



RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE PLAN 2010

JULY 1, 2007

Mission

Building on its historic roots in teacher education and its current status as the largest preparer of educators in the State, Rhode Island College aspires to be broadly recognized for the excellence of its academic, public service, and cultural programs. Widely known for its curricula in education, fine and performing arts, nursing, and social work, the College is equally committed to offering a broad array of undergraduate arts and sciences and professional majors. The College is dedicated to ensuring that each student experience academic life in a caring community where education is informed by serious inquiry, civic engagement, and open discourse; and, its faculty continually strive to fulfill the promise of the liberal arts education: *an open and inquiring mind*. As the State's single comprehensive institution of higher education, the College fulfills Rhode Island's promise of affordable access to superior higher education for traditional and non-traditional students alike -- because, to foster the growth and development of each individual enriches everyone. The College further fulfills its responsibility through the public service, continuing education offerings, and cultural opportunities it provides for the citizens of Rhode Island.

[PLEASE NOTE: In early 2009, Rhode Island College revised its mission statement. The new mission statement was formally approved by a vote of the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education on May 11, 2009. This revised mission statement supplants and supersedes the mission statement shown above.

"MISSION:

Rhode Island College is one of the region's leading comprehensive public colleges. Our mission is to offer accessible higher education of the finest quality to traditional and non-traditional students from around the state, the region, and beyond. Students here are members of a caring community that respects diversity and values academic excellence informed by cultural inquiry, civic engagement, and co-curricular activity. The college offers a wide variety of liberal arts, science, and professional programs in which dedicated faculty work with students to achieve the promise of higher education: an open and inquiring mind."

Vision Statement

As Rhode Island College continues to fulfill its historic commitment to educational access for all academically qualified students, it will be widely recognized for:

- its excellence as a teaching institution where faculty-scholars, professional staff, and administrators continually inspire students to expand their minds, meet new levels of intellectual challenge, engage in a wide range of student development activities, and thoughtfully prepare for life after college;
- its importance as an intellectual, cultural, social, and economic resource for the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations;
- its character as an open, caring community in which there is demonstrated value for diversity, civility, and the principles of American democracy and civic engagement; and
- its success in the identification, recruitment, enrollment, and degree completion of both traditional and non-traditional students.

Core Values

In addition to achieving its mission and vision of success, the College espouses:

- the offering of educational opportunities of the highest quality to students, the College community, the people of Rhode Island, and the wider community;
- public service to the people of Rhode Island through intellectual, cultural, social, and economic activities;
- a dynamic, inclusive, model community where all members embrace and celebrate diversity;
- tools, activities, and practices that encourage civic engagement;
- support for students throughout their academic careers that promotes success in holistic development and degree completion;
- openness and caring in our interactions with students, people of the College community, and citizens of Rhode Island.

Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: Ensure high quality learning opportunities for all students.

- Objective 1.1* Develop and implement outcome assessment plans for all undergraduate programs, including General Education (2007-08); develop and implement outcome assessment plans for all graduate programs (2008-09). (*Responsible Vice President: Academic Affairs*)
- Objective 1.2* Coordinate academic program review to ensure that program quality and productivity, communications about program changes, and program oversight are accomplished. As resources become available, purchase online assessment tool such as True Outcomes. (*Responsible Vice President: Academic Affairs*)
- Objective 1.3* By Spring 2008, Deans will submit plans to the Vice President for Academic Affairs to highlight and to publicize current on- and off-campus departmental internships, service learning, and other experiential learning opportunities and to enhance and to expand such opportunities. (*Responsible Vice President: Academic Affairs*)
- Objective 1.4* By Fall 2008, design a comprehensive developmental education plan in support of a demonstration project to enhance the preparation and success of prospective and newly enrolled students who have deficient academic preparation. (*Responsible Vice President: Academic Affairs*)
- Objective 1.5* During the 2007-08 academic year, develop a comprehensive plan for educational technology including, as resources permit, electronic classrooms, labs, and other academic venues. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: Academic Affairs, Administration & Finance*)
- Objective 1.6* As resources permit, strengthen the library collection; expand access to electronic knowledge resources; create student social spaces in the library where students can meet, do group work, and use their laptops. As resources permit, explore the feasibility of establishing a Learning Commons in the library that accommodates individual research and collaborative learning. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: Academic Affairs, Administration & Finance*)
- Objective 1.7* By July 2010, implement the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) initiative. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: Academic Affairs, Administration & Finance*)

Objective 1.8 By Fall 2008, provide all students with an academic advisor who is knowledgeable about curriculum and academic policy. (*Responsible Vice President: Academic Affairs*)

Objective 1.9 Explore the feasibility of creating a Center for Teaching and Learning for College faculty and submit a feasibility plan by 2009. (*Responsible Vice President: Academic Affairs*)

Objective 1.10 For each year of this plan, continue to strengthen and expand activities to enhance faculty diversity throughout the College. (*Responsible Vice President: Academic Affairs*)

Goal 2: Contribute to Improved Economic Conditions and Quality of Life in Rhode Island and the Region through Research and Public Service.

