

Develop and retain quality faculty and staff

- Develop recruiting strategies to attract top faculty candidates
- Orient and mentor early-career faculty
- Support CELTSS and other faculty development resources
- Provide the tools and equipment to support faculty work
 - Not Started. **Hire undergrad TAs to help with tutoring.** We already use students to tutor physics. We could use more, for other topics (geology, astronomy, etc) and as we get more students.
 - Done. **Hire new part-time lab tech.** Historically we shared a lab tech with Chemistry & Food Science. As both departments have grown, a single person cannot handle all the work.
- Strengthen academic community
 - In Progress. **Create guide book for VLs.** We have a lot of VLs in our department, but some of our courses need to be consistent regardless of who teaches them. So we are creating a guidebook for Intro to Physical Science, and will work on creating more in the next few years.
 - Ongoing. **Encourage faculty scholarship**
 - Kristin Chon gave talk at the International Planetarium Conference
 - Kristin Chon wrote an article for the newsletter of the Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society
 - Douglas Leaffer attended 1/2 day seminar on Professional Engineering Licensure
 - Douglas Leaffer completed 24-hour evening PDH course for Professional Engineering license exam preparation
 - Douglas Leaffer took the 8-hour Principles and Practice of Engineering (P.E. licensure) Examination (results are pending)
 - Douglas Leaffer applied for reinstatement as Certified Professional Geologist (C.P.G) with American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG) (awaiting disposition)
 - In Progress. **Hire more tenure-track faculty to reduce percentage of courses taught by VLs.** In recent semesters between 40% and 80% of our courses were taught by VLs. With our new (Fall 2012) Geology TT position, we have 3 tenured/tenure-track faculty and one full-time temp. Currently, the ideal for us would be 5 tenured/tenure-track faculty.

Strengthen new student preparation, induction and early academic success

- Align readiness skills with college expectations
- Improve orientation, first-year and transitional programs
- Build connection/community on campus
 - In Progress. **“Town Meeting” for Pre-Engineering majors.** Starting Fall 2013, we will meet with our pre-engineering majors at the beginning of the year, to get to know them and so they can get to know us and each other. This will hopefully foster a sense of community among the students.
 - Not Started. **“Town Meeting” for IDA majors.** We hope to start this in Fall 2014.
 - Not Started. **Offer a “study tips seminar” for our majors.** We hope to start this in Fall 2014.
 - Not Started. **Create physics lounge room in the former planetarium prep room.** We do not have a space for students to study, or a place to gather informally. Such a space would help foster a sense of community. Waiting on future construction and funding.
- Strengthen assessment, advisement and placement
- Monitor and foster systematic and progressive preparation for graduation

Pursue excellence and engagement in the academic experience

- Increase student-faculty collaboration
 - Not Started. [Create a Planetarium Internship](#). Available to any student with some astronomy background, would include writing, producing, and presenting planetarium programs, and other astronomy education activities. Kristin Chon to begin planning in Fall 2013.
- Increase experiential learning opportunities
 - Transferred. [Bus or van for field trips](#). Academic Affairs to work on this.
- Strengthen citizen engagement opportunities
- Grow honors and academic enrichment opportunities
- Assess and document student learning and personal growth
 - Ongoing. [Assess current Pre-Engineering curriculum](#). Created 5-year assessment plan.
 - In Progress. [Renew articulation agreements with UMass Amherst, Lowell, and Dartmouth](#). UMass Lowell is done pending signatures from UMass. UMass Amherst and Dartmouth are in progress. We are also pursuing an agreement with Mass Maritime.
- Enrich university community with diversity

Prepare students for global citizenship and competitiveness

- Expand global awareness through new majors and programs
- Integrate and grow world language programs
- Support student international experiences
- Grow and manage FSU partnerships with international universities

Strengthen and expand STEM programs and student success in STEM areas

- Expand STEM majors, center and research and policy analysis
 - In Progress. [New major: Earth Systems Science](#). Lawrence McKenna is working on this.
 - In Progress. [New major: Middle school science education](#). Lawrence McKenna is working on this.
 - In Progress. [New major: Science Communication](#). Kristin Chon is working on this.
 - In Progress. [New TT Faculty: Geology](#). We now have one TT faculty and one FTT faculty (we would prefer 2 TT faculty)
 - In Progress. [New Geology Courses](#). Lawrence McKenna is working on this.
 - In Progress. [Create a Center for Climate Change Education](#). Vandana Singh is working on this.
- Improve STEM preparation and readiness
 - Not Started. [Renovate lab rooms](#). Waiting on construction/funding (not included in new science building).
 - Not Started. [Create science workshops for elementary school teachers](#). Hope to start in Fall 2014.
 - Ongoing. [Collaborate with McAuliffe Center on various projects](#). We work closely together on the planetarium. The Center asked Douglas Leaffer to become involved as STEM Faculty Liaison for development-related and external outreach projects. Many other projects have been discussed.
 - Ongoing. [Encourage faculty to participate in efforts to improve our teaching](#).
 - Vandana Singh and Kristin Chon continue to be a part of the VISION grant for improving STEM gateway courses, along with other FSU STEM professors
 - Kristin Chon gave a talk on Science Misconceptions at the Day in May faculty workshop.
 - Kristin Chon is actively engaged in science education research.
- Increase student interest, enrollment and degrees awarded in STEM majors

- **Done.** New Introduction to Engineering course. Most 4-year engineering programs have an introduction to engineering course for freshmen, which gives them a taste of real engineering they otherwise wouldn't get from their other classes.
- **In Progress.** Public Planetarium Shows. Kristin Chon to organize and begin public shows in Fall 2013 or Spring 2014.
- **Done.** Full-Dome Video Projector for the Planetarium. Installed December 2012. We are thrilled with this new teaching tool!
- **Ongoing.** Sponsor formal and informal science talks for the University community.
 - Francine Jackson gave her annual Halloween presentation of *War of the Worlds*
 - Kristin Chon gave a talk at the Library Café about why the world wasn't going to end in December 2012.
 - We continue to offer brown bag lunch talks, Sci Fi movie screenings, and other informal events for students and the FSU community.
 - Lawrence McKenna and Vandana Singh are available to any class or group at FSU to speak about global warming.
- **Ongoing.** Encourage faculty to participate in science events for the greater Framingham community
 - Several faculty members volunteered for the Science Olympiad, a state-wide high school competition held at FSU every March.
 - Douglas Leaffer helped North Andover, MA Cub Scout troop, Pack 82 earn their Engineering Activity Badge
- Improve STEM career readiness among FSU graduates
 - **Done.** Investigate the possibility of working with professional engineering societies for help with our Pre-Engineering program
 - Douglas Leaffer joined American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and local chapter Boston Society of Civil Engineers Section (BSCES)
- STEM programs to the regional scientific and technology community

Respond to labor market trends in academic program and center development

- Connect regular, systematic assessment of labor market trends to program review and development
- Develop and maintain dialogue with major area employers
- Systematize the preparation of students for graduate and professional programs
- Develop combined degree programs and new graduate programs in response to the needs for the Commonwealth