### Vision for Graduate Studies and Research at WOU

### Raj Dakshinamurthy

"The role of a creative leader is not to have all the ideas; it's to create a culture where everyone can have ideas and feel that they're valued."- Sir Ken Robinson

# Challenges in Higher Education



Graduate Education and Research Mantra: "Learn more, Earn More"

### Recruitment

- Demographics shift
  - 1/3 Nontraditional students
  - Underserved communities
  - International students
- Changing job market
  - Hands-on experience
  - Accelerated programs
- Effective marketing

### Challenges in Graduate Education



### WOU Challenges in Graduate Education

#### **Program structure**

- The right programs for today's learners
- Financial sustainability
- Embracing multidisciplinary approach

#### **Student support**

- Admission decisions
- Career support
- Hands-on research experience

### WOU Opportunities in Graduate Education

#### Strategic vision

 Forward, Together: Strategic Enrolment Management Plan for 2017-2023

#### **Student support**

 Revenue generating graduate assistantships

#### Ready to grow

- Room for immediate 10% growth
- 3+2/4+1/Accelerated
- Research intensive

#### **Diversity**

Students from all states and countries

## WOU Opportunities in Graduate Education: Diversity

#### Powers innovative evolution

- Recruiting materials
- Partnerships

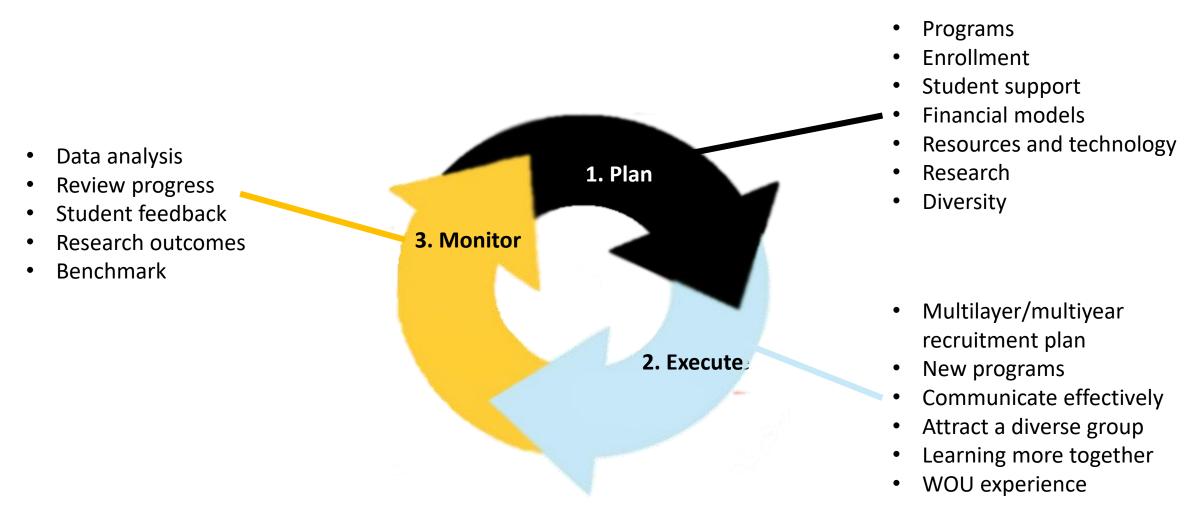
#### **Existing strength**

Commitment to underserved countries



"Continue to increase our outreach and engagement with prospective and admitted students"

### WOU Opportunities in Graduate Education



"We cannot rest, and we have to continue to talk about the value of WOU experience and what we can provide students"

