

# **The Wright Path to 2025**

## **Community Dialogue on Vision, Mission and Values**

### **February 19, 2018 Summary**

On February 19, 2018 a cross-section of Wright State University faculty, staff, students and community members gathered at 2455 Presidential Drive for a discussion of vision, mission and values to inform the University's new strategic plan. There were approximately 21 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**

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|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Connectivity</li><li>• Student centered (5)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Student support</li><li>○ Preparing students for success beyond</li></ul></li><li>• Passion tied to a vision (2)</li><li>• Appreciation for difference</li><li>• Community building</li><li>• Perseverance (2)</li><li>• Overcoming adversity</li><li>• Innovation</li><li>• Creativity (2)</li><li>• Leadership (2)</li><li>• Inclusion</li><li>• Potential</li><li>• Empowerment (2)</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transformation</li><li>• Knowledge</li><li>• Growth</li><li>• Value the role we play in WSU potential being ambassadors</li><li>• Personal growth</li><li>• Teamwork</li><li>• Community improvement</li><li>• Quality Education</li><li>• Passion</li><li>• Self-confident</li><li>• Preparation</li><li>• Collaboration (2)</li><li>• Optimism</li><li>• Engagement</li><li>• Integrity</li></ul> |
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## Strengths

- People's time commitment
- Donated physical resources
- Relationships
- People who believe in the vision
- Leadership
- Stewardship
- Consider the pipeline of new students
- Linkage into the community
- Strong Community Partners (2)
- Good governance
- Resource projections
- Messaging strategically
- Faculty/curriculum
- Admin and staff support
- Money
- Passionate faculty and alumni
- Students who are risk takers
- An environment that fosters creativity, asking questions
- Support from RSP and Graduate School
- Great Academic Advisors

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

- Focus on students: student research projects that impact the community are points of pride
- The late 80s Nutter center development. The whole process of getting it developed, budgeted was a student driven endeavor. Since its development it is a hub for the community.
- Student led opening days this year- student leadership stepping up

## 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.

- Improve retention and grade rate
- Positive PR
- Incentivize faculty in co-curricular involvement outside their own department
- Instructors interested in teaching
- More engaged adult learners
- Positive vibe on campus- create a can do- happy "invisible tapestry" at WSU
- WSU is a college of choice
- Don't have missed opportunities
- Engage alumni
- Work hard to not let students fall through the cracks
- Marketing stories of success
- Make sure students know about all WSU offers
- Consider American Association of Universities
- Leverage resources
- Consider cost-sharing opportunities
- Sharing campus wide our successes, also regionally and nationally

- Highlight interesting “did you know” facts
- Explore all challenges as hidden opportunities
- Intentional messaging
- Adopt WSU branding identity
- Adopt STEAM v STEM
- Encourage debate with students
- Graduates have professional and life skills
- Professional skills respond to the real world
- WSU is # 1 choice
- Find a way to recognize we are all a part of a team
- Sit down and talk together instead of compete
- Find the intersections of our common goals/synergies (e.g. academics, student activities/organizations) (rather than compete)
- Improve systems, processes, technologies

### Closing

Finally, Dr. Bright asked the group their final thoughts. What are you feeling now in one word?

- Hopeful!
- Moving our strategy
- Challenged
- Students
- Reflective
- Thankful
- Enthusiasm
- Excitement
- Diversity –experiencing WSU in different ways
- Determination and passion
- Connectivity
- Optimistic
- Hope and gratitude
- Motivated
- Positive
- Leadership has to make good choices to make all of this happen- desire
- Impressed