

Revisions to the Planning Assumptions for the 2015-2020 Institutional Plan

Institutional Conditions:

* There will be increased competition both within the state and nationally for students with exceptional academic credentials
* Competency-based education will place new demands on our faculty to address new formats for instruction and assessment of student learning
* We can expect no additional new academic buildings during the planning period, resulting in space constraints and increased attention to classroom utilization
* Renovation of existing academic spaces to accommodate redesigned classes and renovation of labs will be needed to address growth in high demand fields as well as changes in instructional approach
* In the absence of additional faculty and facilities, the campus will reach its capacity to accommodate the majority of new students before the end of the planning cycle
* There will be increased demand for higher education in the region for adult learners
* As demand for professional programs grow and concern about outcomes increase, there will be an increased demand for career services and preparation
* Increased competition and enrollment growth will drive changes in the composition of the faculty with more faculty in non-tenure positions
* Demand for access to technology including mobile access will increase, requiring infrastructure and information literacy considerations

Demographic Conditions:

* Increasing numbers of military veterans will require specific integrated support services and flexibility in instructional format
* The growing national and international alumni population will provide new opportunities for recruitment, internship and research
* Changes in healthcare as a result of the Affordable Care Act will increase the emphasis on community-based public health, behavioral health, and health informatics
* The opening of the PORTAL building will offer new opportunities for entrepreneurship and technology-driven businesses

Fiscal Conditions:

* We will be more dependent on tuition and fees to meet the costs of instruction
* Constraints on federal funding will increase the need for faculty to increase the number and competitiveness of grant applications and to identify new sources of funding
* There will be an increased emphasis at the system level on centralization of services and business processes to avoid duplication of effort, utilize technology, and improve efficiency

Political Conditions:

* Metrics on retention and graduation are likely to be the basis for performance based funding
* There will be an expectation for seamless transfer of students from North Carolina community colleges
* Faculty and staff development will be necessary to guarantee that growing compliance requirements are being addressed