

APPENDIX C

Youngstown State University: An Urban Research University

Youngstown State University, as a member of the global community of scholars, contributes to the development and application of knowledge for the betterment of humankind. The University strives to improve the quality of life and strengthen the economy of the region, and forms the major regional conduit to the global community. As is fitting for an urban research university, YSU faculty and students participate in basic and applied scholarship that enriches teaching and learning and engages with local and global communities. Scholarship at YSU may be directed toward identifying and addressing the social, cultural, and economic needs of nearby urban neighborhoods and the city of Youngstown, but because not all nearby communities are urban, research at YSU is not confined to urban issues. YSU, as an urban research university, is made stronger and more competitive through linkage with its urban location, as the urban location is made stronger and more competitive through linkage with a high-quality research university.

Core Principles

Scholars/Teachers. *Faculty scholarship is integrated, as appropriate, into teaching and learning activities and facilitates undergraduate and graduate student research.* Scholarship at YSU informs and energizes teaching but does not displace teaching and learning in importance. Scholarship at YSU provides an education that is both up-to-date and grounded in best practices—qualities necessary for developing a globally competitive workforce. At YSU, basic and applied scholarship is original and innovative, allowing for diverse scholarly interests and methodologies. It is not bounded by the walls of the University's labs or classrooms, but is disseminated according to the highest standards of each discipline. Faculty and students engage in scholarship that applies theory learned in the classroom to the world beyond in all fields, from the arts and humanities to the sciences. The University pursues scholarship opportunities within internships, service learning, and action research projects that may also benefit the community.

Scholarly Engagement. *YSU is committed to seeking joint benefit through mutual sharing of information, expertise, and resources, with the recognition that expertise is also found in the community.* Community engagement is necessary for university-based scholarship to be relevant to and advance the public sphere. Community is defined broadly and includes (but is not limited to) academic, discipline-specific, geographic, and professional communities. YSU faculty, staff, and students partner with local, regional, and global businesses,

community agencies, and leaders to identify important community research needs. YSU shares its resources to answer important questions, solve community-related problems, and advance best practices in all disciplines. It provides access to equipment, to faculty and student expertise, and to other resources that foster collaboration on funded projects with community entities.

Resource Alignment. *The institution will invest in new and existing academic programs that will augment YSU's research-related skill base.* To strengthen its research portfolio, YSU will continue to develop master and doctoral-level programs that advance the intellectual, cultural, and economic life of the region and nation. Innovative scholarship will enhance existing Centers of Excellence and create opportunities for new Centers of Excellence that facilitate faculty and student research, while also serving the community. Research, new academic programs, and Centers of Excellence will differentiate YSU as an urban research university meeting the distinct needs of the northeast Ohio community and beyond.

Approved by the Youngstown State University Academic Senate April 7, 2010