

Georgia Southwestern State University 2002-2007 Strategic Plan Priorities and Outcomes

Academic Programs of Distinction

- SACS accreditation review as well as program reviews in biology, geology, psychology, and sociology were successfully completed this year.
- The Task Force on Academic Excellence, which has focused on cross-discipline teaching and developing critical thinking in students has been established.
- Student participation in international living and learning experiences has exceeded the goal established by the Board of Regents.
- Nearly all faculty members use WebCT and the campus network to deliver instruction and instructional support materials.

Meeting the Needs of Students

- Evening and weekend classes account for 20% of all course sections offered at GSW.
- Course enrollments in on-line courses are at or above 1,000 for two consecutive years.
- On-going assessment of student programs indicates that GSW provides more programs for students than comparable institutions.
- An assessment plan has been implemented to obtain student feedback in a number of different areas, including classroom instruction, satisfaction with services, and student perceptions of the learning environment.
- Critical student business services maintain extended hours at the beginning of each semester.

Quality Residential Programs

- The departments within Student Affairs have provided more than 560 different programs for GSW students during the 2002-03 academic year compared to 491 programs in 2001-02.
- The department of Residence Life within Student Affairs has completed a market analysis of student residential needs and a study of the financial feasibility of constructing new residence halls.
- The department of Residence Life within Student Affairs has created a multi-year plan for the development of residence halls based on the interests and needs of current students.
- Student Health Center continues to encourage wellness among students and contacts with students have increased more than 10 percent over last year with more than 12,000 student contacts.
- Student satisfaction surveys over the last three years indicate that GSW students rated residence hall services as well as opportunities to interact with other residents and opportunities to develop leadership skills significantly higher than a national sample.

Enriched Campus Community

- Nearly one-half (48%) of all full-time faculty members received a professional development grant to support their scholarship and instructional interests.
- A total of 32 professional development and training sessions were offered to faculty and staff in the last year with an average attendance of 31 participants per session.
- Approximately 10 percent of all University employees are enrolled in higher education classes and participate in the tuition reimbursement program.
- A faculty, student, and staff task force was established to improve communications among all campus community members with the goal of implementing new communication strategies at the beginning of the new academic year.
- Nearly all faculty members voluntarily participated in regular discussion groups focusing on instructional improvement.
- Over 100 faculty and staff participated in on-campus student recruitment activities during the academic year.

GSW Image and Centennial Celebration

- A marketing task force including faculty, students, and staff has been appointed to develop and recommend a marketing plan for the University.
- A centennial celebration planning committee has been established and has created a list of proposed activities for the centennial year.
- An updated and expanded history of the University will be completed by Ms. Mildred Tietjen in the next three months and will be prepared for publication as part of the Centennial Celebration.
- The quiet phase of a major gifts campaign has been initiated and significant progress toward the campaign goal has been achieved.