

Planning Council Strategic Plan Priorities for FY23

Goal 1.1: Broaden access for underrepresented populations and increase academic success for all students through excellence in education

Planning Council members noted the uneven progress, and in some cases regress, on the metrics in this goal. Members urge all campus constituents to pay particular attention to meeting the educational, financial, social, and developmental needs of under-served student groups. While the pandemic has had an intensifying impact here, members note that our pre-pandemic work had not reliably resulted in minimizing opportunity gaps across student populations. Pre-existing demographic conditions coupled with the educational, health, economic, and social disruptions of the pandemic make this goal especially prominent, requiring effort now and for many years as we seek to recruit and educate a more diverse student body.

Goal 2.4: Elevate expectations for scholarship

Success on this goal is foundational to success across this Intentional Focus on scholarship with impact. Council members noted the need for institutional and individual investment in the work of scholarship – setting unit goals, seeking external support, disseminating scholarly products and finding support for more research faculty, staff, post-docs and students. Intensifying scholarly efforts has a direct impact on students, a key focal point of our discussions, through increased opportunities to independently create knowledge and art, work alongside faculty on cutting edge projects, and apply scholarly output in community and campus partnerships.

Goal 3.3: Foster a culture of collaboration, continuous improvement, and individual growth

Council members continue to emphasize our campus culture and climate as fundamental to success on the entire plan. They note there is urgency to this goal, as collaboration takes time to build and flourish. Members discussed broadening the opportunities for post-pandemic employee health and wellness development to students as well. Council also noted the follow-on planning activities in this area that had been delayed because of the pandemic response, and members urge us not to lose sight of the important work required to further ensure sustainability and inclusivity. Finally, citing rising housing costs in the area, members encourage continued and intensified investments in compensation.