



Arkansas Tech University



Strategic Plan 2016-2021 Year Two Progress Highlights



A Note From Our President

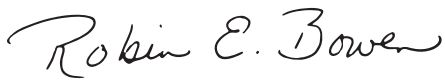
A strategic plan is only as good as the implementation phase that follows it.

At Arkansas Tech University, our daily tasks are shaped by the vision we collectively established during the strategic planning process of 2015-16. Student success is our focus. Innovative thinking is encouraged and fostered. Empowering personnel at all levels through distributed leadership allows our community to flourish. Transparency and collaboration build and maintain the level of trust that is endemic to any successful organization.

This report includes progress we made during year two of the strategic plan implementation phase (2017-18). It is both an opportunity to celebrate our forward movement in pursuit of our goals and take inventory of that which requires our attention in year three and beyond.

Thank you for your continued partnership in carrying out the mission of Arkansas Tech University. Together, we truly are inspiring and empowering members of our community to achieve their goals while striving for the betterment of Arkansas, the nation and the world.

Sincerely,



Dr. Robin E. Bowen
President



ATU: Where Students Succeed, Innovation Thrives and Communities Flourish

- No. 1 in Arkansas, top 5 percent in U.S. on Social Mobility Index
- No. 1 choice for Arkansans who wish to study STEM
- One of the three largest institutions of higher learning in Arkansas
- Top two in state for conferring credentials in health care professions
- 92.5 percent of ATU students are from Arkansas
- Six-time Great American Conference All-Sports Trophy winner
- 14,824 hours of volunteer service by students in 2017-18



Year Two Progress Highlights

GOAL ONE: HUMAN CORE

- Increased graduation rate by four percentage points (35% in 2015-16 to 39% in 2016-17)
- No. 2 ranking in State of Arkansas higher education productivity formula during initial year
- Conferred more than 3,200 academic credentials during the 2017-18 academic year
- Joined National Student Exchange for study away opportunities in U.S. and Canada
- Signed MOUs for student exchange in Austria, Germany, Mexico and Spain
- Created Center for Civic Engagement and Academic Outreach to promote service learning
- Increase in faculty and non-classified staff compensation to 93.1 percent of the median of the CUPA regional comparison
- 29 percent increase in grant submissions over previous year
- More than \$10.2 million in external grant awards projected

GOAL TWO: ACADEMIC COHERENCE

- Began operations for new Office of Student Success
- Implemented Bachelor of Science and Associate of Applied Science degrees in cybersecurity
- Created pathway from Associate of Applied Science degree in paramedic to Bachelor of Science degree in emergency administration and management
- Began offering courses toward the Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture business on the Ozark campus
- Master of Arts in TESOL and new Bachelor of Arts in criminal justice/criminology fully online, bringing total of fully online programs to more than 25
- Implemented waiver of the student activity fee and public safety fee for online students following feedback from students and review by the budget advisory committee
- Achieved a 5 percent increase in the overall success rates for remedial/general education math courses

GOAL THREE: OPERATIONS EXCELLENCE

- Increased scholarship budget by \$1 million
- Achieved \$693,692 in additional state funding for fiscal year 2019 through productivity
- New gifts and pledges increased by 30 percent over previous year to \$4.5 million
- 23 percent increase in private scholarship funds available to award over previous year
- Received approval of campus master plan from ATU Board of Trustees in October 2017
- Completed energy audit and received funding approval for phase I efficiency projects from the ATU Board of Trustees in May 2018
- Refinanced bond debt to save more than \$3 million in net debt service payments

GOAL FOUR: CITIZENS OF THE REGION, STATE AND WORLD

- Dedicated O Street project through partnership City of Russellville and Arkansas Department of Transportation
- Opened Tech Connect Trail between ATU campus and Russellville Aquatic Center
- Established Green and Gold Pantry in partnership with Tyson Foods
- Dedicated the River Valley Child Advocacy Center at Crabaugh House
- Collaborated with public and private partners to open Tyson Foods Logan County Career Center
- Purchased City of Russellville Public Works building for future relocation of ATU Department of Public Safety
- Joined the International Town and Gown Association and established sub-committees related to local government partnerships, community relations and school spirit
- Initiated Mayoral Advisory Council as a means of fostering a dialogue between students and city leaders

EVERY STUDENT COUNTS



www.atu.edu/strategicplanning