Arkansas Tech University

Strategic Plan 2016-2021
Year Five Progress Highlights
A Note From Our President

As Arkansas Tech University nears the end of its current strategic plan, the success of the initiative is reflected in the fact that we continue to strive for and attain continuous improvement in support of our mission.

The 2020-21 academic year marked the fifth year of our strategic plan implementation. This publication includes just a few of the highlights in the strategic plan progress from July 2020 through June 2021.

The 2021-22 academic year will be a stretch year in our strategic planning process. We will continue making progress on the goals from the plan we developed together in 2015-16 and begin establishing priorities for the strategic plan that will serve as our guide in the years to come.

These are challenging and exciting times in higher education. Arkansas Tech possesses the determination, compassion and innovation necessary to meet its challenges and take advantage of its opportunities. I cannot wait to see what we achieve together during 2021-22 and beyond.

Sincerely,

Robin E. Bowen
President

ATU: Where Students Succeed, Innovation Thrives and Communities Flourish

- No. 1 in Arkansas on Social Mobility Index seven consecutive years
- Colleges of Distinction Best Colleges Cohort 2021-22
- One of the three largest institutions of higher learning in Arkansas
- More than 93 percent of ATU students are from Arkansas
- 76 percent of ATU alumni remain in Arkansas after graduation
- NCAA Division II national champions in men’s golf
- Great American Conference President’s Trophy Champions
- $10.5 million in new gifts and pledges to ATU Foundation in 2020-21
GOAL ONE: HUMAN CORE

- Freshman four-year graduation rate increased by 19.3 percentage points over three years
- ATU-Ozark three-year graduation rate increased by 10.5 percentage points over four years
- 67 percent of students in academic coaching retained fall-to-spring (7 percentage points above peers)
- Student-to-faculty ratio improved from 19-to-1 in fall 2015 to 16.4-to-1 in fall 2020
- Established a $1 million need-based scholarship fund
- Distributed more than $7 million in HEERF funds directly to students
- ATU-Ozark Campus increased its institutional scholarship support by 300 percent

GOAL TWO: ACADEMIC COHERENCE

- Reaffirmed institutional accreditation through the Higher Learning Commission
- Established plans to develop a one-stop shop to facilitate student success
- Definition of shared governance finalized with approval of the faculty senate and executive council
- Implemented enhanced quality assurance measures for online instruction
- Participated in an external review of the general education curriculum
- Earned approval to begin offering an Associate of Science degree in manufacturing
- Became Arkansas’ only co-designer campus for Ask Every Student, a student voter registration program

GOAL THREE: OPERATIONS EXCELLENCE

- Adopted a five-year budget model
- Raised $10.5 million in new gifts and pledges for the Arkansas Tech University Foundation
- Opened the new Hull Building Student Union
- Created a new Esports lab in Paine Residence Hall

GOAL FOUR: CITIZENS OF THE REGION, STATE AND WORLD

- ATU-Ozark Campus Education and Industry Alliance began efforts to develop a more skilled workforce
- Partnered with community leaders to initiate a collective impact model that will drive economic development
- Established a Global Village living and learning community
- Top five in NCAA Division II in student-athlete community service for fifth consecutive year
Our Mission

Arkansas Tech University is dedicated to student success, access, and excellence as a responsive campus community providing opportunities for progressive intellectual development and civic engagement. Embracing and expanding upon its technological traditions, Tech inspires and empowers members of the community to achieve their goals while striving for the betterment of Arkansas, the nation, and the world.

www.atu.edu/strategicplanning