



CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Board of Trustees

July 20, 2017

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY-INFORMATION – CWU Mission, Vision, and Strategic Plan Core Themes (Handout 2)

Mission

The mission of Central Washington University is to prepare students for enlightened, responsible, and productive lives; to produce research, scholarship, and creative expression in the public interest; and to serve as a resource to the region and the state through effective stewardship of university resources.

Vision

Central Washington University (CWU) is a dynamic, creative, and inclusive environment that promotes engaged learning and scholarship. It is distinguished regionally for the rigor of its curriculum and scholarship, for the excellence of its pedagogy, for the vibrancy of its co-curricular and residential experiences, for its commitment to providing access to higher education, and for its efforts to advance the social and economic health of the region. It is typified by an entrepreneurial spirit that establishes it as a national leader in higher education. It has a strong commitment to engaged learning and scholarship, internationalism, sustainability, inclusiveness, and life-long learning.

Strategic Plan Core Themes

1. Teaching and Learning: Student success is the highest priority of the university, and achievement of programmatic student learning outcomes is the prime measure of that priority. CWU therefore works to provide its students with accessible, diverse, personalized, distinctive, and rigorous curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular programs. These programs are offered in small group settings typified by close working relationships between students, faculty, and staff. This commitment extends to all students, irrespective of location and modality of instruction. Institutional allocation of resources and organization of curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular opportunities must reflect this commitment to student success.

2. Inclusiveness and Diversity: CWU is committed to providing all faculty, staff, and students a diverse working and learning environment built on principles of respect, support and encouragement as a way to achieve individual and collaborative excellence. Changing demographic trends in the United States and the increasing globalization of economic, political, and social systems demand that students be prepared for working in a world in which diversity is the norm.

Research clearly indicates that learning is enhanced when students experience a diverse learning and living environment. It also suggests that faculty and staff are more innovative, entrepreneurial, and successful in an inclusive and diverse environment. Inclusiveness is achieved by providing a welcoming, supportive, and empowering environment that encourages individuals to express ideas and identities. A diversely rich community affords depth and dimension in personal and collective outcomes.

Diversity is multi-faceted. CWU's physical structure is diverse in location, providing rural, suburban, and urban settings. CWU's educational diversity is represented by the colleges; curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular programs available. Diversity in personal identity, culture, experience, and talent is of critical importance as evident in recruitment and retention efforts of students, faculty, and staff, as well as the contribution from special programs, speakers, and scholars that offer voice and representation to interests of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, ability, age, and political ideas.

3. Scholarship and Creative Expression: CWU is committed to the creation, dissemination, and preservation of knowledge through research, scholarship, and creative expression. Engagement in scholarly and creative expression activities adds benefit for students, the university, and local, regional, and global communities. These activities engage students, faculty, and staff in activities that expand knowledge of the natural and physical world, explore human behavior and culture in the past and present, develop organizational practices and technological innovations that support human and economic development, and improve the quality of life through cultural enrichment.

CWU places a high value on the full spectrum of scholarship and creative expression, including but not limited to basic and applied research, creative expression in all its forms, and the scholarship of teaching and learning.

4. Public Service and Community Engagement: As a publicly funded institution, CWU is committed to serve external communities for the mutually beneficial exchange of service, knowledge, and resources. Such engagement includes the appropriate use of university resources to support existing partnerships and engage new partners to contribute to the educational, social, and economic progress of external communities, especially those in Washington. Such activities, in addition to providing benefit to external communities, provide a rich array of opportunities for engaged learning and research.

5. Resource Development and Stewardship: CWU will sustain an environment that supports the mission of the university. Like the other four-year public universities in Washington, CWU must rely less on state financial support and more on revenues generated through its core operations and its auxiliary functions. In order to provide for the human resources, technological tools, and facilities needed to accomplish its mission, CWU must embrace entrepreneurial attitudes and systems. Given the mission, vision, and values embraced by CWU, it is clear that enrollment will play a major role in the financial health of the institution. Additionally, CWU must continue to develop comprehensive unit budgets that forecast revenues and expenses on a four to six year cycles.

Submitted:



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APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION TO THE BOARD:



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