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2017

2016-17 Strategic Plan Progress Report

University of Northern Iowa

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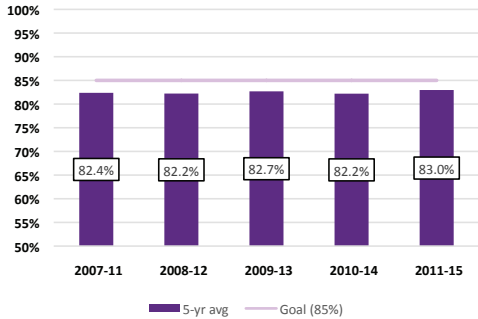


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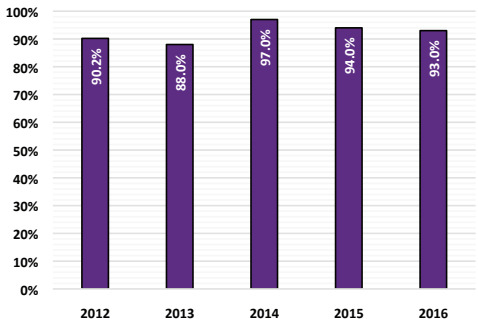
UNIFYING GOAL:

STUDENT SUCCESS

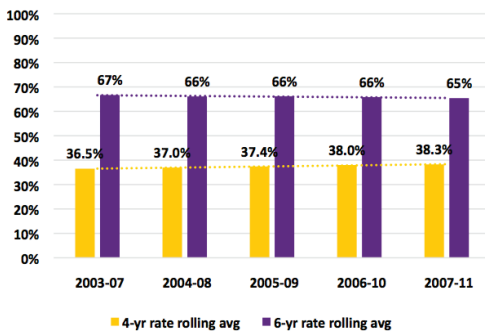
Develop and support engaged learning experiences, dynamic and high-quality academic programs, and outstanding faculty and staff to foster student success.



Achieve a 5-year rolling average of 85% retention rate for First Time freshman students from first to second year



Maintain high percentage of first destination employment or continuing education rates



Attain a 5-year rolling average 4-year graduation rate of 43% for all students
Attain a 5-year rolling average 6-year graduation rate of 70% for all students

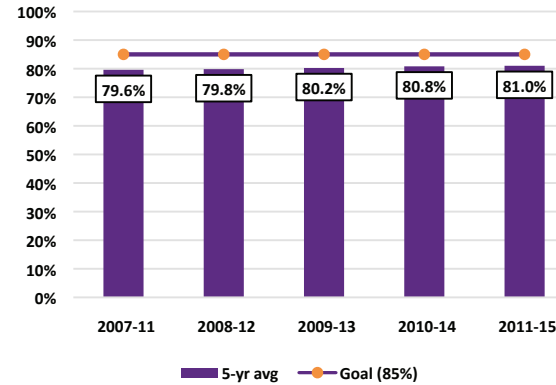
FY2017 INITIATIVES:

- Eighty-two graduate students presented their research and creative works at the 10th Annual UNI Graduate Student Symposium. Twenty-six graduate faculty served as judges for the event.
- Four departments across three academic colleges collaborated on a number of courses focused on a Tiny House project. Students constructed two tiny homes, designed appropriate materials and sound systems for the homes, studied ways to make tiny home communities more sustainable, and examined the ethics of tiny home communities.
- In an effort to provide additional support to students, UNI increased the number of Supportive Seminars available to students taking general education courses that have typically been difficult, such as Humanities. Difficult courses are those that have a high rate of D or F grades, incompletes, and withdrawals. These seminars are part of an academic assistance program that provides regularly scheduled, out-of-class, peer-facilitated sessions designed to increase student performance and retention.

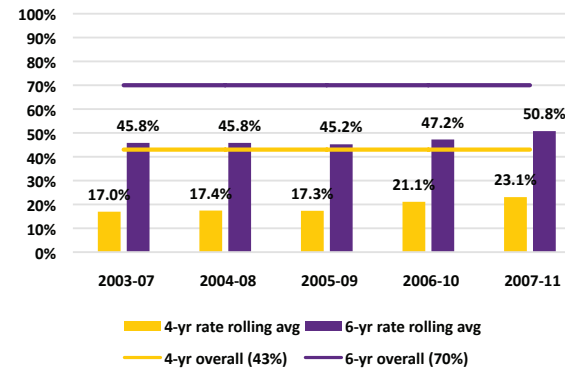
SUPPORTING GOAL 1:

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Provide a campus culture that reflects and values the evolving diversity of society and promotes inclusion.



