

September 17-18, 2014

ITEM 164-2010-R0914

Approval of Updated Core Themes

THAT

The Board of Regents of Higher Education approve the Montana State University updated Core Themes.

EXPLANATION

The Board of Regents approved the Montana State University Core Themes during the November 15-16, 2012 meeting (Item 157-2001+R1112). MSU's new strategic plan was presented to the Board at the same meeting. Since that time it has become apparent that MSU has two very similar, but not identical planning documents. We are asking the Board to approve an update to the Core Themes to bring them into alignment with the goals of MSU's strategic plan.

<u>Current Core Themes</u>	<u>Strategic Plan Goals</u>
1. Educate students	Learning
2. Create Knowledge and Art	Discovery
3. Serve Communities	Engagement
4. Integrate Learning, Discovery and Engagement	Integration
	Stewardship
	Access

There is already a high degree of correlation between the current Core Themes and the goals of the Strategic Plan, but our requested update would simply use the Goals of the Strategic Plan as our updated Core Themes, effectively making the Goals and Core Themes identical. This will allow MSU to use a single planning document, the Strategic Plan, to guide decision-making in the future while fulfilling the needs of accreditation.

The Core Themes after alignment with the Goals of the Strategic Plan are updated as follows:

Core Theme 1. Learning

- Objective L.1: Assess, and improve where needed, student learning of critical knowledge and skills.
- Objective L.2: Increase graduation rates at MSU.
- Objective L.3: Increase job placement and further education rates.

Core Theme 2. Discovery

- Objective D.1: Elevate the research excellence and recognition of our faculty.
- Objective D.2: Enhance infrastructure in support of research, discovery and creative activities.
- Objective D.3: Expand the scale, and breadth, and quality of doctoral education.

Core Theme 3. Engagement

- Objective E.1: Strategically increase service, outreach and engagement at MSU.
- Objective E.2: MSU graduates will have global and multi-cultural understanding and experiences.
- Objective E.3: MSU students, faculty and staff will have increased opportunities for leadership development.

Core Theme 4. Integration

- Objective I.1: Increase the integration of learning, discovery and engagement.
- Objective I.2: Increase work across disciplines.

Core Theme 5. Access

- Objective A.1: Educate more students while maintaining the quality of programs.
- Objective A.2: Diversify the student body.

Core Theme 6. Stewardship

- Objective S.1: Human Resources. Attract, develop and retain the best faculty and staff to achieve the MSU mission.
- Objective S.2: Physical Resources. Enhance aesthetic appeal and functional quality of MSU Physical resources to support high quality learning, research and work environments.
- Objective S.3: Economic Resources. Increase and effectively allocate resources in support of the MSU Strategic Plan.
- Objective S.4: Environmental Resources. Promote sustainable stewardship and a culture of resource conservation at MSU.

ATTACHMENTS

None