

FHSU Engagement Series

Mission and Priorities

September 2026

FHSU Mission Statement

Fort Hays State University provides accessible quality education to Kansas, the nation, and the world through an innovative community of teacher-scholars and professionals to develop engaged global citizen-leaders.



Academic Affairs Priorities – 26-27

- Priority One – Embody our regional purposes through engagement and dialogue
 - *Emphasis Areas*
 - Embed regional public language and mission in everything we do.
 - Continue leadership development opportunities for faculty and staff.
 - Partner with faculty shared governance to focus on real dialogue as a university
- Priority Two – Student Success as a shared responsibility
 - *Emphasis Areas*
 - 85% faculty participation in progress reports for undergraduate courses (EAB Navigate)
 - 100% faculty participation in interim grade reporting
 - Move to fully centralized, holistic advising model for undergraduate students
 - Deepen faculty mentoring and career development synergy

Academic Affairs Priorities – 26-27

- Priority Three – Academic Program Innovation and Digital Transformation
 - *Emphasis Areas*
 - Improve online course quality to recruit
 - Roll out a revised Digital Master Plan
 - Strengthen collaboration between Professional and Continuing Education (PCE) and our academic programs.
 - Practice mindful stopping
 - Reinvest time, talent, and dollars to create and expand responsive programming
- Priority Four – Leverage existing data resources to drive academic affairs strategic decisions
 - *Emphasis Areas*
 - Help academic affairs faculty and staff understand which data points and trends are most important
 - Program areas sitting down with their deans and unit leaders each year to work through those data, supported by a bi-annual five-year-trend report from Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Improvement (IEQI).
 - Build data literacy into existing spaces
 - Infuse Gray DI fluency across Academic Affairs leadership.
 - Create a robust university policy for the many facets of course scheduling — based on data.

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- **The Seven (+1) Facts Every Faculty Member Knows for their Program(s) by May 2027**
 1. Majors – How many students are in your program and the 5-year trend of major headcount (undergrad and/or graduate).
 2. Student Credit Hour (SCH) – By instructor, by major, and by course department.
 3. Retention to the major and University – Do students stay year to year?
 4. Completions – How many students complete their credential and when? The 4 and 6 year completion rates.
 5. DUWI grades – Where students struggle in courses.
 6. Placement & outcomes – Where do your graduates go? Jobs, employers, graduate school, licensure outcomes.
 7. And how do you contribute to our students' success?
 8. For College Deans and Chairs – Course scheduling efficiency metrics, market demand data, and eventually program ROI (post May 2027).

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- **The Seven Data Points Every Academic Staff Member Knows for the University by May 2027**
 1. Enrollment – Total headcount for the University, the 5-year trend, and the rough mix of our students who enroll (undergrad/grad, on-campus/online/cross border partners).
 2. First-year retention – First-time/full-time retention rate for the University
 3. Graduation rates – The 4 and 6 year completion rates for the University
 4. Where students come from? – The basic profile: service region, transfer locations, Pell, First-generation
 5. Where students go – Overall placement and outcomes (i.e. graduate school, professional career)
 6. What it costs students – tuition and fees - what a typical student pays to attend FHSU
 7. And how do you contribute to our students' success?

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Where do you already see yourself in these priorities? What would make that work easier for you?

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- *Which of these four priorities is already alive in your work, and which one feels like major work to start?*
 - *What would have to change for that second one to “begin for you”?*

Closing

- Find the priorities on the Provost website
- Seek to understand the “why”
- Stay focused on our mission
- Keep each other accountable
- Plan to attend the next Engagement Series – October 13 at 8 a.m.
CT – Black and Gold Room, MU





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