5.S - Criterion 5 - Summary

The institution’s resources, structures, and processes are sufficient to fulfill its mission, improve the quality of its educational offerings, and respond to future challenges and opportunities. The institution plans for the future.

Summary

CWRU has the human and financial resources as well as the physical and technological infrastructure resources to carry out its mission properly. The university employs sufficient numbers of well-qualified faculty and staff members to deliver the academic programs. The prioritization and allocation of university resources is consistent with the principle that educational purpose is of highest importance at CWRU. About one-third of CWRU's annual budget is allocated for instructional costs, and about one-fourth of the operating expenses are associated with support services or auxiliaries. Multiple faculty committees review and advise the university on budgetary expenditures. Planning processes that involve decisions about future resource prioritization and allocations are based on information and input obtained from across the institution.

CWRU's administrative structures enable effective leadership so that the university can carry out all parts of its mission. At the highest level, the CWRU Board of Trustees provides effective oversight of the university’s policies and operations by maintaining up-to-date knowledge about the university. The faculty of the university, organized as specified in the Constitution of the University Faculty, represented by the Faculty Senate, and empowered according to the provisions of the Faculty Handbook, provides effective governance of academic matters, and works closely with the CWRU administration to inform decision making and advance university priorities. Staff members have a direct voice in the collaborative planning processes through the Staff Advisory Council. Students have seats on many Faculty Senate committees and have a voice in institutional planning through student government bodies.

Systematic, evidence-based planning occurs at multiple levels across the university. The planning processes (and the resulting priorities for resource allocations) are linked through their alignment to the university's mission and priorities. CWRU utilizes ongoing evaluation and assessment processes to inform decision making, and systems of committees and governance processes are used to solicit broad input from within and outside of the university. CWRU’s planning processes also consider the potential impact of external factors that may influence the quality of the university’s academic programs and operations, which provides the opportunity for the university to take actions that may mitigate potential negative consequences of these external factors.

The university regularly monitors its operations and documents their performance. CWRU’s Office of Planning and Institutional Research supports and facilitates the university's decision-making and planning processes. The Institutional Research office is a resource for conducting studies and analyses of university policies and operations, and provides data and reports to inform the planning and decision-making processes that occur across the institution. Several examples of how the university made improvements to its operations on the basis of these assessment processes were presented in the Assurance Argument for core component 5.D.

Sources
There are no sources.