

The Plan for Academic Excellence (PAE)



WAKE FOREST
UNIVERSITY

***IN THE NEXT TEN YEARS, I SEE THE
WORLD GETTING BETTER /
GETTING WORSE***

***I THINK WAKE FOREST'S FUTURE
(NEXT 10 YEARS)
IS BRIGHT / NOT BRIGHT***

Charge from Provost Kersh

The goal of the PAE is to explore the challenges and opportunities inherent in providing an inclusive, transformative education that embraces our deepest-held institutional values in a higher education system undergoing profound change.

- **Major statement of our academic mission and programs** (present and future)
 - Take into account **the fast-shifting landscape of higher education**
 - Core element will be **future thinking/ future scenario planning**
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What PAE should be (and not be)

- **It should be:**
 - A future-oriented document
 - A conceptual framework for cross-collaborations
 - An inclusive narrative
 - An academic plan
 - **It should not be:**
 - A substitute for unit-level strategic plans
 - A plan for the non-academic activities
 - A document that summarizes routine academic operations
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Knowledge areas and Dimensions

Educating the whole person in the future	Betsy Barre
Teaching/learning	Betsy Barre
Honor & ethics	Michael Lamb
Access & affordability	Tom Benza
Study abroad	David Taylor
Experiential learning	Ron Wright
New educational offerings	Ellen Murphy
Online delivery	Gordon McCray
Non-degree offerings	Andrea Ellis
Cross-discipline offerings	Christina Soriano
Study away/lifelong learning	Rebecca Gill
Knowledge generation and sharing	Tony Marsh
Research/Scholarship/Performance	Keith Bonin
Community and partner engagement	Alana James
Library and digital resources	Mary Beth Locke
Our institutional culture in the future	Jill Crainshaw
Inclusion & belonging (students & colleagues)	Shonda Jones
The role of faculty in the future	Erica Still
Shared governance	Matthew Phillips
Faculty/staff development/continuous learning	Michelle Roehm

The Institute for the Future Methodology



THE FORESIGHT CYCLE



PREPARE

Become ready for foresight, insight, and action by preparing your mind and defining the future you care about. Develop cognitive flexibility and lay the groundwork for creative, interpretive forecasts. Return to these habits again and again to start a new cycle of engaging the future.



FORESIGHT

Foresight is the process of turning facts about the present into plausible, provocative, and logical views of the future. Foresight is a mindset that encompasses creative thinking about future possibilities and systematic analysis of patterns that affect change. Foresight tools help us sense change and communicate vision.



INSIGHT

Insight is a new way of thinking, the “aha!” moment when we begin to translate foresight into implications and choices. In the end, insights point us toward opportunities we can begin to pursue today and future threats we need to avoid.



ACTION

The last step of the cycle is action—choosing a clear and compelling way forward. With foresight and insight in hand, we are ready to act. Action tools help visualize, organize, and prioritize next steps, identify potential networks of change, and brainstorm new experiments to refine your strategic efforts.

Phase	Time	Key Steps
1	Nov 2019	Project Setup
2	Dec-Jan 2020	Sharing of Trends in HE
3	Feb 2020	Formulating Future Scenarios
4	Mar 2020	Deriving Principles & Values
5	Mar-Sept 2020	Strategy formulation & integration
6	Oct-Nov 2020	Preparation of Draft Plan
7	Dec 2020- Jan 2021	Presentation of Final Plan

- **In-person**
 - Information sessions (November 2019)
 - Sneak peek open house (February 20): all faculty/staff invited to review future foresight materials put together by committee/advisors and add to it
 - Input from first draft (TBD)
 - Wrap-up presentation (TBD)
 - **Dynamic website**
 - Overview information and committee
 - Progress reports
 - **Email: PAE@wfu.edu**
 - **University stakeholders**
 - Board of Trustees and Boards of Visitors
 - Cabinet, Deans' Council, University Faculty Senate, AP/VP
 - Faculty meetings, Campus Connections, SAC
 - Student focus groups
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Questions? Comments?

What trends should we pay
attention to?
