The **Office of Undergraduate Studies** (OUS) exists to support and enhance the undergraduate student experience at UNL. The OUS administers and advocates for campus-wide policies, programs and initiatives affecting undergraduate education and retention, particularly those outside the academic degree programs. It is our shared goal in OUS that all undergraduate students have access to the support they need to be successful at UNL and graduate.

### AY 2006-07 Priorities/Directions

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| **1. Increase retention and graduation rates of students through enhancing advising and academic support in OUS sponsored programs.** | **Retention and Graduation Rates**  
AY 2006-07. Complete 1) initial data analysis of changes in student status from full to part-time, and 2) institutional profile of students who left UNL.  
AY 2006-08. Based upon institutional profile of students not retained, work with graduate student to develop thesis proposal to investigate reasons why students leave the university. Completion of thesis expected early Spring 2008.  
**Advising Intervention Pilot**  
AY 2006-07. Information collected, reviewed and course of action determined.  
**Honors Program**  
AY 2006-07. Thirty faculty agree to become Honors Fellows resulting in 1) enhanced communication with academic units, 2) increased offering of Honors courses and identification of potential fellowship students early in their program.  
AY 2008-09. Increase graduation rate of students in Honors Program to 90%.  
**OASIS**  
AY 2008-09. Seek minimum 90% retention rate and increase in 5 year graduation rate to 70%. OASIS Administrative Offices and programs will be housed in the new Culture Center by AY 2008-09. |

- **Retention and Graduation Rates.** Work in concert with other UNL units to begin investigation of why 1) students leave the university and 2) a significant percentage of students change their status from full to part-time after their first year, thus extending time to graduation. (Kean, Munier, Nunez, Cerveny, Grad Student).  
- **Advising Intervention Pilot.** Division of General Studies Advisors will interview all second year DGS students on academic probation to determine appropriate intervention strategies to reduce the attrition rate of these students. From information collected, themes will be identified. These will be used to develop possible intervention strategies for future use by DGS advisors. (DGS/OUS Faculty/Staff)  
- **Honors Program.** Invite selected faculty to become Honors Faculty Fellows. Continue to increase the numbers of students who complete graduation requirements for Honors Program (Berger, Damuth).  
- **OASIS.** Recallocate POE funds to support additional tutors and student mentors to assist with increasing numbers of students in NU CONNECTIONS (200+) and STAC (35+) programs. Participate in planning for academic offerings and space in the new Culture Center (Banks, Ramirez, Francis). |

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<th><strong>2. More effectively incorporate the role of assessment in Strategic Planning at the institutional level.</strong></th>
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| **University Assessment Committee (UAC).** Continue to work with the UAC and selected academic units on improving the campus assessment of student learning outcomes process (Jonson)  
**PEARL.** Provide training support for colleges participating in the PEARL assessment project (Jonson).  
**Parsing the First Year of College Project.** Participate in the national study of factors that influence undergraduate student learning. ([http://www.ed.psu.edu/cshe/parsing/home.html](http://www.ed.psu.edu/cshe/parsing/home.html)) (Jonson, Kean)  
**NSSE/FSSE Survey.** Participate during Spring 2007. Work with UAC members to develop more useful outcomes from data for use in Fall 2007. (Jonson, University Assessment Committee) | **PEARL Assessment Project**  
AY 2006-07. Complete second Year Pilot - CASNR, CEHS; Complete first-year pilot for HLCFPA and CJMC  
AY 2007-08, 08-09, 09-10. Introduce, expand and evaluate PEARL project across colleges with goal for campus adoption by 2009-10.  
**Parsing the First Year of College Project**  
**NSSE/FSSE**  
AY 2007-08. Analyze NSSE/FSSE results; work with UAC members to implement outcomes developed during AY 2006-07. |
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| 3. Enhance academic opportunities for all UNL students through development of new and improved academic programs and formation of institutional partnerships. | • **Advanced Scholars.** Visit with high school students and parents about the Advanced Scholars Program and host on-campus event for Advanced Scholars students, high school principals and faculty to meet UNL administrators and course instructors. (Kean, Bateman, Weise, academic units; Nebraska schools).  
**NU-PATHS.** Document NU-PATHS students’ progress; formulate and discuss proposed program changes with UNMC for implementation for AY 2007-08 (Kean, Hackwith, UNMC). | • **Advanced Scholars**  
AY 2007-08. Reach goal of 120 student enrolled as Advanced Scholars.  
• **NU-PATHS**  
AY 2007-09. Implement structural program changes which in turn, will increase completion and success rates of the 2008-09 class of UNL NU-PATHS students from 20% to 50%. |
| 4. Increase institutional understanding of Enrollment Management, its importance and scope, and in turn, increase recruitment yield rates, retention and graduation rates. | • **Course Demand Analysis.** Continue efforts to develop model for use in helping academic units determine adequate numbers of course offerings/sections. (Kean, Cerveny, EMC)  
• **Creq.** Continue to pilot and refine the on-line curriculum approval routing system with Information Services (Hackwith, Jensen(IS), academic units)  
• **Mid-Semester Check.** Conduct Mid-semester Check September 25-28 and implement electronic tracking program (Kean, McBride, academic/student services) | • **Course Demand Analysis**  
Fall 2006. Evaluate effectiveness of Fall 2006 Demand Analysis and prepare progress report for SAT, Deans, EMC.  
**Spring 2007.** Prepare Fall 2007 Demand Analysis.  
• **Creq**  
AY 2007-08. On-line system in use by all academic units.  
• **Mid-Semester Check.**  
**Spring 2007.** First to second year retention rates for those who attended Mid-semester check in 2004 were 90%. Continue to track and analyze academic progress of students who attended mid-semester check in fall 2004, 05, 06. Make needed changes to program for fall 2007. |