SOAR Analysis Feedback Form – STRENGTHS

Monday, November 18, 2019

**Question 1:** Please list up to the five most important strengths that the College has – What can we build on?

**8:30 – 9:45 College Leadership Team and Senior Faculty**

- Health Communication program (reputation, graduate program, etc.)
- Qualified and dedicated faculty and staff
- Strong undergraduate curriculum emphasizing Core knowledge & practice
- Interdisciplinary and trans disciplinarily
- Outstanding reputation across UK colleges on campus
- Caring for our students
- A good balance of both applied and theoretical research
- Excellent teaching
- New leadership in college across units
- New perspective – Dean with a vision
- Distinctive Programs (Core curriculum, Student Media/Rural Journalism)
- Engaged, strong faculty in some areas
- Strong national/international reputation UK’s strong brand
- Growth in enrollment and internal rankings of student population
- Broad scope of subject matter, second broadest at UK
- Rising faculty that have demonstrated research leadership
- Excellence in teaching
- Connection with professions via extension programs and others
- Strong focus on applied communication research
- Dedicated, collegial faculty
- Broad expertise across communication – related disciplines
- Strong legacy
- Student – focused programs
- Strong, flexible support for UK Core curriculum and Individually strong programs
- Leader in online education
- Diversifying tech industry
- Recruit strong faculty

**10:00 – 11:15 Untenured Faculty**

- Collaborative, friendly, supportive environment
- Only school accredited by ALA in Kentucky
• Leading researching/productivity/scholarships
• Health communication and KCHC
• Research focused (R1) land grant, with some diversity of research interest and multi-disciplinary
• Growing student population, interest in programs
• Commitment to finding (internal & external)
• Award-winning faculty and students
• Innovative and future focused research
• Diverse programs of study across unites
• UK Brand
• Young, new and shiny faculty
• Growing enrollment, particularly driven by online offering
• Collegial department with good faculty enrichment
• Diverse, rich experiences among faculty who bring real-world aspects to the classroom
• Students receive professional experiences with a nationally award-winning student newspaper, campus radio stations, and internships
• College provides significant general education coursework that all students must have via the UK Core
• We have a lot of exposure to the UK student body
• We have nationally recognized programs and faculty
• Strong skills-based instruction for employment
• Diverse but complementary expertise
• Quality educators across the college
• High quality, prolific researchers

**11:30 – 12:45 Students**

• Support from undergraduate advisors
• Good faculty w/strong research and mentoring, diverse expertise
• Visibility as an RI flagship state institution on the cutlery edge of the field
• Good fall back program
• Different focuses (business, human, ....)
• Professor/student relationships
• Diversity/Inclusion in student pool
• Classes/Programs that focus on preparing students for the workplace
• The college offers many diverse major opportunities
• Required internship credit and portfolio
• ISC/ICT are unique and lots of colleges don't have these
• Passionate professors with real life experiences
• NSAC competition team. UKY has won many times and no one knows about it and many other colleges don’t do it.
• Faculty, research based, help network
• Kentucky Kernel, UK Student News network
• Technology: podcasting studios, radiobroadcasting, VR labs, instructional labs
• Events, (Dana Kennedy) speaker series, motivates students to achieve
• Faculty Research Services

1:00 – 2:15 – Staff

• Students and their engagements; we service a lot of students-not just majors
• Unique programs-student media, rural journalism Al Smith, Hall of Fame, Lecture Series
• Developing new programs to keep up with technology and changing times
• Staff and faculty engage with students
• Launching pad – celebrating success of students
• Accredited program; some are the only in the state
• Strong community of professionals (faculty and staff)
• Important research being conducted here
• Student focused
• Alumni leave with career readiness and preparation for a diverse array of careers and industries
• Small size
• Diversity of industries we prepare students for
• Award-winning student media/organizations
• Desire and capability to lead students and faculty to the forefront of emerging industries
• Motivated to impact change
• Collective knowledge / talent
• Recognizable as influential body on campus – reputation
• Recognized opportunity to reach untapped markets (i.e., online programs, degree completion, transfer, 1st generation)
• Scholarly research: bold, relevant and far reaching
• High standard for student success
• Information is central
• Mission driven community
• The college has good staff and faculty
• The college had a good relationship between UK and the city of Lexington
• Our students have a sense of belonging and loyalty to the college
• Student opportunities for undergraduate research
2:30 – 3:45 – Open

Faculty

- Research culture/High research productivity
- Diverse but distinct academic programs
- Strong connection to community (state and regional)
- Strong instructional expertise (all levels of faculty)
- Strong balance of professional and academic curriculum and faculty
- Strong undergraduate credit hour delivery/offerings
- Award winning students in a number of competitive creative fields
- A range of disciplines with specialized programs and forward-thinking agendas
- Diversity

Students

- Superior programs (Sport Path in Com, Journalism, ISC)
- Organizations in College (Ad Club, ABJ, PRSSA, Grehan, KRNL, Kernel)
- Extracurricular opportunities (competition teams/ internships)
- Professionals teach students in an optimistic, nurturing, caring way
- Graduate program

Community/Alumni/Staff

- Research experience (health com, library science, risk com, rural journalism, cybersecurity)
- Strong student media
- Strong professional media placement
- Strong student-centered and faculty relationships
- Teach many freshmen students in CIS courses.

4:00 – 4:45 – Students

- Real world experiences/emphasis, portfolios
- Flexibility of online courses
- Mentorship of faculty
- Productive faculty w/research
- Health and org. comm. Program
• ISC program; people come from many places to enroll
• Broad and unique range of majors compared to other colleges and universities
• Allows student-profess and student-advisor relationships to flourish because of small population
• Faculty/staff/advisors genuinely care about the well-being and success of students in/out of classroom
• Students develop soft skills – an important and overlooked skillset for success
• Opportunities for undergrad and grad research – research assistants and independent studies

SOAR Analysis Feedback for:
Tuesday November 19, 2019

8:00 – 9:00 / External Partners

• Engage faculty and Alumni base throughout
• Great partnerships (example: WUKY/WRFL)
• Good internship base / starting point
• Opportunity for students – coops/internship
• Faculty expertise / put students first
• Alumni – Reach back, support the college with friends
• New Dean / Leadership
• Have plan to raise money
• Advisory Council / committed
• Willingness to have environment of continued improvement
• Faculty – build relationships with students, connected to business community, passionate international educators
• Students: Award winning
• Hands on learning – opportunities outside classroom
• Versatility of degree – prepare for multiple jobs
• Growing college
9:30 – 10:45 OPEN

Group Faculty / Faculty

- Teaching student centered – smaller classes, quality, online
- Reputation: Library, Journalism (Dept & Building), Health Comm
- Research: Quality, Grants, Quality
- People: faculty, staff, students
- Flagship University Quality, visibility and Achievements of our students
- Quality, visibility, and achievements of our students
- Applied research of programs that address community/region/state/national and international
- Strong alumni and professional communities
- Diverse interest and course offerings including study abroad
- Combination of disciplines housed under one college
- Research excellence (pockets of excellence, not universal)
- Value of teaching instruction (quality is high) Known faculty (nationally and internationally)
- Collegial environment (connections across units)
- Pockets of entrepreneurial ship / innovative opportunities
- Good citizens of the university (partnership across the university)

Staff / Alumni

- Caring staff/faculty, diverse, empathetic
- Variety of student options
- Amazing students
- Student services

Students – (Undergrad and Graduate)

- Cater to different student interest
- Helpful and not competitive (at least with each other)
- First-year composition and communication courses
- Internship and networking opportunities
- TA training (instructional communication perspective)