Objective 2.1 By January 2009, publish an inventory of research being conducted by faculty. Review the supported research incentive program, including assessment of the evenness and effectiveness of the College's funded research policy. (*Responsible Vice President: Academic Affairs*)

Objective 2.2 As resources permit, develop recruiting and marketing strategies to capitalize upon and to publicize existing and new research/public service initiatives and to familiarize the State and region with the College's comprehensive nature; identify funding to support such a plan. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: Development & College Relations, Academic Affairs*)

Objective 2.3 By May 2009, develop a strategy to increase alumni involvement with and support for scholarship and public service initiatives. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: Development & College Relations, Academic Affairs*)

Goal 3: Recruit, Enroll, Retain, and Graduate Qualified Students from all Backgrounds.

Objective 3.1 Between 2007 and 2010, develop and implement an enrollment marketing plan that will increase the number of applications from qualified students by 2% each year. Increase the yield by 1% per year. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: All*)

Objective 3.2 By 2009, increase enrollment of traditionally under-represented students so that enrollment approaches the demographics of the

regions from which the College draws its applicants. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: Academic Affairs, Student Affairs*)

Objective 3.3 By 2009, increase by 2% the recruitment and enrollment of transfer students. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: Academic Affairs, Student Affairs*)

Objective 3.4 Beginning with Fall 2008, sophomore to junior year, and junior to senior year retention will increase by 1% per year. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: Academic Affairs, Student Affairs*)

Objective 3.5 Beginning with Fall 2009, decrease by 1% per year the gap in retention between minority students and other students. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: Academic Affairs, Student Affairs*)

Objective 3.6 Beginning with Fall 2009, decrease by 1% per year the gap in retention between out-of-state and in-state students. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: Academic Affairs, Student Affairs*)

Objective 3.7 By Spring 2010, decrease by 1% per year the graduation gap between minority students and other students. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: Academic Affairs, Student Affairs*)

Objective 3.8 By Spring 2010, decrease by 1% per year the graduation gap between Pell Grant recipients and other students. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: Academic Affairs, Student Affairs*)

Objective 3.9 By June 2008, explore the feasibility of expanding opportunities to deliver instruction and services using alternative schedules, methods, and formats, including distance learning options; identify potential departments and programs that may participate. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Administration & Finance*)

Goal 4: Assure Welcoming Facilities, Efficient Services, and a Sense of Community for all Rhode Island College Constituents.

Objective 4.1 By February 2008, review processes in place and propose a comprehensive and cohesive approach to communication about campus activities to promote a more welcoming environment. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: All*)

- Objective 4.2* Update the detailed inventory of the College's buildings and grounds, developing by June 2008 a new priority listing of needed repairs and enhancements. Include parking expansion in the next campus Master Plan. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: All*)
- Objective 4.3* Develop a comprehensive facilities utilization process, providing a uniform mechanism for reserving rooms and facilities. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: Development & College Relations, Administration & Finance, Student Affairs*)
- Objective 4.4* By August 2008, catalog and publicize existing areas where students can gather. By May 2008, identify at least one additional space for informal student gatherings, transforming it into an inviting student lounge. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: Administration & Finance, Student Affairs*)
- Objective 4.5* Enhance the quality and inclusiveness of student life by increasing student engagement in co-curricular activities and attendance at campus events as measured by the 2009 administration of the National Survey of Student Engagement. (*Responsible Vice President: Student Affairs*)
- Objective 4.6* Enhance the intercollegiate athletic program to continue to support the success of student-athletes both on the athletic field and in the classroom while serving as a catalyst for alumni, campus, and community outreach and provide a diverse recreation program that supports the broad fitness interests of the entire campus community. On an annual basis submit a report to the College President with a comprehensive review of the intercollegiate athletic program, the recreation program, and accompanying facilities and specific objectives for the following year. (*Responsible Vice President: Student Affairs*)
- Objective 4.7* By August 2007, revivify the College's service agenda. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: Administration & Finance, Academic Affairs*)
- Objective 4.8* During the 2007-08 academic year, commence the codification of policies, procedures, and guidelines currently in use by the College. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: All*)
- Objective 4.9* For each year of this plan, continue to strengthen and expand activities to enhance staff diversity throughout the College. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: All*)

Objective 4.10 By January 2008, as part of the work of the Campus Emergency Response Steering Committee, develop and implement a comprehensive plan to alert the campus community in the event of an emergency. (*Responsible Vice President: Administration & Finance*)

Goal 5: Ensure a Continuing Resource Base that Allows the College to Offer Excellent Programs at an Affordable Cost.

Objective 5.1 By FY10, the assets of the Rhode Island College Foundation shall reach \$25 million. (*Responsible Vice President: Development & College Relations*)

Objective 5.2 By 2010, the number and dollar amounts of grants obtained and the percent of faculty/administrators involved in pursuing grants will be 20 percent higher than in 2007. (*Responsible Vice Presidents: All*)

Objective 5.3 Develop an action plan to engage the College community in an effort to ensure that, by 2010, funds appropriated by the state for the College will be at least 10 percent higher than in 2007. (*Responsible Vice President: Development & College Relations*)

Objective 5.4 During 2007, expand the College's centralized and coordinated recycling program. By December 2009, expand the centralized and coordinated program to control costs for energy, supplies, and equipment at the College. (*Responsible Vice President: Administration & Finance*)

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