



# VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Valdosta State University is a dynamic community of scholars focused on teaching, research, creative endeavors, and service. The living/learning environment is student-centered, preparing a diverse student body to contribute to an evolving technological and global society. Our university promotes the highest educational and ethical standards while advancing economic and cultural development. The quality of our engagement transforms students' lives, for which we aspire to be a national model.

## STRATEGIC PLAN 2011-2016: GOALS AND STRATEGIES

### ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



**Goal 1: Recruit and retain high quality students and provide opportunities leading to academic, professional, and social success.**

Key Strategies:

- A. Provide campus infrastructure that optimizes the teaching and learning processes.
- B. Develop degree programs in high need/emerging disciplines.
- C. Provide for a strong and diverse student body that emphasizes broad cultural and geographical representation, including students of high intellectual capability and special talents.
- D. Increase leadership, infrastructure, and organization of online degree programs.
- E. Establish interactive opportunities for students and faculty with unique talents, intellectual capabilities, and/or aspirations.

### DIVERSITY



**Goal 2: Foster an inclusive and diverse environment for all constituents.**

Key Strategies:

- A. Provide forums that encourage constituents to explore challenging topics in a civil manner.
- B. Create campus-wide practices that strengthen applicant pools (students, staff, and faculty) and ensure objective evaluation of candidates.
- C. Develop activities and experiences that promote diversity as a value.
- D. Enhance support networks for faculty, staff, and students of diverse backgrounds.
- E. Provide for faculty and staff domestic and international exchange.
- F. Provide student experiences that promote relationships with diverse communities.



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### COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS



***Goal 3: Promote an environment for high level scholarly engagement among and within students, faculty, and community members.***

#### Key Strategies:

- A. Emphasize activities that support undergraduate scholarly engagement.
- B. Restructure teaching loads (load equivalents), to enhance faculty-student engagement in discipline based inquiry.
- C. Recruit and engage graduate students in support of the scholarship and teaching mission.
- D. Increase contracts, grants, and research/scholarship-based opportunities.
- E. Articulate faculty standards for teaching, research, and service.

### PHILANTHROPY & RELATIONS



***Goal 4: Elevate VSU's reputation while increasing philanthropy.***

#### Key Strategies:

- A. Increase major gifts with special focus on student support.
- B. Increase the number of scholarships offered to students with special talents or high academic standing who would not otherwise attend VSU.
- C. More closely engage members of the general assembly and congressional delegation.
- D. Enhance annual giving campaign through growth in number of donors and size of gifts.
- E. Enhance faculty and staff campaign and direction of gifts.
- F. Increase number and activity level of alumni groups around the country.



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### CAMPUS LIFE & STUDENT SERVICES



***Goal 5: Provide a safe and vibrant environment for living and learning.***

#### Key Strategies:

- A. Promote educational excellence, both inside and outside of the classroom, including safe and healthy lifestyles and civic responsibility.
- B. Identify opportunities for SGA to support university objectives through the governance process.
- C. Provide campus infrastructure that optimizes safe and fulfilling student life opportunities.
- D. Provide campus-wide opportunities for employees to further enhance their technical and professional skills.
- E. Develop civility and social responsibility through living and learning experiences.

### COMMUNITY & INSTITUTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES



***Goal 6: Strengthen internal and external constituent engagement, including increased involvement in community and University partnerships.***

#### Key Strategies:

- A. Increase opportunities for cultural and intellectual interactions within the community.
- B. Facilitate partnerships between the University and region that enhance economic development.
- C. Strengthen the roles of Council on Staff Affairs, Faculty Senate, Planning and Budget Council, Student Government Association, Funding Pool Committees, and Advisory Committees to Service Divisions in the open governance process.