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University Mission and Philosophy Statement Draft 3-27-90

Shawnee State University

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MISSION STATEMENT

Shawnee State University prepares students for the changing needs of business, industry, education, and society through its diversified academic programs. Recognizing the importance of knowledge, values, and cultural enrichment, Shawnee State University is committed to teaching students to think critically, to act ethically, and to communicate effectively within an environment that fosters scholarly inquiry, integrative learning, and an interdisciplinary approach to knowledge. To enrich the lives of the community, the University provides opportunities for continuing personal and professional development, intellectual discovery, and appreciation for the creative and performing arts.

Shawnee State University is, thus, a student-oriented university with a central emphasis on teaching and learning. Within this context, Shawnee State is committed to the goals of:

- 12 * offering four-year and two-year degree programs and one-year certificate programs.
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15 * providing continuously improved learning opportunities, guided by excellent teaching, academic advising, and counseling for students of various ages, diverse backgrounds, and different needs.
- 16 * offering academic and student life programs that provide opportunities for intellectual, personal, ethical, cultural and social development.
- 19 * providing public service in traditional and continuing education programs to encourage the development of outreach and cooperative education efforts.
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26 * coordinating the growth and emphasis of its programs with long-range plans and the needs of the regional, state, national, and international community.
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24 * responding to the changing needs of society by establishing appropriate feedback networks and linkages with practicing professionals, business, industry, community service agencies and other educational institutions.
- 20² * providing a stimulating learning environment for its students, faculty, and staff that empowers them to explore their potential. This environment is strengthened by the collegial interaction of people within the University and broader community.

In meeting these goals, all members of the Shawnee community are engaged in continuing professional development that aids them in becoming better human beings as well as better educators. This includes scholarship, which informs all our other activities, along with creative activities, applied research, and community involvement. Our efforts will remain focused on providing the highest quality teaching-learning environment possible.

PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

The University believes that it should prepare its students for life in the 21st century, whether they aspire to an immediate career or a continuation of their education. Therefore, its programs must embrace a holistic approach that encourages a blend of knowledge, intelligence, intuition, and creativity. Baccalaureate programs throughout Shawnee State are grounded on a foundation in the liberal arts and sciences, and are brought into a broader interdisciplinary perspective by its general education core. These programs blend professional, technical, and liberal studies into a well rounded education reflecting the University's development from the merger of a technical college and a regional four-year campus. The University believes this unique combination provides its students with career flexibility, an improved quality of life, an appreciation of culture, and a foundation for continued learning. Our programs strive to encourage students to develop abilities and use them in productive, meaningful, and satisfying lives.

The University, in responding to the needs of the people it serves, believes in providing distinctive, quality programs that are accessible to anyone who can benefit from them.

The University believes in maintaining open admissions but does not compromise on the quality of work a student is expected to perform.

The University believes that students should be counseled and stimulated in ways that help them make the most of their abilities.

The University believes in keeping abreast of societal changes and developing curricula which mirror the demands of a global, changing world.

The University believes that to meet the needs of society it must constantly re-evaluate and reshape its academic programs and services so they continue to be academically sound while meeting the varied needs of the students.