

Strategic Plan 2030: Action Plan - Priority Activities - Year 1

Goal 1: Enhancing Academic Excellence and Preparing Graduates to Thrive in a Changing Economy

Objective 1. Offer degrees, certificates, and experiences designed for today and tomorrow

Strategy B. Develop flexible academic programs that ensure accessibility, inspire lifelong learning, and prepare graduates to meet the demands of the 21st century and the future needs of industry

Activity 1 - Inventory the courses and programs that are offered in alternative delivery formats, locations and/or times

Strategy E. Increase academic program offerings that accommodate working students, adult learners, and graduate student populations through delivery of online, evening and weekend courses

Activity 3 - Foster online course and program development

Objective 2. Develop educational foundations that strengthen student learning

Strategy B. Guide undeclared students toward academic pathways that match their aspirations and abilities

Activity 2 - Develop clear paths that assist students in selecting a major

Strategy D. Collaborate with community college partners to improve transfer students' consistency of skills and learning outcomes

Activity 1 - Collaborate with community colleges to ensure transfer students are prepared to excel in future endeavors

Objective 3. Promote a student-centered environment to ensure success

Strategy A. Improve advising such that all undergraduate students are regularly and consistently advised according to their academic and their career aspirations

Activity 3 - Provide faculty workshops through the Center for Teaching and Faculty Development to enhance advising

Objective 4. Recognize faculty as pillars of knowledge

Strategy B. Recruit and retain a diverse faculty who think boldly and innovatively to address the challenges of the 21st century

Activity 6 - Highlight faculty successes that demonstrate inclusivity, innovation, and creativity

Objective 5. Drive academic transformation through innovation

Strategy B. Expand the offerings of the Center for Teaching and Faculty Development, fostering innovative pedagogical approaches that support the success of the diverse students of Connecticut

Activity 5 - Encourage and share classroom innovation amongst faculty

Goal 2: Increasing Access to Higher Education and Ensuring Student Success

Objective 1. Develop a culture of accessibility

Strategy A. Make Central a "student-ready" institution to meet the needs of the incoming 21st century students

Activity 8 - Identify and implement a multi-functional smart-phone app to improve communication with students and enhance their Central experience

Strategy B. Develop innovative marketing strategies to attract new and diverse incoming student populations

Activity 4 - Ensure website is easy to navigate with relevant information

Objective 2. Facilitate student success in the college environment

Strategy C. Provide students with supplemental academic support in and out of the classroom

Activity 1 - Fully embrace Early Alert

Strategy E. Educate students and families regarding financial resources and support

Activity 2 - Provide financial literacy training to students and families as they navigate the admission process, as well as progression to degree

Objective 3. Prepare students for career readiness and future success

Strategy B. Engage students in career discussions from day one

Activity 2 - Build upon existing career exploration activities by capitalizing on the expertise of faculty and future employers

Strategy E. Increase alumni involvement in career preparation and student mentorship through the development of career events and workshops.

Activity 2 - Invite alumni to participate in career path lecture series

Objective 4. Provide accessible and relevant graduate education

Strategy A. Increase responsiveness to evolving trends in graduate studies leading to careers in the public and private sector

Activity 1 - Work with Department of Labor to determine graduate programs that are or will be in high demand regionally and nationally

Goal 3: Foster an Inclusive and Safe Campus Culture that Values and Encourages Individuals to Participate in a Free and Respectful Exchange of Ideas

Objective 1. Welcome and engage a diverse community of students, faculty and staff

Strategy E. Enhance the efforts of departments, schools and colleges, encouraging the development of specific actions to address their diversity priorities

Activity 2 - Create professional development opportunities for faculty to incorporate diversity initiatives and concepts into pedagogy, research and curriculum development

Objective 2. Integrate diversity into the curriculum, pedagogical methods, professional development and co-curricular activities that contribute to cultural competency

Strategy A. Develop innovative diversity models that inform the curriculum, pedagogy and advising

Activity 1 - Identify best practices associated with integrating diversity into the curriculum, advising and pedagogical approaches

Objective 3. Use data to inform and develop accountability measures in support of a diverse 21st century university

Strategy A. Identify and administer a series of campus climate surveys on a regular basis to inform tomorrow's academic directions

Activity 2 - Regularly administer the climate surveys to students, faculty and staff

Objective 4. Identify best practices that align with federal and state policies to increase safety both on and around campus

Strategy B. Continue to work with local and state authorities to ensure compliance with the most up-to-date campus safety measures and procedures, including completion of required safety training and emergency drills

Activity 3 - Maintain an Emergency Management Response Program that complies with the National Incident Management System (NIMS)

Objective 5. Enhance recognition of faculty and staff for their value and service to the institution.

Strategy A. Expand how service is valued in the evaluation and promotion guidelines to incorporate activities such as community engagement, advising, and committee assignments

Activity 1 - Develop a collaboration among AAUP, Faculty Senate, SUOAF, and administration to develop guidelines on valuing the service component of employee performance review and/or promotion

Goal 4: Strengthening Stewardship- Advancing Scholarship, Service Learning, and Community Development for the Public Good

Objective 1. Foster partnerships that contribute to societal improvements

Strategy A. Expand mutually beneficial partnerships with community organizations, local government, alumni, industry, and employers

Activity 2 - Inventory and assess current community engagement activities to establish a baseline for planning

Objective 2. Institute a framework that promotes and strengthens community engagement and partnerships

Strategy A. Reengineer the Office of Community Engagement and develop a more comprehensive mission and organizational framework, building on the work of the Faculty Senate Community Engagement Committee

Activity 2 - Establish and implement documentation procedures consistent with the Carnegie application

Objective 3. Develop seamless communication and exchange of knowledge and resources for the public good

Strategy D. Dedicate University resources to adequately support economic development in the region and state

Activity 1 - Create a think-tank with members from CCSU and community and business community to identify areas of opportunity for engagement and investment by the University

Objective 4. Create innovative community connections to inspire the integration of teaching, learning, scholarship and service

Strategy C. Align community engagement activities with the curriculum while leveraging the resources available in Institutional Advancement

Activity 2 - Leverage the resources available in Institutional Advancement to support community engagement activities

Goal 5: Assuring Sustainability for the Future

Objective 1. Cultivate an entrepreneurial culture in support of academic excellence

Strategy A. Capitalize on existing policies and practices to expand high-demand educational courses and programs in alternative ways

Activity 2 - Expand the number of existing academic programs that can be offered either hybrid or online

Objective 2. Exercise thoughtful stewardship of resources

Strategy A. Strengthen the thoughtful and innovative management of resources to improve affordability and contain costs

Activity 5- Streamline the paths to degree completion

Objective 3. Grow the CCSU endowment to facilitate access to higher education, student success, and faculty achievement

Strategy A. Complete the \$75M Capital Campaign

Activity 8 - Develop partnerships between departments to improve communication with alumni and potential donors in support of attracting gifts