

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Strategic Plan Progress Report / October 2015

Serving a Growing Student Body

Iowa State provides an excellent education and student experience.

- 120 new faculty hired for Fall 2015, including 16 Presidential High Impact Hires with expertise in soil science, real estate economics, multicultural education, food safety, human obesity, and big data
- Expecting a 7th consecutive year of record enrollment; 49% of undergraduates are pursuing degrees in STEM disciplines
- Investments to enhance students' experience, including more buses, wireless capability, and student advising
- Biosciences facilities project supports students and faculty in 6 departments; legislative support for Student Innovation Center will create "maker spaces" for students in a wide variety of disciplines
- Sidewalk and lighting improvements on Osborn Drive ease congestion and accommodate more students at peak times
- New Student Loan Education Office helps students better use financial aid, and mitigate student debt after graduation
- Enhancements to classroom scheduling, and physical renovations to incorporate technology and "right-size" classrooms
- Presidential initiative to transform 80 face-to-face courses into flipped, hybrid, or blended approaches will improve classroom utilization and adoption of online instruction
- Implementing predictive advising analytics to improve retention and graduation rates for at-risk students
- Upcoming strategic planning process will balance needs of students and all Iowans, while preserving land grant ideals of academics, research, and extension and outreach

Addressing Local and Global Challenges

Iowa State research addresses society's most pressing needs.

- A record \$425 million in external research funding in FY2015; federal awards up 7%, to \$224 million
- Presidential Initiative for Interdisciplinary Research led to \$57 million in grant applications and \$3 million in new funding to Iowa State in FY2015; overall totals include \$190 million in applications, \$24 million in new funding
- The National Institute of Standards and Technology awarded a 5-year, \$20 million grant to establish a Forensic Science Center of Excellence at Iowa State
- A new Grants Hub helps researchers submit and administer their first grants, and helps teams of researchers seek large awards
- Agriculture and forestry programs ranked in the top 10 for the third consecutive year, and veterinary medicine ranked 35th, in QS' *World University Rankings by Subject*
- Fashion design and merchandising programs named among the nation's best by *Fashion School Career Advice*
- ISU cybersecurity researchers are developing the nation's first middle and high school curriculum for computer security literacy



Catherine Kling, Charles F. Curtiss Distinguished Professor of Agriculture and Life Sciences, was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 2015. Kling has made numerous contributions to natural resource and environmental economics, conducting innovative research to help guide the design and implementation of conservation policies. She is the 11th Iowa State faculty member, and the first woman at the university, to receive this prestigious honor.



The **Iowa Monarch Conservation Consortium**, a collaboration of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, and Iowa Department of Natural Resources, is taking a science-based approach to enhancing butterfly reproduction and assisting community efforts.

Serving Iowans

Iowa State helps businesses grow, spurring Iowa's economy.

- Iowa State faculty and staff are helping Iowans respond to the 2015 avian influenza outbreak through the university's Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, Center for Food Security and Public Health, Egg Industry Center, and Extension and Outreach programs
- 183-acre ISU Research Park expansion, anchored by the economic development core facility, will include services such as child care, health care, financial services, and a fitness center. Vermeer and Boehringer Ingelheim have buildings under construction
- 1,548 businesses from 97 Iowa counties worked with the Center for Industrial Research and Service in 2014, generating \$386 million in total economic impact, and adding or retaining 5,150 jobs
- The Small Business Development Center worked with more than 2,600 clients in 2014, helping start 251 new businesses, add 1,200 jobs, increase sales by \$50 million, and raise \$52 million in capital
- Iowa State's 2014 Bachelor's graduates enjoyed an overall 95% placement rate within six months of graduation; of those who were employed, 66% of Iowa students, 26% of nonresidents, and 19% of international students remained in Iowa to begin their careers
- Master's and Ph.D. graduates enjoyed 96% and 95% placement rates, respectively. Of Master's graduates who were employed after graduation, 54% are employed in Iowa, including 82% of Business graduates; 75% of Iowa residents, 25% of nonresidents, and 19% of international students were employed in Iowa
- New Graduate College career services department focuses on the unique needs of master's and doctoral students
- Ames named a top destination for STEM graduates by NerdWallet
- Iowa State is bringing the Iowa Caucuses to worldwide audiences through a free MOOC (massively open online course)

Serving Diverse Students, Faculty & Staff

Iowa State improves access and retention for low-income students.

- ISU 4U Promise program with Des Moines Public Schools provides scholarships for low-income and racial and ethnic minority students to attend Iowa State
- Record diversity on campus - U.S. multicultural and international students represent 23% of the student body
- A new Peace Corps Prep program prepares students in Global Resource Systems to represent their country abroad
- Iowa State, a *Military Times* 2015 Best College for Veterans, was designated as a Home Base Iowa Certified Higher Academic Military Program, and established a Military Credit Liaison Committee to foster veterans' academic success
- Department of Mathematics received the American Mathematical Society's award for exemplary achievement for its effectiveness in diversity and inclusion programs
- Language and Cultures for Professions program prepares students for learning, living, and working globally

Outstanding students



Catherine Meis of Le Mars was named a 2015 Goldwater Scholar, the nation's premier undergraduate award in mathematics, natural sciences and engineering. Meis, who is majoring in materials engineering with a minor in bioengineering, will use her scholarship to pursue a Ph.D. researching the biomedical applications of materials.



Hanyu Yangcheng, a graduate student in food science and human nutrition, won the top prize in the Institute of Food Technologists Global Student Innovation Challenge. Yangcheng's KIK food stabilizer system can be used in dairy desserts to improve texture and feel, increase stability and shelf life, and enhance sweetness.