

ENVIRONMENTAL & INSTITUTIONAL TRENDS

- Increasing employer emphasis on competencies and skill sets.
- Increasing demand for personalized education and support services.
- Increasing competition for students from traditional and proprietary education providers.
- Continued globalization driven by an accelerated rate of technological change.
- Diminishing ability of students to pay the rising cost of education.
- Increasing competition for employees.
- Increasing emphasis on environmental concerns.
- Increasing diverse population.
- Increasing baby-boom retirees.
- Rapid increase in costly technology and its effect on the delivery of technical education.
- Increasing requirement for accountability including program review, quality of programs, and quality assurance.
- Increasing challenge to sustaining and expanding operations due to rising energy costs.
- Increasing costs and rising concerns of campus security.
- Increasing role of two-year colleges in economic and community development.
- Increasing transportation-related expenses affecting students and employees.

SAU TECH'S VISION

Leading Arkansas in Economic and Educational Transformation

SAU TECH'S VALUES

- Every employee and his/her contribution to the institution.
- Each person served or seeking service.
- Personal and professional honesty and integrity.
- The trust and confidence placed in us by our constituencies.
- A caring, learning environment that promotes access, scholarship, innovation, and the success of all students.
- A climate that reflects a deep appreciation and acceptance of diversity.
- Accountability on all levels that is reflected in wise stewardship of public resources.
- Collaborative and cooperative partnerships that improve the quality of life for those served.
- Innovation and the ability to meet the changing needs of our constituencies.
- The history of SAU Tech and its contributions.

SAU TECH'S MISSION

Southern Arkansas University Tech is a two-year college emphasizing technical education. The College is committed to providing quality educational programs delivered through various technologies and methodologies to meet the needs of its constituencies. The College accomplishes its mission through technical career programs, transfer curricula, continuing education, workforce education, transitional education, and administrative, student, and community services.

GOAL #1:

Student Success – To provide every student the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and abilities to lead a fulfilled life as a learner, a citizen, and a member of the workforce.

1. Grow and sustain on-campus enrollment as well as enrollment through alternate delivery methods.
 - a. Review and enhance recruiting activities to promote on-campus enrollment.
 - b. Explore flexible schedules for course offerings to accommodate the needs of students.
 - c. Assess current online offerings and if the need is present augment current offerings with new, relevant programs and/or courses.
 - d. Investigate the feasibility of alternate delivery methods such as webcasts and hybrid courses.
 - e. Review and enhance retention strategies to increase the number of students persisting to a certificate or degree.
2. Continue to enhance the College's assessment of student learning model to improve student success.
 - a. Support college personnel's attendance to relevant assessment conferences, workshops, NCA meetings, etc. which will help maintain the focus on the College's assessment of student learning program and use assessment results to enhance programs.
 - b. Develop a process to share assessment results and to systematically use assessment results to improve student learning.
 - c. Continue to utilize the TracDat software to support the College's assessment plan and to facilitate the use of assessment data for planning and improvement.
3. Provide a positive and rewarding college experience through a variety of activities and cultural events.
 - a. Improve on-campus life by continuing and expanding diverse cultural and student life events.
 - b. Increase extracurricular options that enhance student engagement with the College.
4. Advance student achievement through counseling, advising, mentoring, and tutoring.
 - a. Continue to seek innovative student success support services.
 - b. Review and enhance the College's mentoring program.
 - c. Establish a tutoring center to assist under-prepared students to achieve academic success.
 - d. Develop a process to evaluate the effectiveness of student support services.

SAU Tech Strategic Plan
January 2010

5. Facilitate the transition of students into the College.
 - a. Foster relationships with high school students participating in the Career Academy and the Concurrent Credit Program to improve the transition of those students to the College.
 - b. Foster relationships with students who are eligible for supporting programs such as Career Pathways and Adult Education to enhance their ability to achieve academic success.
 - c. Review and enhance the orientation process for non-traditional students.
 - d. Continue to provide and expand opportunities for prospective students to participate in on-campus activities and events designed to showcase the College and its programs.
6. Facilitate the transition of students from the College, either to SAU Magnolia (or other higher learning institutions) or into the workforce.
 - a. Develop and implement processes to increase the transfer rate for students attaining an associate degree from the College.
 - b. Pursue scholarship opportunities for students transferring from SAUT to other colleges.
 - c. Continue to develop Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with other institutions.
 - d. Develop and implement career planning and job placement services and monitor and track their effectiveness.
7. Develop and implement strategies to support students in transitional courses to achieve their educational goals.
 - a. Investigate and implement alternate methods for delivering transitional courses.
 - b. Evaluate the effectiveness of transitional programs to meet the requirements of Arkansas Act 971.
 - c. Develop and implement processes that encourage students taking transitional courses to systematically interact with mentors and tutors.

GOAL #2: Access to Higher Education – To provide access to affordable comprehensive, community, and technical college education.

