Announced five-year plan to dedicate $400 million to lowering the cost and improving the value of an Ohio State education, including $100 million in need-based aid for students.

Launched the University Institute for Teaching and Learning, dedicated to exploring and creating national best practices in the classroom.

Became a founding university of the American Talent Initiative to significantly increase the number of low- and moderate-income students on college campuses.

Invested $35 million in affordability grants for Ohioans (in 2015-16, grants helped 12,000 students; in 2016-17, grants support an estimated 15,700, including 3,000 on regional campuses).

Initiated comprehensive cost freeze, the first of its kind in at least 40 years; included tuition for Ohio undergraduates and room and board on the Columbus campus for 2015-16 — and has been extended to 2016-17.

Lowered summer tuition by 25 percent, projected to save students $1.7 million in 2017.

Invested $15 million in new faculty hiring to address food security, bringing Ohio State’s commitment to this issue to nearly $125 million over the next decade.

State tours in 2016 in southwestern and northeastern Ohio highlighted the university’s efforts and partnerships focused on college access and affordability, diversity and inclusive excellence, food security, cancer research and more.

Convened inaugural Buckeye Summit with focus on food security — engaging hundreds of alumni, community leaders, faculty, staff and students to harness the power of Buckeye Nation for change.

Created the President’s Prize — the highest recognition Ohio State bestows on exceptional students committed to social change; awards graduating seniors up to $100,000 to support projects with meaningful impacts for society.

Serves as the lead research partner in the Smart City Challenge, an unprecedented $140 million program in which Columbus beat out 77 cities across the nation to help develop model innovative transportation strategies.

Welcomed the most diverse and talented freshman class in Ohio State history at the start of 2016-17 following a record-setting number of applications; the number of incoming minority students on the Columbus campus increased by a record-high 11 percent.

Ranked in the top five nationally by The Education Trust for improving overall graduation rates and the graduation rates of underrepresented minority students.

Named among the “Best of the Best” colleges and universities nationally for LGBTQ students, according to Campus Pride; received the Legacy Honors Award for advancing the LGBTQ community in Columbus.

Dedicated to hiring inclusively through university-wide diversity training for search committees — including faculty hiring through Ohio State’s Discovery Themes.

Launched Buckeyes ACT (Action, Counseling, Training), a comprehensive plan to combat sexual misconduct and relationship violence on campus.

President Michael V. Drake helps lead a number of national groups whose work broadly aligns with the university’s vision and agenda: the American Talent Initiative, Association of American Universities, Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, University Innovation Alliance and National Collegiate Athletic Association.