



# PRIDE 2020

**The Strategic Plan for Delaware State University**  
PRIDE 2020: Personal Responsibility in Delivering Excellence

## **Goal 4:** **Outreach and** **Engagement** *(Service Beyond Self)*



## **GOAL 4: OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT (*Service Beyond Self*)**

### **Strengthen and expand our outreach, engagement and economic development programs to benefit the people of Delaware, the nation and the world**

As part of its land-grant mission, DSU serves the people of Delaware in a role that is far larger than simply educating its citizens in the classroom. That role has been historically fulfilled through Cooperative Extension, which has an emphasis on research, education and service to support the food and fiber sectors. The University will continue to honor and support this commitment. Extension at DSU, as it is across the land-grant community, has been broadened to include outreach and engagement in other academic programs, research and service, continuing and online education. These outreach and engagement programs and activities link the intellectual and technical resources of the University to the community. This mission area is central to the University because: (1) the problems and issues affecting our citizens are becoming increasingly complex and interdisciplinary; (2) the needs of underrepresented populations and persons living in underserved communities continue to grow and deepen; and (3) of the economic downturn.

The University will continue to selectively pursue advanced delivery technologies and strategic alliances among multiple units and programs. These strategies will include:

- using the campuses as key delivery nodes,
- sharing faculty, staff and programs, service learning, civic engagement and volunteerism, expanding programming for nontraditional students and our citizens,
- taking a more entrepreneurial approach to service delivery, and
- developing a more internationally oriented concept of service.

In so doing, we will use University's expertise and marshal its resources to grow the state's economy and ensure that communities are well served by their resources.

- **OBJECTIVE 4.1: Strengthen and expand DSU's outreach, Extension, engagement, entrepreneurship and economic development programs to benefit the people of Delaware, the nation and the world**

#### **Key Action Strategies:**

- Identify areas where DSU has comparative advantages relative to the market, and target development of new or expanded continuing education programs to meet those needs.
- Produce and implement a comprehensive plan of outreach and engagement activities.
- Pursue a research-based economic development agenda that stems from DSU's strength and focuses on areas with the greatest impact to Delaware, the nation and the world, with particular attention to STEM and life/health sciences.
- Develop training and certification programs in partnership with local nonprofit and for-profit organizations, and government and public agencies.
- Strengthen and expand the academic programs and introduce approved certificate programs at the University's additional locations.
- Strategically expand online courses and programs and also develop the necessary infrastructure to support the growing demand for online learning.
- Submit a "Community Engagement Classification" application to the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

- **OBJECTIVE 4.2: Collaboratively develop and enhance programs for underrepresented groups and underserved communities**

**Key Action Strategies**

- Increase the number of historically underrepresented pre-college students in University-sponsored youth development programs and activities, to include 4-H, summer and after-school enrichment programs and activities.
- Promote academic achievement and growth among pre-college students from historically underrepresented populations.
- Develop and expand innovative recruitment and retention programs and activities with historically underrepresented populations, placing special emphasis on those majoring in STEM fields.
- Continue plans to open the first Early College High School in Delaware
- Develop and enhance relationships with professional historically underrepresented representatives from STEM and health science fields and encourage them to mentor undergraduate and graduate students.
- Engage underrepresented community groups in University sponsored and supported activities.