

Vision 2020 Update—Academic Programs, Research Growth, Faculty Excellence and Rewards and Public Service

Overall Status



Goal II: Develop new and reconfigure existing academic programs to be responsive to student, stakeholder and community needs.

Strategy B: Develop at least one doctoral degree program at West Virginia State University.

Recent Key Accomplishments

The University has delivered a successful MS/MA Biotechnology degree program since 2003. There are currently more than a dozen faculty members with doctoral degrees and academic and research expertise in molecular biology and biotechnology at WVSU.

Upcoming Activities

Activity 1a: WVSU continues assessing the feasibility of implementing and elevating its current graduate programs from Master's degree fields to doctoral degrees in Biotechnology, Media Studies or a related field.

Emerging Issues

Internal: Ensuring that there is the human capital available to deliver the doctoral program. **External:** Funding to support the program will be limited due to current and future state and federal budget cuts.

Solutions

Assess federal and corporate funding opportunities as an opportunity to hire new faculty.

Upcoming Deliverables/Milestones

<u>Item</u>	<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Progress</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Item. Feasibility assessment to elevate masters to doctoral programs	12/01/15		10%	Biotechnology appears to be the most likely area to offer a doctoral degree at WVSU. There are already several faculty members with biotech background and experience. There have been only preliminary discussions on this regard effected during the institution's self-study.
Item. Develop a proposal for constituent groups and BOG review	10/01/16		0%	
Item. Take appropriate internal and external approval steps	12/01/17		0%	
Item. Deliver first doctoral program Fall 2019.	By Fall 2020		0%	

Submitted by Dr. Orlando McMeans Date: 12/3/14