Academic Blueprint

YEAR THREE PROGRESS REPORT
JANUARY 2014

Office of the Provost
1928 St. Mary’s Road
Moraga, CA 94556
stmarys-ca.edu/provost
Goal 4: Improve student success.

A. Retention/time to degree

• Began discounting fees for seniors and increased offerings in Summer Session, leading to a nearly 30% increase in enrollment
• Piloted new Student Success Portal to enhance academic advising and support
• Tech Summit brought together faculty, students and tech industry executives
• Internship postings increased 24% from 2012, to 779 postings with approximately 250 students placed in credit-bearing internships. Additionally, targeted placements, e.g. for business majors, doubled from 50 in 2010 to 100 in 2013.

B. Sense of belonging

• Revised Global Living Learning Community under the direction of the Center for International Programs
• Increased connections between Green Living Learning Community and Environmental Sciences and the Sustainability Committee

About the Blueprint

1. A five-year academic plan—graduate and undergraduate—that includes guidelines for program expansion, projected enrollments, required staffing and space, and projected costs and revenues.

2. Lays a foundation for the College’s distinctive academic identity that lives well beyond the plan.

3. Cultivates spaces for rigorous, critical thought and spiritual reflection.

4. Ensures our students successfully complete a Saint Mary’s education and understand its relevance to their intellectual, spiritual and professional lives.

5. Organized around four primary goals.

Selected Outcomes

Goal 1: Prepare students for ethical and effective engagement in a diverse and global environment.

A. Decision making, problem solving and communication

• Collegiate Seminar formation retreat with an expert from St. John’s College
• Updated program review guidelines to include connection to mission, strategic plans and college-wide initiatives

B. Inclusive Excellence

• Hosted the California Forum for Diversity in Graduate Education, serving more than 1,200 students
• Increased positive results in 2013 CIRP senior survey: student satisfaction with diversity up 9%, perceived racial tension down 11% and a perceived improvement in cultural competence of faculty across a variety of measures

• Increased graduate students of color by 8.6% from Fall 2012 to Fall 2013
• Expanded professional development opportunities for faculty and administrators

Initiatives Underway

• Increasing funding for Jan Term travel and full-term study abroad
• Increasing enrollment of international students
• Changes in employee benefits to support Academic Blueprint objectives
• Fundraising for the new Library and Learning Commons
• Hybrid delivery of targeted undergraduate courses
• Implementation of new advising models by restructured Office of Student Success
• Increase in job satisfaction of 12% in 2012 Climate Survey among non-tenured, ranked faculty
• First tenure-track line in Women’s Studies established and filled
• Secured a NEH/Carnegie Corporation grant to acquire Muslim Journeys Bookshelf, a collection of books and films

C. Global Experience
• New Study abroad destinations available in 2014: Akita, Japan and Sydney, Australia
• First international exchange students on campus from Sophia University, Tokyo and Lasalle Barcelona, Spain
• Global competency now required in undergraduate core curriculum and graduate business degrees, including the Transglobal Executive MBA program

Goal 2: Promote learning and teaching for innovation, creativity and collaboration.

A. Faculty/student scholarship and creativity
• Increased opportunities for faculty collaboration and deepened research capacity
• School of Science summer research support grew from 10 to 15 students
• Increased faculty recognition with annual awards for early career achievement, service, teaching and research
• Student concerts/recitals increased from 7 in 2008–09 to 24 in 2012–13; more than $40,000 dedicated annually to travel for acclaimed performances
• Three actors nominated for the 2014 Irene Ryan National Acting Scholarship competition for their performances in “And when we awoke there was light and light”
• Two first place winners and a second place winner among students competing in the National Association of Teachers of Singing Festival

B. Physical infrastructure
• 21 new workstations furnished for part-time faculty
• Improved office assignments for 28 ranked faculty
• Increased student seating in the Library by 20 seats
• Ramped up fundraising support for Library
• Invested more than $350,000 in network infrastructure
• Migrated faculty and staff to Google apps

C. Innovative pedagogy/curricula
• MFA in Dance approved and slated for 2014 start
• Successful launch of Master’s in Accounting and new entrepreneurship concentration in the professional MBA
• Writing Center increased writing support for graduate and professional programs

Goal 3: Build leadership that advances social justice.

A. Learning outcomes
• Secured gift for Jim and Kay Guyette Professorship in Responsible Business
• More than 30 courses approved to satisfy Community Engagement outcomes in the Core Curriculum
• Named to the President’s Higher Education Honor Roll for the seventh year in a row
• Added tenure track faculty line in Earth and Environmental Science
• Joined the Catholic Coalition on Climate Change

B. Leadership programs
• Established Center for Environmental Literacy
• Launched ENACTUS, an undergraduate student club bringing together students and academic and business leaders