

Academic Affairs

Strategic Plan Considerations

November 22, 2016



STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

Key:

Planning – considering possibilities

Progressing – implementation

Underway – successfully ongoing program

Challenging – major difficulties or limitations

1. Deliver a customizable professional degree program that ensures active integrated learning while preparing students for problem-oriented patient care:

- Provide opportunities for incoming students to place out of certain basic science courses and participate in **alternative educational tracks**, including independent study and research.
- Develop accelerated- or **advanced standing OD programs** for scientists and internationally trained physicians and optometrists.
- Implement the advanced graduate certificate program in optometry **business management** leading to an MBA program.
- **Align** pre-clinical and clinical training with current and **future trends in optometric practice**.
- Ensure the curriculum effectively **integrates basic and clinical sciences** and teaches **critical thinking** and the principles of **evidence-based practice**.
- Explore and **implement technologies** that support and enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the **delivery of course materials**.
- Develop the **library's electronic resources** and make them readily accessible to students, clinicians, scientists and alumni.

1. Deliver a customizable professional degree program that ensures active integrated learning while preparing students for problem-oriented patient care:

- Advanced standing program
- MBA program
- Electives
- VR simulator lab
- Moodle
- Course evaluation system
- *Examsoft*
- Clinical Advisor Program
- *Didactic Advisor Program*
- Curriculum changes
 - Clinical Optometry
 - POVD
 - Clinical Medicine
 - Low Vision
- Capstone

2. Deliver competency-based clinical training that is founded upon evidence-based practice and anticipates future practice trends:

- Redefine **core clinical competencies** and expected clinical experiences and use these to develop clinical schedules and individualized student portfolios that will allow every student to achieve each of the competencies while offering opportunities for developing special interests.
- Increase the emphasis on **evidence based medicine**, particularly in Integrative Seminar.
- Highlight **research colloquia** for students and faculty that feature both internal and external speakers with emphasis on **translational and clinical topics** relating to evidence-based practice.
- Place greater emphasis on inter-professionalism, providing additional opportunities for faculty, students and residents to improve skills in providing **interdisciplinary, team based patient care** and use of auxiliary personnel.
- Increase **opportunities for fourth-year rotations**, including more upstate and international rotations.
- Increase the ability of students to **assess and use new technologies**.
- Provide innovative and cost-effective residency programs, including **combined graduate degree/residency programs** and **opportunities** for involvement with clinical research.
- Expand and diversify **Continuing Professional Education programs**, including synchronous and asynchronous **online webinars**.
- Provide Continuing Professional Education programs in countries other than the **United States**.

2. Deliver competency-based clinical training that is founded upon evidence-based practice and anticipates future practice trends:

- New Clinical Optometry sequence
- Clinical advising program
- VR Simulator lab
- Myopia Control Clinic
- *Advanced Procedures workshop*
- IPECP
 - *CUNY BSN MOU*
 - *CHN NP Residents*

3. Enhance the College's intellectual impact by developing new areas of research that are synergistic with the College's existing research and clinical strengths and provide opportunities for collaborations and translational projects:

- **Recruit new research faculty members** whose interests are synergistic with the College's existing research and clinical strengths.
- Establish new **research collaborations** specifically through the SUNY Eye Institute and the New York City vision science community that lead to additional funded research and opportunities to attract and cross train high-quality graduate students.
- Offer **credit-bearing graduate courses** in vision science that attract students who are studying eye/vision-related issues in other disciplines at SUNY and/or New York City institutions.
- Explore and develop **alternative funding strategies** to expand research programs, including fundraising, foundations and industry grants.
- Obtain extramural (e.g., T32) funding to **support doctoral students and post-doctoral fellows**.
- Create a regular **internal review and evaluation process for intramural awards** that fund pilot projects to develop funding opportunities for collaborative translational research or research training.
- Increase faculty interactions and collegiality through implementation of **faculty SIGs**.

3. Enhance the College's intellectual impact by developing new areas of research that are synergistic with the College's existing research and clinical strengths and provide opportunities for collaborations and translational projects:

- Combined Residency-Graduate Program
- Ongoing searches
 - Ocular physiology
 - Clinical tenure track
- New grants in 2015-16:
 - Bloomfield (NEI)
 - Richdale (Industry)
 - Dul (Industry)
 - Rosenfield (Industry)
- AAHRPP accreditation completed

4. Strengthen and expand programs that train clinician scientists:

- Heighten optometry students' awareness of
 - **Career opportunities in research;**
 - The importance of research for the profession and the value that the College places on research; and
 - Funding mechanisms that are available to support research training.
- **Review all graduate programs** using experienced external advisors and develop and implement recommendations for improvements.
- Redesign the **OD-MS program** to provide the necessary training, skills and career development support to increase the number of graduates obtaining research positions in academia or industry or continuing on to a PhD program.
- Establish **combined graduate degree/Residency** programs.
- Develop a track that allows **OD-MS students and qualified optometrists to receive a PhD** in as little as three years.
- Obtain an **institutional "K" award** to support optometrists who enroll in the PhD program.

4. Strengthen and expand programs that train clinician scientists:

- Combined Residency-Graduate Program
- New hires
- Ongoing searches

Goals and Priorities for 2016-17

- College Wide
 - Teaching laboratory renovations
 - Library planning and renovations
- Faculty
 - Searches
 - Development programs
 - Orientation programs
 - Communication workshop
 - Advising and remediation workshops
- Curriculum
 - Expand IPE and IPCP
 - Externship site reviews
 - Advanced standing

