

RENEWING *THE IOWA PROMISE*: “**GREAT OPPORTUNITIES—BOLD EXPECTATIONS**”
The Strategic Plan for The University of Iowa, 2010-2016

ANNUAL PROGRESS AND STATUS REPORT, FALL 2012

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In fall 2010, the Board of Regents, State of Iowa, approved the University’s strategic plan for 2010 to 2016: [*Renewing The Iowa Promise*](#). While reaffirming the University’s commitment to excellence and to maintaining the high quality of our core missions and programs, the plan—at once bold and pragmatic—emphasizes “**focused excellence**” in strategically targeted priority areas. Founded on a careful assessment of the context in which we expect to function over the next several years, the plan sets high expectations and guides the University to take advantage of emerging opportunities, meet developing challenges, and move toward the bright future we envision.

A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

The animating strategic vision for 2010-2016 is of a distinguished research university of global reach and impact that has, at its core, vibrant programs for student success.

The University of Iowa is pleased to present the second annual progress and status report on our efforts and investments in the four strategic priority areas defined in *Renewing The Iowa Promise* (the “**four pillars**”): **student success**, **knowledge and practice**, **new frontiers in the arts**, and **better futures for Iowans**.

We take great pride in what our University community has been able to accomplish in these first two years under *Renewing The Iowa Promise*. We’ve set new records for enrollment, diversity, and retention and graduation rates. We inaugurated an exciting new orientation program for incoming students and we’re building new, state-of-the-art collaborative learning spaces. We’ve launched our innovative Cluster Hire Initiative, through which faculty are addressing scientific and societal “grand challenges”—while also building the University’s national reputation in several

multidisciplinary areas. We continue to work hard to recognize and make the most of the opportunities presented to us as we rebuild the arts campus devastated by the flood of 2008. To serve students across the state, we’re offering new distance education options and are forging new relationships with Iowa’s community colleges.

FALL 2012 HIGHLIGHTS

- Highest total enrollment ever: 31,498
- Most diverse incoming class: 16.2% minority
- 1-year retention and 4- and 6-year graduation rates close to record levels
- Second lowest resident undergraduate tuition in the Big Ten
- 85% of graduate programs ranked in the top 30 among like public programs
- 30 cluster hires made
- Third highest annual sponsored funding total

In the current year, we are investing in a series of exciting new initiatives to enhance student success. These initiatives will advance efforts such as support for international and transfer students as they transition to the UI, extension of TILE pedagogy to cross-disciplinary courses and first-year students, enhancement of tutoring and support services, added financial counseling and career services, and new efforts to promote academic engagement for all students. We are also investing in new initiatives to extend the reach of the University’s

missions throughout the state – to help more place-bound Iowans achieve their educational aspirations, enhance career development opportunities for working professionals, bring new resources to Iowa’s K-12 students, and otherwise contribute more fully to economic and cultural vitality and to the health and quality of life of the people of Iowa.

These accomplishments have been made possible by the hard work of individuals across campus. Their dedication, along with the support of the many friends and colleagues who care so much about the University’s success, will continue to lead us toward even greater distinction over the coming years.