Summary of Major Outcomes of the 2008 Strategic Plan
Emergence as a National Research University

Mercer has been reclassified as a research university, with a near doubling of annual NSF research expenditures, investment of $60 million in research facilities, admission into the Georgia Research Alliance, and ranking among the top tier of national research universities.
Student Achievement

Students are achieving more than ever as Mercer becomes a leading producer of Goldwater Scholars, Fulbright Scholars, Woodrow Wilson Fellows, and Peace Corps appointees. Students have more opportunities by virtue of Mercer’s admission into Phi Beta Kappa and the Churchill Scholars Program. Retention rates now approach 89 percent.
Health Sciences

Mercer established the Academic Health Sciences Center, including a new College of Health Professions, a four-year School of Medicine campus in Savannah, a two-year clinical campus in Columbus, and more than 100 new residency slots in Macon in partnership with HCA.
Enrollment Growth and Academic Quality

Mercer has experienced surging enrollment growth of 41 percent in the Macon undergraduate program, while improving the academic profile of our entering class from the 78th to the 90th percentile.
Macon Campus Transformation

Mercer has transformed the appearance and functionality of the campus in Macon, with approximately $200 million in new and renovated facilities.
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Reinterpreted Our Heritage

We reinterpreted our heritage to inspire and empower our students to lives of service and meaning and to meet the needs of a 21st century global community through the Mercer On Mission program.
Centers of Excellence

Academic programs have become nationally recognized centers of excellence, including, among others, the Robert McDuffie Center for Strings, the Center for Drug Delivery Research, the Spencer B. King, Jr. Center for Southern Studies, the Center for Theology and Public Life, the Center for Collaborative Journalism, and the Center for Rural Health Disparities, which recently received the Center of Excellence designation from the NIH.
Raising Mercer’s Profile Through Athletics

Mercer has exploited the University’s status as the only private NCAA Division I athletic program in Georgia to raise the profile of the institution and build community among Mercer constituents.
Community Engagement

Mercer has been successful in efforts to revitalize Macon by attracting tens of millions in investment in Macon’s urban core and engaging thousands of Mercer students, resulting in national and international recognition for community engagement.
Financial Strength

Mercer has added to the financial strength of the University with annual operating surpluses and by doubling the endowment to nearly $340 million.