



November 1, 2016

Dear Campus Community,

Over the past several months, the Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) has evaluated past university plans and its current mission to develop a new strategic framework and university mission that will carry Western Oregon University forward. The committee has worked both as a large group and in smaller focus groups to formulate the new mission, vision, values, and strategic plan. SPC members are charged with gathering input from other campus entities to ensure that many voices are heard in this important process. The October town hall meetings allowed the SPC to gather a wide range of feedback on the early draft and to use input to re-organize the format of the plan itself.

The SPC is developing a strategic plan that is supportive of our primary mission, which is to ensure a high degrees of student success. The revised mission:

Western Oregon University creates lasting opportunities for student success through  
transformative education and personalized support in a collaborative community.

The SPC envisions a campus where transformative education, personalized support, and a collaborative community create lasting opportunities for our graduates. Along with the mission, vision, values statement, these characteristics form the foundation for what we all work to achieve and what we hope all of our students experience at Western Oregon University. The goals of our strategic plan rests upon these foundational pillars. Moreover, each goal has a series of strategic initiatives and action items that can be measured and used for assessment of academic effectiveness and accreditation standards. Like any well-designed structure, the pillars support the overarching framework and provide space for goals and initiatives to be aligned to our greater purpose—ensuring student success.

Currently, the SPC writing team is working on revising the plan in a manner that will accurately represent WOU both internally and externally. The next revision will reflect the feedback and organize the elements of the plan into a cohesive framework that faculty, staff and students can use as a guide for decision-making. Ultimately, the plan must also reflect our values and demonstrate to the external world who we are as a university.

Looking ahead, SPC members will continue to communicate with campus groups and departments over the next few weeks about the strategic planning process and timeline. A community town hall is scheduled for November 16<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30 pm in the Pastega Conference Center in the Richard Woodcock Education Center. Another campus town is scheduled for November 29<sup>th</sup> from 3-4:30 pm, and more details on location will be sent later.

On behalf of the entire SPC, we look forward to the next steps in our work.

*Rex*

Rex Fuller  
President and Co-Chair SPC

*Laurie*

Laurie Burton  
Co-Chair SPC

**Strategic Planning Committee  
Office of the President**