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January 18, 2018 - From the President's Desk

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January 18, 2018 - From the President's Desk

Dear Campus Community,

Happy New Year and welcome to 2018! I hope you had time to rest and rejuvenate over the holidays and that your semester is off to a great start. I also hope you took time to pause and reflect on your many accomplishments and points of pride from 2017 and to consider your goals for the upcoming year.



As the year begins anew and as we enter our next 50 years as a university, now is the time to set our course and create our future. Work is well under way on our strategic planning, and a key phase of the process is about to begin.

Building upon our successes of the past and the excellence that abounds at Wright State University, we will develop together a strategic plan that realizes our best potential and links our past, present, and future. Most importantly, our strategic planning experience will enrich our shared and deepest sense of commitment and purpose and will help us discover and rekindle our connection to each other, the university, and the communities we serve.

Our new strategic plan will guide Wright State University into our next 50 years by creating a vision and focus that directly aligns resources with our values, our strengths, and the strategy we build around them. Our plan will put this university in a position to thrive in higher education's changing environment, help the university achieve financial sustainability, and foster a campus atmosphere that provides our graduates with opportunities to excel in fields that define the future.

In early December, university leaders held a strategic planning and process workshop with the Wright State University Board of Trustees that laid the foundation for our approach. Now it is time for our strategic planning committees to begin their critical work. Our goal is to deliver a strategic plan to the Board of Trustees by early October 2018 for approval.

Two committees will help lead our planning efforts: the Strategic Planning Steering Committee and the Program Effectiveness Review Committee. David Bright, chair of the Department of Management and International Business, and Michael Wiehe, director of the Applied Policy Research Institute, will work with me as leaders of the Strategic Planning Steering Committee. Craig Woolley, chief information officer, and Dan Krane, professor of biological sciences, will lead the Program Effectiveness Review Committee. More information on these processes and committee membership will be announced soon.

We will create our strategic plan through a systematic approach that will help us focus on what is important to the university and what we are best at. Strategic plans help organizations leverage their strengths to differentiate them from competitors and, in our case, to best serve our students and region. Through our strategic planning process we will explore statements that define our mission, vision, and values, while also spelling out in simple language Wright State's strategy.

Our planning process will provide numerous opportunities for campus community members and other stakeholders to participate and shape our plan. Many stakeholders will be involved in committees, task forces, focus groups, surveys, and workshops. Feedback will be incorporated throughout from groups as well as individuals. Please join us in boldly defining our future.

I encourage you to visit wright.edu/strategicplan to stay up to date with our planning process. As we have more

information to share, we will post it to that webpage.

I look forward to collaborating with all of you on a strategic plan that will utilize your talents and extraordinary capabilities to make the dreams of our Wright State family come true.

Warmest regards,

Cheryl B. Schrader, Ph.D.
President

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