

Tarleton State University

**Strategic Plan
1999-2003**

Tarleton State University

VISION

Creating a Culture of Excellence for our Students

MISSION

The mission of Tarleton State University is to provide an academically challenging educational experience through effective teaching, scholarship, research, and service which enables students to pursue truth and acquire understanding, knowledge, and skills necessary for establishing successful careers and becoming responsible citizens and leaders.

PURPOSE AND ROLE

Tarleton State University is a regional, comprehensive university. Created in 1899, Tarleton provides educational programs which emphasize teaching excellence and service for students. The University functions as an educational, scientific, and cultural center for north-central Texas. While the primary emphasis is on teaching and excellence in the classroom, Tarleton is totally committed to expanding roles in research and service.

Tarleton, as a public university, is sensitive and responsive to the needs of the students it serves. Learning and the pursuit of truth are fostered in a culture of excellence which enables students to acquire knowledge, understanding, skills, and cultural experiences necessary to grow as individuals, achieve successful careers, and become responsible citizens and leaders. While offering a wide variety of professional and pre-professional undergraduate programs and graduate degrees in selected disciplines, Tarleton requires of all students a well-defined and thorough foundation in the liberal arts.

Tarleton expects its talented, dedicated faculty to achieve excellence in teaching, advising, and serving the individual student. Accordingly, the university recruits faculty and provides development programs to achieve this excellence. The university staff provides a variety of student services and professional expertise focused on enhancement of the student experience.

The University meets its public service leadership responsibility by enhancing the intellectual, cultural, and economic life of the region through an array of community education programs, numerous sponsored events, and the sharing of facilities and professional assistance.

Providing a campus culture of acceptance and friendliness, Tarleton welcomes individuals into the university community without regard to race, gender, conditions of disability, or national origin. While historically serving a regional student body, the University recognizes a growing state, national, and international representation on campus. Stressing equality and fairness, Tarleton pledges to continue meeting the educational needs of a changing society and an expanding world.

PHILOSOPHY

Tarleton State University is committed to carrying out its mission through outstanding teaching, concern for the individual, dedication to scholarship, creative contributions, and service by faculty, staff, and students. Tarleton will work to benefit the students and the citizens of the state by emphasizing in all of its programs and services the qualities of accessibility.

AGENCY GOALS

Tarleton has designed its university-wide goals with core values and defining principles in mind.

The university's core values are to:

- Insist upon mutual respect,
- Require intellectual integrity,
- Be dedicated to academic and institutional excellence,
- Cherish an atmosphere of independent thought and open discussion,
- Be committed to continual improvement, and
- Strive to work cooperatively and collaboratively.

Defining principles of Tarleton are to be:

- Affordable,
- Accountable,
- Accessible,
- Equitable,
- Efficient,
- Effective, and
- Inclusive.

In order to implement these core values and principles, Tarleton has identified the following broad-based goals. These goals are to be used by divisions and departments to create more concrete, but related goals for their areas.

GOALS

- A. EXCELLENCE IN SCHOLARSHIP AND LEARNING** - Tarleton will ensure that its students have an educational experience of excellence that will result in their becoming knowledgeable and productive citizens.
- B. STUDENT SERVICES AND CAMPUS LIFE** - Tarleton will create a friendly and caring campus culture that supports student scholarship, learning, and development in all aspects of university life.
- C. ACCESS, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION** - Tarleton will respond effectively, and with fairness, to the needs of all qualified students who represent a changing population in the State of Texas and in a diverse, global community.
- D. LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT** - Tarleton will graduate students who are committed to the improvement of society through their leadership and service.
- E. INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT** - Tarleton will secure additional funding sources, including private donations and federal and state grants, to help meet its needs and goals.

- F. PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES** - Tarleton will effectively manage its personnel, and its financial, physical and library resources to ensure outstanding academic programs and to provide a campus culture that is conducive to the pursuit of scholarship and excellence in learning.
- G. EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY** - Tarleton will incorporate electronic and communication technology in the library and throughout the university so that scholarship, teaching, research, outreach activities, and student services are current and effective.
- H. HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES** - Tarleton State University will establish and carry out policies governing purchasing and public works contracting that foster meaningful and substantive inclusion of historically underutilized business.