

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA, 2010-2016

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY, 2013

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 (**student success, knowledge and practice, new frontiers in the arts, and better futures for Iowans**). 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.

As this third annual progress report indicates, *Renewing The Iowa Promise* has continued to provide focus for decision makers across campus in 2012-13. Focused investment of new and reallocated resources is enabling the university to advance its teaching, research, and service missions. Enrollment continues to grow, both on and off campus as well as through the various methods of distance education. Investment in new faculty cluster hiring is positioning the university to hold a competitive advantage when federal funding moves

2012-13 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
- 82% of graduate programs ranked in the top 30 among like public programs
- 40 cluster hires made
- Third highest annual sponsored funding total

to support the grand challenges society needs to address. New and expanded outreach efforts by university faculty and staff are providing meaningful support to more Iowans. And, after five years of extraordinary effort, the rebuilding of the university's art campus is under way. University leaders look forward to the future as the seeds that have been planted over the past three years start to bear fruit for students and for all Iowans.

The university will continue to make selective strategic investments in 2013-14. New resources will be allocated to address the following strategic initiatives: \$2.0M for student success initiatives, including support for instructional costs associated with increasing enrollments, development of student registration systems, and improvement of learning spaces; \$0.5M for the expansion of faculty cluster hiring; \$2.0M for a new state-wide entrepreneurship initiative; and \$0.2M for the continuation of selected outreach programs. Colleges and other academic units will reallocate existing general fund budgets to advance outreach initiatives, restructure curricula, strategically rebuild departments to allow them to participate more actively in one or more of the newly founded clusters, improve and expand student support services, and increase administrative efficiency.

There have been many competing priorities for new and reallocated resources during the recent recession. Continuing to follow the strategic path laid out in *Renewing The Iowa Promise* will help the university achieve some of its most important goals: to better prepare students for the world they will inhabit while offering Iowans (and beyond) vital resources for a better future.