

Selected Goals from 2004-2005 Annual Reports

Unit: College of Arts & Sciences

Strategic Plan Goal	Unit Goal
With which 1 or 2 goals from the 8 current strategic plan goals does your 2004-2005 goal best align?	What were your unit level goals for 2004-2005 as contained in your 2003-2004 Annual Report?
Goal 2 -- Community Leadership Position FGCU in a leadership role to address the educational, cultural, social, and economic interests of Southwest Florida	CAS Goal -- Support Scholarship and Sponsored Programs Provide support for the increase of sponsored programs in the college, including the approved Centers and Institutes: the Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education, the Coastal Watershed Institute, and the Whitaker Center for Math and Science Education.
Goal 6 -- Research and Sponsored Programs Foster research and sponsored programs that engage faculty, challenge students, and promote public/private academic collaboration.	

What action did you undertake to achieve this goal?

Over the last year, Chairs have worked to mentor faculty to increase their scholarship and engagement with sponsored programs. We have worked with the administration in the Provost's office to continue providing faculty with resources for travel to conferences and other types of professional development support.

Centers and Institutes in the College of Arts and Sciences were provided with a variety of resources in the last year, including release time, staff support, and office space. The resources provided range from course release to stipends for directors, office space, clerical support, overhead return on grants and salary savings, and research support. Because most of these Centers were recently approved, we have not yet determined if the resources provided have been adequate or equitable.

By what means did you assess goal achievement?

We reviewed the Grant Applications submitted and accepted in order to determine how well we met this goal; we compared this figure for 2004-2005 with figures from previous years. In addition, all Centers and Institutes were responsible for submitting Annual Reports to the Provost's Office, which were partly used to determine whether or not they were provided adequate support. Each of the Centers or Institutes supplied the Dean's office a list of resources for the year.

Describe the assessment results and the conclusions about goal attainment you inferred from them.

In the 2004-2005 AY, faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences were awarded a total of \$3,910,711, with a total of 29 accepted applications. In the previous year, faculty were awarded \$3,598,729, with a total of 36 accepted applications. This represents an increase of 8.6% in total funds generated, though a decrease in the total number of applications accepted.

Our assessment of the Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education, the Coastal Watershed Institute, and the Whitaker Center for Science and Math Education resulted in a determination that, while all three were provided some level of support, we have not been able to yet determine if this support is adequate or equitable. Thus, while we have attained our goal of supporting these Centers and Institutes, we need to do further assessment to determine if the support is adequate or appropriate.

What continuous improvement resulted from the use of the assessment data?

Through our assessment, we have determined that while faculty continue to be productive as scholars in terms of receiving grants, we need to continue to work to increase support and resources for scholarly work. Increase in faculty scholarship is essential for remaining current in the field and for the continued development of new knowledge and works, which in turn allows for increased teaching and learning opportunities.

In addition, we have determined that while our Centers and Institutes have received a certain level of support from the College and the University, the support is uneven. The Centers and Institutes provide one of the main avenues for university interaction with and leadership in the community. The services that are provided are wide ranging and an essential component to our mission. Because this is the first year of each Center's existence, we have not yet had the opportunity to measure their productivity or determine equitability in terms of resources. These will be goals for next year.