1. Examine and develop programs that are relevant to student needs and economic growth.
 - a. Review program offerings and revise to address economic growth.
 - b. Support and promote the identified Centers of Excellence: Teacher Education, Nursing, Technology Training, Multimedia, Aviation Maintenance, Business Administration & Computer Tech Training, Arkansas Fire Training Academy, Arkansas Environmental Academy, Workforce Development
2. Strengthen partnerships with public school to enhance the high school concurrent credit program.
 - a. Adhere to National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP) guidelines to provide college faculty/high school faculty professional development.
 - b. Adhere to NACEP guidelines concerning the alignment of high school courses to college courses within the College's Concurrent Credit Program offerings.
 - c. Continue and enhance interaction among college administrators and high school administrators to address issues relating to the College's Concurrent Credit Program.
3. Develop strategies to reduce financial burdens for students.
 - a. Monitor tuition and fees to ensure the generation of sufficient resources but to also accommodate student access to the College.
 - b. Continue to seek sources of financial aid to assist students.
 - c. Continue to develop and enhance programs to educate prospective students about financial aid options at the College.
 - d. Ensure equitable allocation of scholarship funds by becoming actively involved in the establishment of policies and procedures for the distribution of the proceeds from the Arkansas State lottery.
4. Continue to develop partnerships to support literacy to better prepare students to be successful in college.
 - a. Continue the partnership with the Camden Area Boys and Girls Club to develop an after-hours secondary school program.
 - b. Continue the partnership with the Ouachita County Area Rock 'N Read Program to provide books to each child born in Ouachita County for the first five years of his/her life.
 - c. Continue the partnership with the News in Education program to provide the *Camden News* to area schools.
 - d. Continue the partnership with the area Literacy Council.

GOAL #3: Quality Programs – To deliver relevant, high-quality instruction, programs, and services that meet the changing needs of students and society.

1. Continue the development of a comprehensive institutional effectiveness program by maintaining accreditation through AQIP.
 - a. Through the development of the College's System Portfolio, identify and address performance indicators leading to institutional effectiveness.
 - b. Continue to encourage campus-wide participation in the identification and implementation of future Action Projects.
2. Assess and enhance the quality of academic programs.
 - a. Comply with the Arkansas Department of Higher Education's Academic Program Review Process.
 - b. Continue and enhance the use of program advisory committees for all technical programs.
3. Continue to develop, evaluate, and improve services to respond to the needs of students and other customers in the College's service area.
 - a. Seek funding sources for additional student housing.
 - b. Seek grant funds to provide services for underprepared, low socioeconomic, first generation students.
 - c. Investigate the feasibility of outsourcing the bookstore operations.
 - d. Continue to support and enhance a physical and technological environment that supports learning.
 - e. Promote awareness and knowledge of programs and services the College has to offer.

GOAL #4: Accountability and Institutional Effectiveness – To make effectiveness, transparency, and accountability the hallmarks of all the College’s activities.

1. Promote a supportive learning and working environment where all voices are heard and valued.
 - a. Foster and promote the importance of faculty and staff organizations as a means of providing input in decision-making and as a means of disseminating relevant information to employees.
 - b. Continue to sponsor the *Chancellor’s Brown Bag* lunch with employees and the *Chancellor’s Social* with students as opportunities for dialogue about issues relating to employees/students.
 - c. Continue to support the Administrative Council, which includes representatives from the faculty and staff organizations, as a means of employee participation in decision-making.
 - d. Communicate effectively through the timely dissemination of information to faculty, staff, and students and to other constituents of the College.
 - e. Develop a formal process for students to provide input/feedback in College operations.
2. Provide responsible stewardship for the effective management of the College’s financial, human, and physical resources.
 - a. Continue to enhance the human resources orientation program and other human resources support services.
 - b. Continue to comply with state and federal guidelines relevant to financial management.
 - c. Foster and promote compliance with College policies regarding stewardship of campus assets.
 - d. Periodically, review and revise the facility/equipment use policies, and advise employees of the policies on a regular basis.
3. Develop processes to systematically evaluate and address the College’s risk and liability.
 - a. Research best practices for risk management and stay abreast of current risk management issues through involvement in State Organization of Risk Management (S.T.O.R.M.).
 - b. Enhance and expand the College’s risk management tools to include the Vice Chancellors Council.
 - c. Enhance employee training on risk and liability to include issues such as environmental control, labor laws, freedom of information, etc.
 - d. Develop a written disaster recovery plan and an emergency management plan.

GOAL #5: Resource Development (Human/Financial/Physical) – To seek financial, physical, and human resources to support the development and ongoing improvement of the College's programs and services.

1. Develop and maintain a workforce of quality, diverse faculty and staff who can provide adequate support for students at all educational levels.
 - a. Continue to provide and emphasize the importance of professional development and recertification opportunities for faculty and staff.
 - b. Develop strategies to enhance the diversity of the faculty and staff to reflect the College's service area.
2. Assess and identify the need for additional facilities (on and off campus), the necessity for existing facilities improvement, and need for grounds beautification and maintenance in order to support the mission of the College.
 - a. Develop a facilities master plan, which includes proposed new facilities, proposed remodeling of facilities, and proposed campus beautification projects.
 - b. Promote the facilities master plan among the College's constituents.
3. Examine and evaluate revenue sources to optimize the College's financial resources.
 - a. Maximize state and federal funds through the annual budgeting process.
 - b. Explore and pursue alternate funding sources.
 - c. Examine fee structure on a regular basis.
 - d. Strengthen the College's relationship with the Foundation and enhance its supporting role of the College.

GOAL #6: Partnerships, Collaborative Efforts, and Workforce and Economic Development – To develop partnerships to provide continuing education, community services, and workforce training to address the economic development needs of the College’s constituencies.

1. Become a significant contributor toward economic development and workforce development in the region.
 - a. Maintain and enhance partnerships with economic development agencies within the College’s service area and throughout the state.
 - b. Continue and expand non-credit programs to meet the needs of business and industry within the College’s service area.
 - c. Maintain and enhance relationships with workforce training consortiums.
2. Expand community service and education through outreach programs and cultural activities.
 - a. Enhance and support community cultural activities.
 - b. Revitalize the College’s community education program and provide facilities in downtown Camden for community education activities.
 - c. Expand the College’s community education program to other communities within the College’s service area.