Imperative V

Initiate outstanding new academic programs in selected areas.
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Progress Summary

1. To challenge students with exceptional academic potential, Baylor will create an Honors College. The College will house an expanded Baylor Honors Program, provide a home for an enhanced University Scholars program, and serve as a location for the Baylor Interdisciplinary Core (BIC) program.

The Honors College has been created and has grown consistently to include approximately 1,400 students with increasingly high SAT scores.

2. We will also establish a comprehensive School of Communication that will encompass the University’s journalism, speech communication, and telecommunication programs.

A major strategic proposal to establish a School of Communication was submitted for review by the Strategic Planning Council in the spring of 2007. After deliberations by the Strategic Planning Council and the Executive Council, it was approved for revision and then submission to University Development for inclusion in the upcoming Comprehensive Campaign.

3. We will enhance Baylor’s reputation and the currency of Christian ideas on campus by increasing the quality, size, and visibility of selected graduate programs. Accordingly, by 2012 Baylor will feature at least 10 doctoral programs in the social sciences and humanities. The number of total doctoral programs will thus grow from 14 to at least 20. The number of graduate students will increase by 25 percent, and the number of doctoral students will increase by at least 30 percent.

We are on track to meet our 2012 graduate program goals. The number of doctoral programs in the social sciences and humanities has grown to 10 since 2002. The total number of doctoral programs has grown to 19.

The total number of Ph.D. students has increased by approximately 22%, and the average GRE score of Ph.D. students has increased by 107 points.
Progress in depth

GOAL 1
To challenge students with exceptional academic potential, Baylor will create an Honors College. The College will house an expanded Baylor Honors Program, provide a home for an enhanced University Scholars program, and serve as a location for the Baylor Interdisciplinary Core (BIC) program.

The Honors College (which includes the Honors program, BIC program, and academic majors in the Honors College) has increased enrollment to over 1,400 students.

Enrollment in the BIC program has been declining over the past four years, from 758 in Fall 2003 to 574 in Fall 2007. (Fig. 5.1)

Fig. 5.1 Number of Honors College and Baylor Interdisciplinary Core students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Honors College</th>
<th>Baylor Interdisciplinary Core</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>1250</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>1250</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>1250</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fall Semester

Source: IRT
GOAL 3
We will enhance Baylor’s reputation and the currency of Christian ideas on campus by increasing the quality, size, and visibility of selected graduate programs. Accordingly, by 2012 Baylor will feature at least 10 doctoral programs in the social sciences and humanities. The total number of doctoral programs will thus grow from 14 to at least 20. (Figs. 5.2, 5.3)

Ph.D. Programs include:
- Biology
- Biomedical Studies
- Chemistry
- Church-State Studies *
- Educational Psychology *
- English *
- Exercise, Nutrition, and Preventive Health
- Geology
- Mathematics
- Neuroscience
- Philosophy *
- Physics
- Political Science *
- Religion *
- Religion, Politics, & Society *
- Sociology *
- Statistics

Among the programs proposing a doctoral degree offering are:
- Church Music
- Comparative Religious Literature **
- Economics
- Ecological, Earth, & Environmental Sciences **
- History
- Information Systems **
- Social Work

** Approved for funding during the 2007 major strategic planning process. Programs must still gain approval through traditional academic channels.

Not included in this count are Baylor doctoral degrees in:
- Ministry (DM)
- Law (JD)
- Physical Therapy (DPT)
- Science (DScPT, DScPA)

* Humanities or Social Sciences
Fig. 5.2 Total number of doctoral programs

Fig. 5.3 Total number of doctoral programs in the social sciences and humanities

Source: Graduate School
GOAL 3 (CONTINUED)

The number of graduate students will increase by 25 percent, and the number of doctoral students will increase by at least 30 percent.

As of Fall 2006, we have increased graduate student enrollment by 5.9%. There was sharp decline in the number of graduate students in Fall 2005. Decreases in enrollments in the Hankamer School of Business and School of Education graduate programs accounted for 87% of the total decrease in graduate student enrollment. Although the graduate student enrollment has not risen as desired, the mean GRE score of these students has increased by 90 points since Fall 2002. (Figs. 5.4, 5.5)

As of Fall 2007, we have increased doctoral student enrollment by 21.7%. Doctoral student enrollment has increased steadily since Fall 2002. Along with an increase in doctoral student enrollment, the mean GRE score for these students has increased by 107 points. (Figs. 5.6, 5.7)

Fig. 5.4 Number of graduate students

![Graph showing number of graduate students from 2002 to 2012.](source: IRT)
Fig. 5.5 Average GRE of graduate students

Fig. 5.6 Number of doctoral students
Fig. 5.7 Average GRE of doctoral students

Mean GRE (Goal = 1250)

Fiscal Year

- Mean GRE of Doctoral students
- Goal projection

Source: IRT