### WOU Challenges in Research

#### **Resource Management**

- Scarcity
- Increasing costs

#### Complexity

- Many disciplines
- Compliance

#### **Relationship Building**

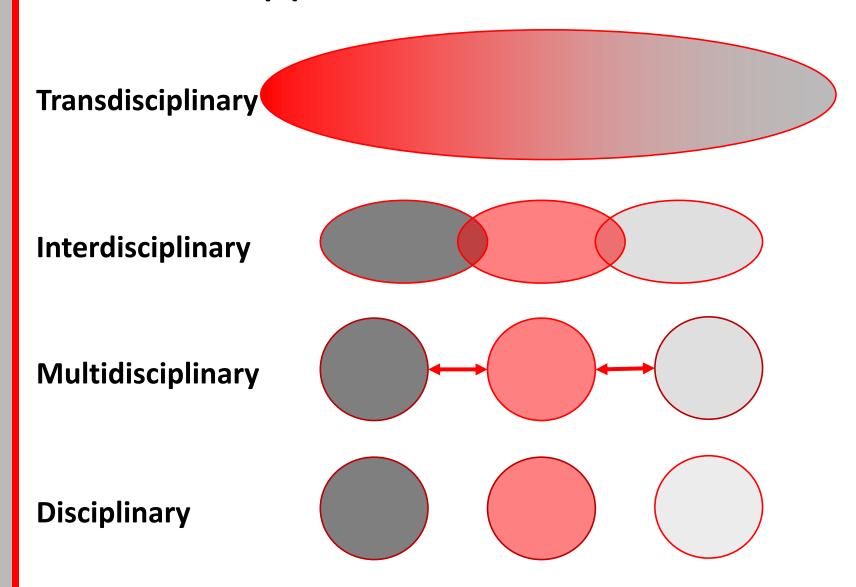
- Strategic decision making
- Competitive nature when facing resource scarcity
- Collaboration in national and international innovation
- Transdisciplinary research communities

"Academic research would be more successful if the complexities, challenges and value of research administration and program development were more widely understood by campus administrators and faculty."

# Student success grant opportunities

- Build communities in academics to increase incentives and decrease barriers for collaboration
- Dependent up on scalable, agile research and administrative support
- Potential for innovation

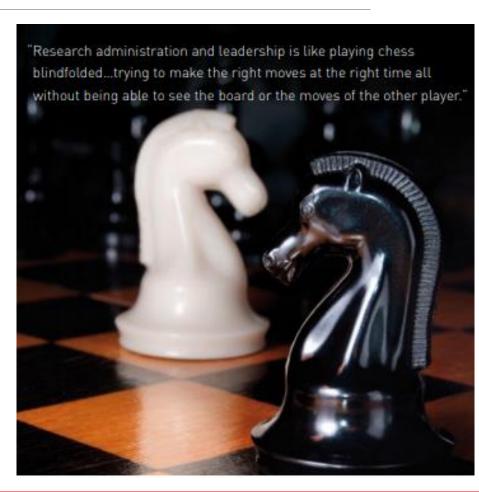
### WOU Opportunities in Research



### WOU Opportunities in Research

#### **Active Research Culture**

- Advance research, scholarly and creative activity
- Funding opportunity initiatives
  - Funding database
- Grant writing workshops
- Grant preparation checklist
- Budget
- Role of Office of Research



### WOU Opportunities in Research

#### **Research support**

- Communicating value
- Coalition building
- Help faculty achieve their research ambitions
- Build networks and partnerships

#### **Integrated programs**

- Cross-disciplinary thinkers
- Faculty, staff, and students are key!

### WOU Opportunities in Research

#### **Synergy**

- Part of the University's vision for a culture of innovation
- Strong marketing and recruitment source

Helps us understand and develop need-based curriculums

#### **Promotes and supports WOU constituents**

#### **Relationship building**

Collaboration

## Leadership & Collegiality

#### **Personal Strengths:**

- Proactive engagement
- Positive interference
- Integrity
- Honesty
- Transparency

#### Listening:

- Facts
- Opinions
- Impact
- Change

"We cannot rest, and we have to continue to talk about the value of WOU experience and what we can provide students"