Provost’s Report

STRONGER TOGETHER:
How Our Commonwealth Campuses Are Supporting and Advancing Penn State’s University-wide Strategic Plan

Dr. Nicholas P. Jones
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Penn State Wilkes-Barre
Friday, July 22, 2016
New Penn State Chancellors

Dr. Ralph Ford
Penn State Erie,
The Behrend College

Dr. Andrew Egan
Penn State
Greater Allegheny

Dr. Damian Fernandez
Penn State
Abington

Dr. Jenifer Cushman
Penn State
Beaver
Our Commonwealth Campuses and the Strategic Plan

- Published in February 2016
- Six foundational principles
- Five thematic priorities
- Reflects depth and breadth of expertise across all of the University’s campuses
The Benefits of Penn State’s Unique Structure

One University, geographically distributed
The Big Picture

PennState
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND PROVOST
A Diverse Student Body with Modest Resources

- About 55% of first-year students start at a Commonwealth Campus
- More than 31,000 students total, representing 36% of Penn State’s student body
- About 37% are first-generation college students
- More than 80% receive financial aid and work part time while pursuing their degrees
Seamless Transitions

- About 4,400 students transition annually across all Penn State campuses.
- Data show more moves not involving University Park.
Enabling Access to Education

Strategic plan’s first foundational principle
Across all Penn State campuses, we offer 163 degree programs, and that number continues to grow. The current tally:

- 21 associate
- 107 baccalaureate
- 35 graduate
Our Employment Impact

7,700+ employees at Commonwealth Campuses
Support for Economic Development

ECONOMIC GROWTH

Penn State has responsibility to its communities
Invent Penn State

- Debuted in January 2015
- Drives job creation, economic development, and student career success
- Commitment delivering ample new opportunities for innovation and entrepreneurship in Pennsylvania
Seed Grants Fuel Growth, Innovation

- Invent Penn State seed grants support 12 Commonwealth Campus centers so far.
- Last month, announced six additional locations to inaugural group of six.
Community Integration

In December 2015, Penn State dedicated the next phase of the Innovation Squared Project in downtown Wilkes-Barre: the Entrepreneurial and Business Development Lab at the Wilkes-Barre THINK Center.
Pennsylvania Mathematics Initiative

- Primary focus: Building math fluency and expertise in teachers in grades K through 5
- Two Commonwealth Campuses getting involved this summer
Pathway to Success: Summer Start (PaSSSS) Program

• Invitation-only opportunity
• Students can jumpstart studies during the summer
• Program held at nine Commonwealth Campuses
• Boosts access to education
Multi-Campus REU

- Program encourages research by Commonwealth Campus undergraduate students
- 2016 cohort includes 59 faculty and 50 students, with participation from 14 campuses and 12 Penn State engineering departments
- Big impact across STEM disciplines
The Power of Our People

• Faculty, staff at all campuses are committed to making a difference through a variety of initiatives, including the Feeding America Backpack Program.

• Vincent Munro (pictured), who served in the U.S. Army National Guard, was named Penn State Wilkes-Barre’s Outstanding Adult Learner for 2016.
Penn State’s Global Impact

Valerie Clay, assistant director of Student Affairs at Penn State Schuylkill, and student Darlyncia Nobrun build homes for Habitat for Humanity Quebec.
Closer to Home

- Left: Penn State Brandywine’s Philly Outreach Project
- Right: Penn State DuBois students working at Kyle Lake
One University, United

- Commonwealth Campuses are vital to our integrated structure.
- They make a difference in their communities and support our strategic plan with their activities.