

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)