

From: [CWU President](#)
Subject: Evolution of Our Vision, Mission, Values
Date: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 8:23:45 AM
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TO: CWU Faculty, Staff, and Students
FROM: President Jim Wohlpart
DATE: Tuesday, March 18, 2025
RE: Evolution of Our Vision, Mission, Values

Dear CWU Community,

On May 20, 2022, after a two-year, communal process, the Board of Trustees approved Central Washington University's Vision and Mission statements. One year later, on July 21, 2023, they approved our new Values and Strategic Plan. The Vision, Mission, Values, and Strategic Plan are living documents meant to evolve to meet changing student and societal needs based on our own continued reflection and commitment to be a "model learning community."

With the issuance of the Department of Education (DOE) [Dear Colleague Letter \(DCL\) regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion](#) on February 14, 2025, we have been given the opportunity for a moment of reflection and continued learning. The DCL and subsequent [Frequently Asked Questions](#) provide insight into the approach that DOE intends to take in response to complaints filed with its Office of Civil Rights.

Washington state has long prohibited affirmative action, discrimination, and preferential treatment of any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in public education (RCW 49.60.400). While we remain confident that CWU's programs comply with state and federal anti-discrimination laws, the DCL and FAQs create an opportunity for us to reflect and to consider how we can evolve our work to live more fully into the heart and spirit of our vision.

To that end, we are convening a team to honor our commitment to be a "model learning community" and consider how we might evolve our Vision, Mission, and Values to elevate our work as an access-oriented institution for all students, with a focus on our unifying value of student success.

The team will provide recommendations to the Executive Leadership Team for review by April 7, 2025. After that review, the ELT will possibly provide further guidance or amendments to

their recommendations and determine how we will gather feedback regarding this work from our shared governance constituencies. Ultimately, the Board of Trustees has the final authority to approve any changes to our Vision, Mission, Values, and Strategic Plan.

The following individuals have agreed to serve on this team. They have been selected based on their work relating to student success or their role in shared governance leadership.

- Rodrigo Rentería-Valencia – Dean, Graduate Education, Research, and Strategic Initiatives
- Verónica Gómez-Vilchis – Interim Vice President, Student Engagement and Success
- Elvin Delgado – Associate Vice President, Faculty Relations
- Sigrid Davison – Associate Director, Diversity and Inclusivity
- Mal Stewman – Director, Diversity and Equity Center
- Josie Rollins – Chair, Employee Council
- Laura Brant-Hoefer – Chair, Exempt Employee Association
- Peter Klosterman – Chair, Faculty Senate
- Erin Craig Ricketson – Chair Elect, Academic Department Chairs Organization
- Rachel Kirk – Interim Dean, Arts and Humanities
- Malik Cantú – President, Associated Students of CWU

Please join me in thanking these individuals for their willingness to take on this important task. We will provide updates as this work progresses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. James Wohlpart". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

A. James Wohlpart
President