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May 2, 2018 - From the President's Desk

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May 2, 2018 - From the President's Desk



Dear Campus Community,

Over the spring semester, we as a community have made great progress on Wright State University's strategic planning process, The Wright Path to 2025: Pride, Transformation, Potential. A new phase of work on our plan is poised to begin this summer, and we need your help. This message contains both information about how you can help and also a report on our progress thus far.

How you can help

During the summer, our Strategic Planning Steering Committee will facilitate Phase 2 of the planning process: the development of the strategic plan. The steering committee and other volunteers from the campus community will continue to seek feedback from stakeholders; revise the values, mission, and vision statements; and develop goals and objectives for each area of strategic focus. To do this work, we plan to hold six mini-summits and we want to invite you to get involved.

Our work so far has generated [15 sets of strategic initiatives](#). We invite you to consider joining a project team to focus on one of these. You would need to attend at least half of the mini-summit sessions planned this summer ([dates are available on the strategic planning website](#)) and contribute to your team as needed between each session. Through this work, you will help develop the strategic initiatives that will be incorporated into our strategic plan.

What to do if you want to volunteer

- [Read the strategic initiatives on our strategic planning website](#)
- Decide which initiatives you would like to join
- Email Michael Wiehe, co-chair of our steering committee, at michael.wiehe@wright.edu to let him know which group you want to join

I want to emphasize that this is the community's strategic plan. It does not belong to me or any individual. It is our plan. Your voice and ideas are welcome and needed. We will include as many people as possible in this process.

What we have accomplished

Throughout the spring semester, we carried out Phase 1, which focused on the values, vision, and mission. More than 300 faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community partners participated in our nine community dialogue sessions, while another 120 Wright State community members and partners took part in our stakeholder summit, where we developed potential areas of strategic focus for our university. And we concluded the semester with an open house to share and get feedback on potential mission and vision statements and our 15 strategic initiatives.

Throughout our process, community members have come together to share stories exemplifying moments of success and pride they or others have experienced at Wright State and to help develop potential areas for strategic action that could impact Wright State's future.

Members of our Strategic Planning Steering Committee have taken all the data gathered over the last three months and crafted draft mission and vision statements for the university.

Draft mission statement

Wright State University empowers all students and graduates to realize their fullest potential as innovative leaders and global citizens by integrating research, learning, and transformational experience.

Draft vision statement

Inspired by the spirit of the Wright brothers, Wright State University will be a leading national public research university known for innovation and application; respected for an inclusive culture; and recognized as an essential part of the economic, social, and intellectual fabric of the communities we serve.

Our values are the foundation for our mission and define the character we must demonstrate as we accomplish our mission. We have organized values into two categories:

Values that shape our mission

- Foster student success
- Discover, create, and share new knowledge
- Transform our world

Values that shape our mission provide perspective on the aspirations that define our fundamental purpose as a university.

Values that define our character

- Principled
- Visionary
- Innovative
- Collaborative
- Inclusive

Values that define our character represent our deepest aspirations for how we do our work and how we strive to treat one another.

Finally, the steering committee has developed five potential areas of strategic focus that will define the university's highest priorities. These areas will serve as a framework for further developing the strategic plan.

Areas of strategic focus

- Collaborative delivery of services
- Research, innovation, and entrepreneurship

- Strategic relationships and partnerships
- Teaching, learning, and programming
- The Wright State experience

[Please visit our strategic planning website](#) to read more about each of these areas, including descriptions of five areas of strategic focus and initiatives we could undertake to achieve these goals. After you read these resources, I encourage you to provide your thoughts through our [online feedback form](#).

Through the strategic planning process, the university is creating an ongoing dialogue that encourages continuous reflection and revision of the community's hopes and priorities. The process will not stop once we share the plan with our Board of Trustees in October. It will include metrics to measure its effectiveness, and we will revisit the plan repeatedly over the next seven years.

I hope this continuous planning process will help faculty, staff, and students engage with others across the university and with partners in the broader community in meaningful ways to shape both Wright State University's culture and future.

Warmest regards,

Cheryl B. Schrader, Ph.D.
President

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