



## **Values**

There are universal values that underlie all behavior at Wichita State University. These include integrity

*Goal 1: Guarantee an applied learning or research experience for every student by each academic program.*

The purpose of this goal is to ensure that every student who graduates from Wichita State University experiences applied learning or translational research across all of their studies. This goal will be a condition of graduation rather than merely an opportunity. Applied learning and research will be infused throughout students' educational experiences. Real world experience (experiential learning) that allows students to develop and apply their skill sets will be incorporated into the curriculum of each academic unit. This goal is not achieved by simply offering a capstone course or a graduate project. It is not the sole responsibility of the Office of Cooperative Education and Work-Based Learning or some other program on campus. Rather it is the responsibility of each and every academic program to ensure that all students who come through their program apply their skill set in real world contexts. The achievement of this goal will look different in every program.

This may seem like an obstacle for some. It is not—it is an opportunity. It is an opportunity to change our way of thinking and achieve our vision of being the model for applied learning and research. It challenges us to move our academic programs from “in curriculum” to “designed by the student.”

The achievement of this goal will require:

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*Goal 4: Accelerate the discovery, creation, and transfer of new knowledge.*

The purpose of this goal is to increase the quantity and quality of research projects that advance knowledge, produce intellectual property, and result in the transfer of knowledge for practical application. No one knows what knowledge will be needed 50 years from now. We do know, however, that the creation of new knowledge and ideas is crucial to improving educational, cultural, and economic well-being for the state of Kansas and the greater public good. Research efforts that advance knowledge, enhance Wichita State University's reputation, attract funding, or lead to new products that benefit society will be developed, supported, and accelerated.

Connected to new knowledge discovery and creation is research that results in new inventions, innovations, and technologies that can, more immediately, be marketed. Research efforts that result in income from the transfer of knowledge for practical application as a consequence of innovations, new inventions, or creative use of existing technologies will be developed, supported, and accelerated.

The achievement of this goal will require:

- financial support of basic research projects.
- financial support of projects that transfer knowledge for practical application.
- allocated time for researchers and staff to devote to basic research projects.
- allocated time for researchers and staff to devote to projects that transfer knowledge for practical application.

Questions that need to be asked to achieve this goal include:

- Is our department engaging in or supporting research efforts that advance knowledge, enhance Wichita State University's reputation, attract funding, lead to new products that benefit society, or result in income from the

*Goal 5: Empower students to create a campus culture and experience that meets their changing needs.*

The intent of this goal is to create connections between students in ways that they want to connect. In other words, this goal means stepping away from dictating to students what they should want, or what we think they want, in a student experience. Rather, empower students to create a Wichita State University campus culture and experience where they want to come to class and then “hang-out.” They must be provided reasons to stay on campus. These reasons can come in the form of classroom experiences or other campus activities. The accomplishment of this goal will be the responsibility of every department (i.e., administrative, academic, support, and operational departments), rather than merely the responsibility of Student Life. Wichita State University will look less like a traditional commuter college and become a destination.

The achievement of this goal will require:

- creating enticing spaces for students, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- engaging students in conversations about their needs.
- providing a sense of empowerment to students.
- listening to students about their perceptions of safety issues on the Wichita State University campus and surrounding neighborhoods.
- providing resources and development opportunities for faculty, staff, and





positions but rather to get the existing administration committed to spearheading a fundamental culture change.

The achievement of this goal will require:

- reconfiguring the criteria for tenure and promotion to become transparent, consistent, and universal across colleges.
- rethinking how administrators are evaluated.
- rethinking how staff are evaluated.
- developing incentives and rewards for interdisciplinary work.
- rethinking who gets credit for teamwork and interdisciplinary approaches.
- increasing incentives for service.
- addressing pay inequities among departments.