

MISSION

Utah State University is one of the nation's premier student-centered land-grant and space-grant universities. We foster the principle that academics come first; we cultivate diversity of thought and culture; and we serve the public through learning, discovery, and engagement.

VISION

Utah State University, as a state-wide multi-campus system, will be internationally recognized for its exceptional learning opportunities and world-class research. We strive to achieve the highest level of excellence in learning, discovery, and engagement in an environment of trust and respect. We endeavor to expand educational access to a diverse community. We seek to enhance the quality of life for individuals and communities, by promoting arts and cultural programming, by working toward environmental sustainability, and by developing the technologies of tomorrow to drive economic development in Utah, as well as in the global marketplace.

CORE VALUES

Utah State University is committed to providing environments of opportunity that value:

Learning & Discovery. Utah State University is a thriving intellectual community achieving excellence in the pursuit of knowledge both through learning and inquiry. We believe that innovations in teaching and research provide students with opportunities for developing critical thinking skills and promote outstanding scholastic and creative achievement that will help ensure future success.

Individual Development. We accept each learner as unique and full of promise for intellectual and personal growth. We foster individual success and self-determination, and believe that educating the whole person builds character, promotes active involvement in the world, and produces better citizens.

Leadership. At all levels of the university, we value leadership built on trust, integrity, and civility.

Diversity. Appreciation of diversity of thought and expression is the foundation of a vibrant intellectual environment. We respect all persons, their differences, and the community they form.

Outreach and Access. As the State's land-grant university, we are committed to reaching across all communities and offering opportunities to all citizens. We value the connections that benefit and improve the quality of life for individuals, families, and communities and that invigorate the university.

USU GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

I. Undergraduate Education: Provide quality learning experiences that develop the intellectual capacity, leadership ability, and civic awareness of undergraduate students as citizen scholars.

1.1 Recruitment and Retention.

- a. Recruit a diverse population of students who will be successful.
- b. Ensure that every student has access to the educational and financial resources needed to succeed.

1.2 Student-Centered Learning Environment.

- a. Ensure that student's abilities in critical and creative thinking, communication, teamwork, and the use of technology improve as a result of their undergraduate experience.
- b. Enhance student-faculty interaction.
- c. Provide innovative opportunities for students to expand their experience and education.

1.3 Learning Infrastructure.

- a. Expand and improve the use of appropriate technology, both inside and outside the traditional classroom setting.
- b. Ensure that students have access to state-of-the-art classroom, laboratory, and library facilities.

1.4 Assessment. Ensure that each academic department has an ongoing and effective process for evaluating the extent to which students achieve the learning outcomes of its academic programs and for making changes in curriculum and pedagogy based on that information.

II. Graduate Education: Strengthen all graduate programs that build on university strengths and address critical societal needs.

2.1 Recruitment. Attract a diverse population of outstanding graduate students.

2.2 Financial Support. Provide competitive stipends, tuition waivers, and health benefits for qualified graduate students.

2.3 Discipline Mastery. Ensure that graduate students obtain focused and comprehensive knowledge in a specific field through classroom instruction, research, and other innovative educational experiences and venues.

2.4 Professional Development. Provide excellent professional development opportunities at the master's and doctoral levels, enabling our students to be highly successful in the marketplace.

2.5 Faculty and Facilities. Provide excellent faculty and facilities to sustain, enhance, and initiate graduate programs.

III. Discovery: Promote excellence in research, scholarship, and the creative and performing arts.

3.1 Collaboration. Encourage synergy and facilitate collaborative and cooperative efforts among scholars with interests in common problems.

3.2 Program Development. Promote targeted strategies to attract extramural funding and aggressively build university programs in proven and emerging areas.

3.3 Relevance. Encourage scholarship and partnerships to address pressing social, political, economic, and cultural issues.

3.4 Productivity. Develop strategies for continuous increases in the quantity and quality of research publications, proposals, and artistic and creative endeavors.

IV. Engagement: Enhance involvement in outreach and collaborative partnerships with the communities we serve.

4.1 Technology. Utilize and enhance current technologies to expand information, education, and research opportunities for a global society.

4.2 Partnerships. Strengthen and build on partnerships, both within and outside USU, to meet the needs of individuals, organizations, business, industry, local and state government, as well as the global market.

V. Economic and Social Impact: Improve the quality of life and economic opportunities for the citizens of Utah and the world through education, research, and the creative arts.

5.1 Transfer/Commercialization. Expedite technology transfer and the commercialization of intellectual properties created at Utah State University.

5.2 Local Economic Development and Quality of Life. Promote economic development and quality of life for the citizens of Utah through the expansion of new technologies and new businesses that minimize negative impacts on the state's unique environment while promoting economic opportunity, and by expanding the scope of the Innovation Campus.

5.3 Human Capital. Provide human capital to promote economic growth in Cache Valley and the State of Utah, and to strengthen the partnerships developed on national and international levels.

5.4 Social/Cultural Experiences. Increase social and cultural experiences through the arts, culture, and international diversity available at USU.

VI. Access: Expand educational opportunities for a diverse community.

- 6.1 Statewide Access. Expand educational programs statewide.
- 6.2 Financial Aid. Enhance need-based financial support for Utah State University students system-wide.
- 6.3 Diversity. Foster a campus culture that attracts, promotes, and supports a diverse university community in which to learn and work.
- 6.4 Non-Traditional Students. Expand outreach efforts/programs to non-traditional students.

VII. University Life: Ensure that the university is an exemplary place to learn and work and that it values diversity by creating an environment of civility, trust, and respect.

- 7.1 Faculty and Staff. Attract and retain a diverse population of outstanding faculty and staff.
- 7.2 Trust and Respect. Promote a university environment in which every person is treated fairly and with respect.
- 7.3 Communication. Create and support learning and working environments that value and encourage open, honest, candid, and civil communication.
- 7.4 Safety. Provide a safe and caring environment for all members of the university community.
- 7.5 Recognition. Provide incentives, rewards, and recognition for the achievements and contributions of all members of the university community.
- 7.6 Policies and Procedures. Foster university policies and procedures that are efficient and user friendly.

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