

Truman Blueprint for Success:

Intentional Experiences.

Institutional Distinctiveness.

Extended Reach.

Organizational Excellence.

Truman State University Strategic Plan, 2016-2020

(approved by Board of Governors on October 21, 2016)

Our Vision: *Educating Students for the Benefit of All*

Truman will demonstrate its public liberal arts and sciences mission by developing educated citizens needed to protect our democracy and offer creative solutions to state, national and global problems. It will do so through transformative experiences that foster critical thought, daring imagination and empathetic understanding of human experiences at home and around the world. Truman graduates will be citizen-leaders committed to service; globally competitive; able to thrive in the complexities of an advanced, technical and multicultural world; and inspired to live healthy and meaningful lives.

Truman will act to preserve our democracy by:

- Ensuring access to an increasingly diverse student population while maintaining its commitment to academic excellence through recruitment and mentorship of students capable of succeeding in an academically challenging environment; and
- Expanding its reach to students who aspire to complete a Truman education, yet arrive through non-traditional paths.

Our Challenges and Opportunities:

Truman State University is committed to leading by example by providing a model education grounded in the liberal arts and sciences. The University is dedicated to our students' future personal and professional success through the practical application of knowledge.

In a time of declining state support, tuition caps, societal devaluation of the liberal arts, the disaggregation of higher education and increased competition, this strategic plan is the culmination of a 14-month campus-wide process designed to define the University's future in the context of this commitment (see Appendix A).

Through this strategic plan, Truman will elevate its distinctiveness, improve student engagement and retention, embrace inclusive excellence and instill the value of our educational mission by further embedding liberal learning and transformational learning outcomes into the curricular and co-curricular experiences of all our students. Achievement of these goals will equip our students to meet the demands of the 21st century and demonstrate that a liberal arts and sciences education prepares students for post-graduation success through meaningful and productive lives.

Our Priorities:

We are dedicated to a focused pursuit of our mission and will boldly address our challenges and opportunities through the following priorities and goals.

Intentional Experiences — Ensure all students are more fully engaged in their learning and discover their personal and professional purpose by providing intentional curricular and co-curricular opportunities that require the application of learning to real-world problems.

GOALS:

Embed high-impact experiences in the curriculum, ensuring that every student has at least one meaningful high-impact learning experience before graduating with a Truman degree.

Embed opportunities for transformational learning in all activities throughout the Truman Experience.

Create streamlined processes to encourage, support, and track high-impact experiences (both curricular and co-curricular).

Expand the Truman Portfolio to include submission and reflection on a routine basis and serve as the method of documentation and assessment for high-impact and transformational experiences both in and outside of the classroom.

Institutional Distinctiveness — Advance student learning and institutional distinctiveness through renewal of the Liberal Arts and Sciences curriculum.

GOALS:

Embed the liberal learning outcomes of a liberal arts and sciences education throughout the Truman curriculum.

Develop a two-semester sequence of seminars, integrating the essential skills of speaking, writing, digital fluency, and wellness, that serve as a broad introduction to the liberal arts and sciences, and better prepare students for the JINS seminar.

Reconfigure the Liberal Studies Program (LSP) to facilitate a change in curriculum that allows: greater student choice, accommodates the two new seminars, re-conceptualizes the distributional requirement, and adopts more broadly conceived dialogues.

Create a dynamic information discovery system to associate courses with themes and attributes, which students may use to navigate the LSP in a more coherent and satisfying way.

Extended Reach — Increase substantive learning experiences that serve societal needs by reaching students beyond the University's traditional borders.

GOALS:

Advance social uplift by expanding the opportunities for a liberal arts and sciences education to a wider array of students across Missouri, the nation, and the world.

Increase net revenue through the creation and implementation of innovative programs and delivery systems that attract and retain students.

Repurpose infrastructure and resources to facilitate development, approval, and implementation of new learning experiences and programs.

Organizational Excellence — Promote organizational excellence and solidify our strategic position by supporting a fiscally responsible, inclusive, sustainable, and healthy campus.

GOALS:

Remain a best-value university by reallocating resources (funding and staffing) to respond to changing technology, changing practices, changing characteristics of our student body, changing employment needs, and the requirements of staying current in our ever-changing disciplines and fields of specialization.

Strengthen the university's financial base, diversify resources, and wisely invest in initiatives that ensure long-term relevance.

Catalyze and sustain organizational change which reflects a deeper commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion, and which enhances accessibility and promotes excellence in all aspects of the Truman Experience.

Ensure that financial, environmental, and human concerns are considered through adherence to Truman's Sustainability Principles.

Support an environment and provide resources that promote physical, emotional and social wellness.