Day 3: Did you know how CMU prioritizes resource allocations?


CMU allocates its new and existing resources in a manner that advances the University's mission and strategic priorities. It does so while keeping tuition and fees affordable to provide an accessible post-secondary experience for students.

The CMU Strategic Plan 2020 articulates the University’s mission, assumptions, values, and goals that serve as the context for annual budget planning activities. As part of annual budget development, all departments are required to provide a narrative that describes how the request contributes to meeting one or more of the strategic goals, thereby keeping the focus on the institution’s priorities. Additionally, a series of guiding principles are established each year to maintain focus aligning limited resources with the strategic goals and priorities of the University.

As directed by its mission statement, CMU places the highest priority on the education and support of its students. That the University has increased its funding considerably for faculty, particularly those with full-time appointments, aligns with its mission and priorities. This is clearly seen in the facts, measured by increases in salaries and full-time equivalent positions (FTEs) between FY 2012-13 and FY 2016-17, for:

- **instruction** (total faculty) - 25.0% for salaries, 6.9% for FTEFs;
- **academic support** - 40.0% for salaries, 31.8% for FTEFs;
- **instructional support** - 30.0% for salaries, 10.6% for FTEFs; and
- **student services** - 44.9% for salaries, 30.8% for FTEFs.

Similarly, consistent with its mission and its priority on access, CMU has significantly expanded its institutional commitment to scholarships/fellowships by 72.3% since FY 2012-13. By FY 2016-17, that allocation had grown to $14.8 million.

To learn more, log into MAVzone and click on the document link found in the CMU Assurance Argument for HLC channel (top left on the Home tab) for the full text of CMU’s Assurance Argument. Links to supporting evidence are identified by underlined words but are not available through the PDF version.

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