

Looking to the Future Eastern's Vision for 2010



Eastern's Vision for 2010

Eastern Washington University is in the midst of a renaissance of growth and self-discovery. Enrollments are at an all-time high, the campus looks more beautiful than ever, and our reputation as a quality educational institution has become well established in our region.

But rosy pictures can fade with time, and any university which fails to look several years into the future risks moving in the wrong direction, or perhaps worse — losing its way entirely.

Over the past few years, EWU has taken a hard look into the future of higher education, and its own role in that future. The result was a *Vision 2010* paper in which President Stephen M. Jordan defined his objectives for Eastern over the next decade.

Following are excerpts from Dr. Jordan's Vision 2010 which will guide your alma mater for the next several years.

As a regional university, Eastern knows it will be measured by how well it brings real value to the constituencies and communities it serves. Vision 2010 sees EWU as the "People's University," and rests on four guiding principles:

1) A People's University should take a student-centered approach to achieve

"liberation of the personality" for each member of the University community.

Accepting responsibility for developing life skills in every student will be the a personal responsibility of each member of the University community.



Every interaction with a student will be seen as an opportunity to guide students toward being more open minded toward new questions, ideas, experiences and diversity.

2) A People's University should emphasize both a strong liberal arts and a career preparation focus through an interdependent approach to its curriculum.

Responding to the career preparation needs of the region means that acquisition of specific skills should be balanced with generic problem solving skills such

as communication (both written and verbal), conceptualization, coordination and ability to analyze.

The liberal arts and sciences teach us valuable lessons about the nature of the human experience; whereas the professional schools teach us how to apply these lessons to the needs of our region.

3) A People's University should sponsor applied research relevant to the region's economic, political, social and health well-being.

Eastern will be a residential campus with more meaningful ties to the region. The University will be a significant contributor to the enhancement of the economic, political, social and health conditions of the Inland Northwest through an appropriate balance of basic and applied research activities.

Applied research will connect faculty and students to specific problems facing business and communities throughout the region. It will provide opportunities to test theory and practice. Total sponsored research activity will have grown to \$20 million annually.

4) A People's University should foster collaboration with the variety of communities comprising the Inland Northwest, thereby expanding the conception of education to the University community as a whole.

EWU takes its obligations to the Region seriously. By 2010, the University will have fully embraced collaboration with the various communities in the region.

Building on already successful efforts with the community of Cheney, the University will expand efforts to enhance the economic and social fabrics of all regional communities. Equality will serve as the foundation for cooperative relationships between the University and the various communities acting as partners sharing a common goal.

How to achieve the vision

In the Vision 2010 report, Dr. Jordan outlines four important steps we will take in the future.

Creating excellence in a state assisted University

While the state continues to support the basic needs of the University through incremental funding of salaries and enrollment growth, Eastern will build a stronger foundation by completing the first Capital Campaign in its history — raising \$60 million for targeted programs, scholarships and fellowships.

State funding will be used to leverage



grant and contract funding. These funds - combined with Foundation funds, will result in centers of excellence to be widely recognized regionally or nationally.

All technology contributes to educational environment and career preparation

Eastern will enhance and expand the technology for the educational environments and career preparation. Technology has become an essential element of all programs. Employing technology, faculty will engage students and mirror

the workplace environment.

Leading-edge administrative systems will be used in teaching to further demonstrate the workplace environment as well as to enhance services to students, faculty and the state.

A strong residential campus

A strong residential campus will be developed in Cheney.

With the exception of health sciences, baccalaureate programs for traditional students will be located in Cheney. The College of Business and Public Administration will continue to grow its graduate

programs on the Riverpoint campus, building off the business and government infrastructure located in Spokane.

Cooperation and collaboration with Washington State University on the Riverpoint campus will be firmly established while baccalaureate and master's degree programs for non-traditional students will be implemented in Spokane as demanded. Selected baccalaureate and master's programs will be offered throughout the state based upon the needs of communities and the unique capacity of the University to deliver those programs.

A larger University -tightly knit in a community of living, learning and service

Finally, the University will grow to 12,000 FTE students, of which 70 percent will be traditional residential students residing on campus or in Cheney. Enrollment will shift slightly toward a larger lower division enrollment than upper division. Graduate enrollments will continue to run at 10 to 12 percent of the total enrollment.

To accommodate growth, the University will put first priority on supporting the development of private sector housing in the community and second priority to expanding on-campus housing. Course scheduling will expand to fully utilize the 8 a.m.-4:00 p.m. capacity. Evening, weekend and mediated courses will now make up 15 percent of the total credit hours generated by the University.

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