

The Wright Path to 2025

Community Dialogue on Vision, Mission and Values

March 7, 2018 Summary

On March 7, 2018 a cross-section of Wright State University faculty, staff, students and community members gathered at the Montgomery County Business Solutions Center for a discussion of vision, mission and values to inform the University's new strategic plan. There were approximately 29 attendees. The session was facilitated by the strategic planning chairs Dr. David Bright and Mike Wiehe and attended by Wright State University's President Dr. Cheryl B. Schrader.

The meeting was divided into three main discussion topics, with topics one and two designed to elicit feelings on values and strengths, and topic three for vision of the future.

The attendees were given assigned seating at separate tables to ensure a diverse group at each table. Each person was given a handout on the topics with specific questions to reflect on and answer. Dr. Bright explained the session and had the attendees write down in quiet reflection their thoughts to the questions posed for the topics.

Then each table came together in a group discussion and were asked to explore the values and strengths their answers to the questions represent. Each table was given a marker and large piece of paper to create a list for 2-4 values and a list of strengths. They then reported out to the room. Their thoughts are listed below.

Topics 1 & 2

Values

- Courage to take risk (2)
- Trust
- Integrity
- Ethics
- Willingness to change (2)
- Collaboration (2)
- Listening
- Inclusion (2)
- Teamwork (2)
- Pride
- Access
- Commitment
- Empower
- Diversity
- Creativity
- Persistence
- Service
- Transformation
- Growth
- Investment in people and future (growth experience)
- Support for Students
- Commitment to students
- Partnerships
- Personal Touch
- Community (3)
 - Support from community
 - Serving the community
- Vision of Future
- Celebrations
- Access
- Creating efficiencies
- Strong curriculum (2)
 - Linking curriculum to employer needs
- Meeting the needs of students, families and community at large

Strengths

- Surrounding community support (3)
 - Cultivate community partnerships
 - Strong community connections
- Strong administration leadership (2)
 - Committed leadership
- Faculty, staff, alumni, community
- Dedicated staff/faculty (2)
 - Committed faculty and staff – mentorship
- Educational investment from time and money
- Diversity – Inclusion
- Outreach – Customer focus (community and school), student success center
- Organizational capacity
- Willingness to try something new
 - Take risks
 - Take a chance on a student
- Diversity
 - People with disabilities
 - Broadest perspective
- Service to others
 - BSOM in all health entities
 - Research involvement
- Students (3)
 - Providing relevant education to allow students to more effectively integrate into society (workforce)
 - Strong connections between students and faculty, advisor and other student support
- Strong collaboration between employees
- Balance of in and outside classroom
- Comfortable in its own skin
- Leveraging the expertise and experiences of all internal and external constituencies in the strategic planning process
- Breaking down the silos and aligning to a common vision
- The region
- Focus our core strengths

The attendees were also asked to relay stories they experienced that related to the vision and strengths they identified. Some of those stories were:

- Completed PhD at a golden age.
- Changed career from veterinary medicine to human medicine.
- Wright Leader Academy – leadership development and build relationships.
- Development of a new class to meet student needs/goals
- Educating students “where they are”
- College promise program – celebrating success
- Feedback from recent grads and employers about WSU’s academic preparation for job market, which validated WSU’s curriculum
- Consolidation of TV center, media services, and CTL. Consolidation of departments can have positive outcomes
- Developing the Wright Guarantee Tuition Program, which guarantees base tuition, room and board for 4 years

Topic 3

Vision – What is your vision of the future for Wright State?

Each table also reported a vision for the future that they were asked to incorporate the values and strengths they identified as well as a strong sense of pride, transformation, and potential.

- Integrate the real world into WSU
- Transform health care in the community
- Knowledge network
- Integrate with Wright Patterson and defense industry
- Purpose: access to quality and affordable education to educate students and prepare a strong workforce
- WSU nears 60% graduation rate
- WSU commits to student academic success
- Encourage:
 - Service cooperatives – to share money in higher education and K-12
 - Student involvement in community development
 - Institutional involvement to improve community quality of life
 - Partner with community members to enrich the university
- Involve our graduates MORE!!!
 - Alum are everywhere in our community – let's capitalize on it
- Strengthen partnerships with local government
- Every employee assigned a student to guide, mentor, support
- Degree to a job/opportunity – 100% metric!
- Improve “WSU Brand” – everywhere
- Raise community collaboration to a strategic level
- Base resource allocation on the strategic plan
- A shared vision
- The right people
- Focus on students/grads
- Student centered decision making
- Align resources to support core strengths/programs
- Targeting and expanding outreach programs