

The Wright Path to 2025

Community Dialogue on Vision, Mission and Values

February 23, 2018 Summary

On February 23, 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 55 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

- Innovation (2)
- Professionalism
- Pride (4)
- Student growth (4)
 - Students chance to succeed
 - Student failure and success can help new students
 - Challenged students can inspire other students and staff
- Personal Development (3)
 - Investing in education and personal growth
 - Personal growth of staff and leadership
 - Staff education
- Forward thinking
- Contribution to community (4)
- Earning support from WSU and developing increased passion for WSU
- Compassion
- Sense of accomplishment
- Teamwork (2)
- Value of shared mission and vision
- Risk-Taking
- Creativity (2)
- Acceptance/Openness (2)
- Self-assurance
- Validation
- Collaboration (5)
- Supportive environment (2)
- Trust (2)
- Commitment (4)
- Cooperation (2)
- Respect others (2)
- Ethics/values

- Mentorship (2)
- Persistence (2)
- Leadership to vision
- Dedication (3)
 - Faculty, staff and student desire to succeed
- Caring

- Critical thinking
- Diversity
- Inclusion
- Shared Identity
- Experience
- Synergy

Strengths

- Problem identification
- Good library resources
- Students (5)
 - Need to support students
 - Student support
 - Free facility
 - Therapy
 - Jobs
 - Career advising
 - Academic advising
 - Fresh start policy with students
 - Desire as a group for student success
- Collaboration
- Trust
- Interdepartmental support
- Maintaining and extending local history of innovation
- Maintain and extend community resources for innovation and student success including coop program
- Good leadership (8)
 - Administration – open, supportive, listened, valued
 - Forward thinking leadership
 - Supportive Director and Department Chair
 - Leadership that supported risk-taking
 - Leadership with vision
 - Leadership inclusion and flexibility
 - Initial effort of leadership
- “Having the Wright people on the bus”
- Trust
- Institutional support and encouragement (2)

- Technology services
- Job availability
- Investment in people and new ideas
- Time
- Flexibility
- Benefits
- Diversity
- Think outside the box
- Team
- Top-down investment
- Faculty and staff to get the work done
- Human factor
- Community that hears peoples voices and ideas
- Leadership and funding to support/seed
 - Fund creative programming. Execution of how we serve our students
- Recognition of need
- Shared passion to succeed (students and faculty) (2)
- Tuition fee remissions for employees and mentors
- Financial backing (2)
 - Access to predictable financial resources
- Dedicated professional staff
- Faculty training/staff training (2)
- Service learning
- Mentoring
- Communication
- People
- Smaller university community
- Access: people/information/resources
- Relationship building – unexpected consequence

- Faculty accessibility and advise and flexible working with students
- Academic options – versatility
- Opportunity to be more creative
- Knocking down silos for staff – create synergy during difficult times

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

- Management open to fresh ideas, resulted in better team atmosphere.
- Seeing students that become success stories.
- Seeing reality of new doctoral program and watching that first class graduate.
- 2014 alumni program push that created a lasting sense of community among all stake holders
- Creation of veteran’s center.
- Move-in day.
- Mentorship encourages student success.
- Online Masters in education recognized as one of the top in the nation.
- Advising students who were having difficulty that ended up at Grad school at WSU.
- Student co-wrote book with faculty.
- Teaching an interdisciplinary course.

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.

- Ample faculty numbers
- Increased enrollment
- Importance of Liberal Arts
- Increased community engagement (5)
 - Inspire workforce relations with business community
 - Better marketing to the community
- Draw attention to different student and staff support resources
- WSU is the right size to maintain and extend student centric approach
- Focus on students (5)
 - Student success team for each student
 - Meeting our unique student needs with changes in
 - Curriculum
 - Course delivery
- Marketing opportunities at WSU
- Maximize each students opportunity
- Wright State supports their students through creativity, flexibility, and understanding
 - Allows students from varied backgrounds and life experiences to be successful
- Free flowing communication
- Increase graduation rate
- Increase experiential learning (2)
 - Experiential learning for all students paid/funded
- Research professional growth opportunities
- Measurable objectives

- Resources for objectives
- Prioritize
- Strategic plan based on where we are now!!!!
- Service to the entire range of educational needs in Raider country
- Innovation (2)
 - Innovation/discovery feeds the future
 - Innovation is who we are
- Own Wright Brothers/Wright family story as ours
- Invention or discovery that benefits humanity (scientific and non-scientific)
- Ability to create degree programs that meet regional needs (2)
 - Bridging gap between degree – jobs
- Increase staff and student diversity
- Solution finders of the future
- More opportunities for funding grad students
- Fiscal/fiduciary responsibility (2)
 - Fiscally responsible administration
- Encourage interdisciplinary studies (courses)
- Cultivating progressive leadership
- Staff tenure/pathway
- Open to creative change/growth
- Identity
- Market opportunities/activities to incoming students better
- Inclusiveness and recruitment with student, faculty and staff
- Community spaces all across campus (i.e. student studies, projects) (4)
 - Multidiscipline area “maker” space. Space for creativity, building things, build, share ideas. (fashion – wearable technology)
 - Faculty/student collaboration space
 - Better use/plans for unused space at WSU
- Collaboration between colleges and students