

Current Strategic Plan Goals 2005 - 2010

GOAL 1: HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION

FGCU's Vision: Pursue academic excellence to achieve national prominence in undergraduate education and expanding recognition for selected graduate programs.

As the region's only public comprehensive University, FGCU is committed to the pursuit of academic excellence. Strategies to be implemented will focus on acquisition, maintenance and improvement of high-quality facilities and equipment; faculty knowledge and innovation; an academically competitive and supported student body; enhanced academic support services; improved educational resources, and high-demand academic programs. By pursuing these strategies FGCU will move closer to realizing its vision of achieving national prominence in undergraduate education and expanded recognition for selected graduate programs.

GOAL 2: THE STUDENT COMMUNITY

Provide quality educational opportunities serving the region, underrepresented populations, the State of Florida and beyond.

At the heart of the Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) mission is the delivery of access to high quality educational opportunities for residents of Southwest Florida who historically have had limited postsecondary choices. This includes the population of the five-county region of Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee and the wider surrounding geographic region of southern Florida. It also extends to traditionally underrepresented populations: African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, first-generation students, the economically disadvantaged, adult students, and the disabled.

As it continues to grow to meet the needs of the region, FGCU will ensure that all who can benefit from its programs and services will have access to the University through initiatives focused on student recruitment, student retention, student diversity, student aid, and expanded educational choices at all degree levels.

GOAL 3: CO-CURRICULAR AND ATHLETIC PROGRAMMING

Offer quality co-curricular and athletic programming that promotes and enhances student development and community engagement.

FGCU recognizes that academic excellence in the classroom must be complemented by co-curricular and athletic programs which promote and enhance student development, perspective, social responsibility, health, cultural appreciation, and civic engagement. FGCU will maximize student potential and success through initiatives to enhance student leadership; broaden faculty and staff participation in the co-curriculum; offer a comprehensive athletics program, and provide expanded career development and advisement services.

GOAL 4: A TALENTED AND DEDICATED FACULTY AND STAFF

Build a diverse team of exceptional faculty and staff who support the mission and guiding principles of the University.

The most important asset of any successful University is a talented and committed faculty and staff who provide leadership, vision and dedication to students and the public. Key to FGCU's continued growth and success will be the addition of new faculty and staff. As student enrollment is projected to double in the next five years, the number of faculty and staff will also need to be significantly increased to meet the needs of our students. FGCU will aggressively recruit a diverse team of exceptional faculty and staff; offer competitive compensation; support faculty and staff development; and implement strategies to retain quality faculty and staff.

GOAL 5: STATE OF THE ART INFRASTRUCTURE

Maintain a state-of-the-art campus that harmonizes with the environment and includes high quality facilities, furnishings, technology, equipment and support services.

As an evolving comprehensive University, FGCU must provide a superior, reliable, and flexible infrastructure that accommodates expanding numbers of students and multiple centers at off-campus locations. FGCU is committed to expanding its presence throughout the five-county region with an emphasis on the principal population centers located in Charlotte, Collier, and Lee counties but also with growing attention to unique needs and opportunities in Hendry and Glades counties as well. State-of-the-art facilities are critical to success.

GOAL 6: RESEARCH AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS

Foster research and sponsored programs that engage faculty, challenge students and promote public/private academic collaboration.

FGCU is committed to providing the highest quality educational opportunities to its students through active faculty engagement in scholarly activity and sponsored programs that clearly define FGCU as the intellectual epicenter of Southwest Florida. Expanding research capacity, increasing scholarly contributions of faculty, fostering multidisciplinary research, adding new research space and technological support, and providing greater regional outreach are strategies FGCU will pursue in the next five years to realize this goal.

GOAL 7: COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Position FGCU in a leadership role to address the educational, cultural, social and economic interests of Southwest Florida.

Southwest Florida is a region characterized by burgeoning growth in its population and diversity, and FGCU has an important responsibility to provide leadership that advances the educational, cultural, social, and economic needs of the region. To achieve this goal, FGCU will strengthen faculty service to external constituencies; ensure that its centers and institutes are geared toward engagement with regard to the region's economic, environmental, social, and health challenges, and expand its visibility and cultural offerings.

GOAL 8: ONGOING QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

Implement and sustain an institutional effectiveness model for the University that is based on a culture of assessment, results in continuous improvement, and supports the University in effectively accomplishing its mission.

Planned growth requires careful attention to quality, efficiency, and effectiveness. To this end, FGCU is dedicated to a comprehensive program of ongoing quality improvement. Under the leadership of the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Vice President for Administrative Services, FGCU's Long Range Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Committee (LRPIEC) will implement and sustain an institutional effectiveness model for the University that is based on a culture of assessment, results in continuous improvement, and supports the University in effectively accomplishing its mission. By so doing, FGCU will meet accountability requirements of the State of Florida, the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and professional accrediting bodies.