Increase the retention rate of minority students to the overall rate of the general population (5-year rolling average 1st to 2nd year)



Increase the 4-year graduation rate for minority students to the overall student rate (5-year rolling average)

Increase the 6-year graduation rate for minority students to the overall student rate (5-year rolling average)

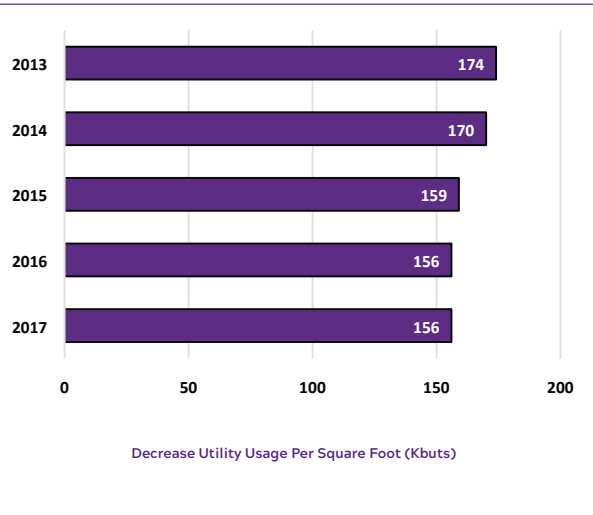
FY2017 INITIATIVES:

- Assistive technology in Rod Library was enhanced in response to user requests for access to the technology anywhere in the building, including in group study rooms.
- The Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology, with the support of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, The Office of the President, and the Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning offered eight colloquia on issues related to diversity during the 2016-2017 academic year. Over four hundred people from the university and the broader community attended the events. The series began with a presentation by Joshua Canavan, J.D. of Arch City Defenders on "Race, Poverty, and the Criminal Justice System: Protecting the Rights of the Accused in the St. Louis Area." There were also colloquia on the different types of mentoring, the 2016 elections, the "war on drugs," men of color and the criminal justice system, immigration, and service learning.

SUPPORTING GOAL 2:

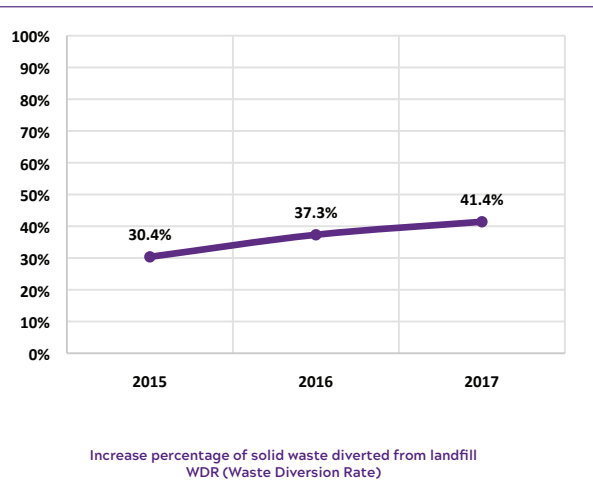
CAMPUS VITALITY

Enhance resource and facility development to provide an enriched campus life experience which is both environmentally and fiscally responsible.



FY2017 INITIATIVES:

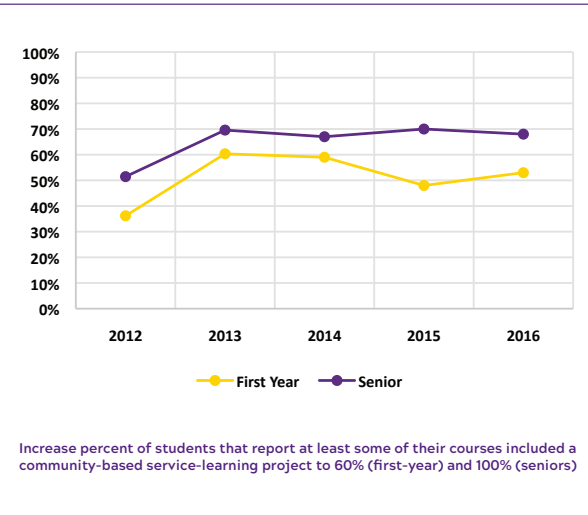
- In March of 2017, the newly renovated Schindler Education Center was presented to the community. The home of the College of Education underwent a complete transformation, creating a facility perfect for 21st century teaching and learning. According to Gaëtane Jean-Marie, dean of the College of Education, “The college has been transformed into a vibrant, modern learning environment - inspiring collaboration, strengthening a sense of community and heralding a new beginning for preparing teacher educators.”
- Michael Childers (history) was selected as the inaugural Provost’s Fellow for Sustainability. After conducting a series of one-on-one conversations with faculty and staff, he discovered that, while sustainability enjoyed broad support across campus, a lack of awareness and cohesion hindered sustainability education efforts and other initiatives. Childers established a faculty sustainability board which will work to expand UNI’s Sustainability Certificate and provide leadership for environmental, economic, and cultural sustainability necessary for all UNI graduates.



SUPPORTING GOAL 3:

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Create opportunities for students, faculty, and staff to build external relationships that enhance local and global learning experiences and contribute to the cultural and economic vitality of the Cedar Valley and Iowa.



FY2017 INITIATIVES:

- UNI offered 4 Robotics summer camps in FY2017 to provide attendees with a progression of programming (coding) and building skills. All of these camps combined personal responsibility with collaboration skills to develop future STEM leaders.
- For the second consecutive year, UNI surpassed 15,000 enrollments (duplicated) in distance education courses, with students enrolled in all of Iowa’s 99 counties.
- In 2016, UNI was awarded the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll in the category of Economic Empowerment for 2015. This prestigious award was granted in large part for work done by the Institute for Decision Making (IDM), particularly their leadership in economic and neighborhood development in Northeast Waterloo. IDM continues their role as a designated Economic Development Administration (EDA) University Center and in 2016 expanded their regional entrepreneurship project to South Central Iowa. The project is stimulating economic growth in Iowa by working with local entrepreneurs and small businesses.

