

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA, 2010-2016

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY, 2015

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.

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 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.

Renewing the Iowa Promise continues to provide focus for decision makers across campus. In FY 2015, significant investment in student financial aid and in building an enrollment management team yielded the largest, most diverse, and best-prepared first-year class in UI history. Faculty were hired into two new clusters (public digital arts and informatics), bringing the total number of active clusters under the UI Cluster

2014-15 HIGHLIGHTS

- Fall 2015 incoming class largest and most diverse ever
- Opened first new residence hall since 1968
- Record graduation rates (preliminary fall 2015 data)
 - Four-year graduation rate: 53.2%
 - Six-year graduation rate: 72.0%
- 7 active clusters, 49 new cluster faculty
- High quality graduate/professional programs: 11 programs and specialty areas ranked in top 10 overall
- Combined public and private funding for research: \$438.5M in FY15, up 2% from previous year

Hire Initiative to seven. The active and successful new Office of Outreach and Engagement began reaching out across the state in new ways, such as through engagement with Iowa regional Resource Conservation and Development councils and a new series of "Hawkeye Lunch & Learn" events in Des Moines as well as Iowa City. We opened the doors of the first new residence hall since 1968, and of the Pappajohn Biomedical Discovery Building, where researchers are doing groundbreaking work in areas such as diabetes, brain science, and complex diseases of the heart and lungs.

In FY 2016 the university will continue to invest in student financial aid and in the Cluster Hire

Initiative, and will expand public engagement through the Office of Outreach and Engagement and other efforts. We will continue our efforts to serve more Iowans through growth in on-campus, off-campus, and on-line offerings. The rebuilding of the university's arts campus is nearing completion, moving us closer to the "new frontiers in the arts" we have envisioned. And faculty, staff, and students across campus continue to add to the countless ways we are engaging with—and creating better futures for—Iowans and others we serve.

The University of Iowa continues to follow the strategic path laid out in *Renewing The Iowa Promise* in pursuit of 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.