



Strategic Planning Committee

TENNESSEE TECH

Dear Colleagues,

In August 2017, President Oldham charged the strategic planning committee with honing a shared and impactful vision for Tennessee Tech. He challenged us to consider Tech's unique stature, key constituencies, core principles and foundational strengths as we chart our course through a dynamic and competitive environment. Rising to this challenge, a diverse team of faculty, staff and administrators set about their work with excitement, humility and a determination to obtain insight and integrate input from our stakeholders.

During the past six months, the 18-member committee has met regularly and engaged in dozens of interviews, small group discussions and forums. Our team has met with over 500 people including students, alumni, faculty, staff, board members and external constituents (including but not limited to community partners, business leaders, government officials and public school representatives). Discussions have taken place across our campus in college, departmental and unit meetings. Interactive sessions were held with the Faculty Senate, Deans' Council and one-on-one and small group conversations on and off campus. Stakeholders also chose to share input through the strategic planning website and emails to our members.

We are energized by the fact that so many people have shared their ideas. This remarkable level of participation has informed and strengthened the strategic plan. As importantly, this interaction is contributing to a common understanding of Tennessee Tech's aspirational future. While bold in its call to action, the strategic plan is true to our core principles and leverages our strengths to serve students, communities and employers.

On September 21, we reached out for input and shared the strategic planning website. On December 8, we provided an update for the Board of Trustees and again asked for input. Today, it is our privilege to share our progress and continue seeking your advice and counsel as we complete the plan. We are committed to making the university's strategic plan your strategic plan; so, please continue to engage and share your thoughts.

At this point, we are sharing goals and priority actions. We have yet to develop tactics and metrics. As we complete our charge to design a clear vision and cohesive plan for Tennessee Tech, we need to remember that this is a living document – one that will evolve and provide flexibility as our needs, opportunities and contexts shift. More than a document, it is a tool to guide our actions, examine our progress and measure our success.

Thank you for your participation in this important process and we look forward to your ideas, questions and continued interaction. Please visit www.tntech.edu/strategic or contact us directly.

Thomas Payne, Dean, College of Business
Lisa Zagumny, Dean, College of Education



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Strategic Planning Discussion



Strategic Planning in Action

- 10 Steering Committee meetings have been held to date.
- Engaged face-to-face with more than 400 campus and community members.
- Received input from about 30 online or electronically.
- Representation from more than 25 specific areas.
- Interacted with students, academic units, deans, faculty, administrative offices, parents, community and state leaders, and employers.
- Engagements will continue and there will be opportunities to be re-engaged with updates for those who have already participated.



Mission, Vision and Principles

Tech's Mission and Vision

Mission Statement

Tennessee's technological university advances and applies knowledge to expand individual opportunity and economic competitiveness. As a STEM-infused institution, Tennessee Tech delivers enduring education, impactful research and collaborative service.

Vision Statement

Tennessee Tech will achieve national prominence and impact through its engaged faculty and career-ready graduates known for their creativity, tenacity and analytical approach to problem solving.



Tech's Core Principles

- **Student Success**
- **Value Creation**
- **Innovation**
- **Genuine Community**
- **Academic Excellence**



Strategic Goals

Education for Life
Innovate in All We Do
Unparalleled Stewardship
Engagement for Impact

Strategic Goal: Education for Life

Tennessee Tech provides education that unleashes the potential and passion within our students and prepares them for successful careers and meaningful lives. TTU also provides educational opportunities, programs, credentials and degrees to fuel the lifelong learning necessary for enduring achievement.



Education for Life | Priority Actions

- All Tech undergraduate students will complete multiple experiential learning opportunities.
- Create a Tech-unique general education core to provide the foundation for technologically adept, analytically capable, career-ready graduates.
- Develop/grow programs that emphasize diversity, global relevance, international travel, hosting, study abroad, immersive engagement, etc.
- Develop innovative, stackable credentials and associated pathways to be responsive to employer needs and opportunities.



Strategic Goal: Innovate in All We Do

Tennessee Tech innovates in all we do, embracing and deploying our technological foundation in our education, research, service and stewardship.



Innovate in All We Do | Priority Actions

- Each college will develop and implement a technology-focused signature program.
- Increase research, scholarly activities, intellectual and creative contributions associated with university, college and departmental strategic priorities.
- Implement a business model with specific strategy, structure and resources to serve adult learners and offer online/hybrid delivery systems to increase accessibility, expand our reach and enhance our opportunity for impact.
- Create a model to recruit, hire, retain and reward a diverse faculty/staff who value collaboration, external engagement and life-long learning.



Strategic Goal: Unparalleled Stewardship

Tennessee Tech is relentlessly focused on the effective deployment of our resources for optimal mission impact and return on investment for students.



Unparalleled Stewardship | Priority Actions

- Improve efficiency and effectiveness of operational/administrative processes and procedures.
- Initiate a pooled endowment fund to provide need-based scholarships and Tech-based internships to qualified Tennesseans.
- Continue to develop and implement a dynamic long-term financial model that informs effective financial management planning and consistent strategic investment.



Strategic Goal: Engagement for Impact

Tennessee Tech serves the region, state and nation by engaging with community, state, national and global partners for economic and workforce development, knowledge transfer and cultural impact; and increases partnerships with government, business and non-profit organizations.



Engagement for Impact | Priority Actions

- Inventory and examine existing partnerships to identify gaps and opportunities. Develop new strategically driven sustainable partnerships.
- Adapt or create academic programs, continuing education certificates and training activities responsive to economic needs of the state.
- Create and support a network of scholars to evaluate community engagement topics and opportunities for Tech to make a positive difference.
- Develop a comprehensive plan to increase alumni engagement.
- Support economic development to transform and sustain a thriving hub for innovation, creativity and employment opportunities.



Questions