities and nationally competitive. As we move toward our goal of becoming a top 50 public research university, the importance of obtaining extramural funding will continue to be a key indicator of our progress.

Kansas State University Performance Agreement 2013

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Kansas State University	Foresight Goals	3yr History	2013		2014		2015		2013 Outcome
			Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	
1 Increase number of historically underserved students enrolled	2, 6	2009 2,488 2010 2,946 2011 3,218	3,468	3,458	3,618		3,768		↑
2 Increase the number of degrees awarded in STEM fields	5	2008-09 1,846 2009-10 1,765 2010-11 1,879	1,935	2,045	1,964		1,994		↑
3 Increase number of students who successfully complete the First Year Seminar	3,4,6	2009 401 2010 478 2011 610	760	794	880		1,000		↑
4 Increase the number of undergraduate adult learners (age 25+) enrolled	2	2009 1,830 2010 1,965 2011 2,003	2,125	2,107	2,189		2,254		↑
5 Increase number of undergraduate students participating in research	4,5,6	2010 1,297 2011 1,422 2012 1,416	1,458	1,805	1,502		1,547		↑
6 Increase number of participants in community-based research & outreach projects	6	2010 71,825 2011 78,025	82,776	265,578	85,260		87,817		↑
7 Increase total research expenditures	6	2009 \$146.3M 2010 \$160.7M 2011 \$169.2M	\$183.0M	183.1	\$190.3M		\$197.9M		↑