



UNIVERSITY OF
ALBERTA

Implementing “For the Public Good”

General Faculties Council
September 26, 2016

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The Plan: For Public Good

Build
Experience
Excel
Engage
Sustain

Development of “For the Public Good”:

- Two rounds of consultations, each involving 30+ meetings: Campus forums, Round Tables on multiple campuses, student associations, faculty councils, university committees, Alumni Council, Senate, Board of Governors and many others
- In-person consultations with 1000+ people per round of consultation
- Online engagement and feedback with discussion paper and first draft
- Unanimous approval at GFC and BOG

**5-year vision:
How will the U of A
be different?**

The immediate next steps:

- 1. Prioritization:** Determine institutional-level priorities for the short, medium, and long-term, and assign responsibility for specific goals.

Initial planning:

President's Executive Committee—June 24

Senior Administrators Retreat—August 30-31

The immediate next steps:

- 2. Measures and Accountability:** Develop and implement a set a measures to monitor our progress on the goals of the plan.
- 3. Reporting Process:** Develop avenues for internal and external communication of progress.

Several modes of engagement with FPG:

1. **Specific leads:** Initiatives with an easily identified lead that will need widespread engagement for success
2. **Alignment:** Aligning unit plans across the institution with the FPG
3. **Complex objectives:** Initiatives that require institution-wide consensus, action, and accountability

Examples of specific leads:

BUILD

Obj 1: National Recruitment (RO-Lisa Collins)

Obj 6: U of A Story (Jacqui Tam)

EXPERIENCE

Obj 7&8: Graduate Student Professional Development
(Heather Zwicker)

Examples of alignment with FPG:

- Faculty of Nursing
- Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry
- Sustainability Plan
- GFC Review of Academic Governance

Examples of Complex Objectives:

BUILD

Obj 2: Faculty Renewal

Obj 4: Response to TRC, Indigenous Initiatives

EXPERIENCE

Obj 7&8: Experiential Learning

Obj 9: Multi-campus strategy

EXCEL

Obj 12: Signature Areas

Obj 15: Professional Development

ENGAGE

Obj 16: Community Engagement

Obj 17: Interdisciplinary Collaboration

Next steps for complex objectives:

- Establish cross-institution working groups that:
 - ✓ Have delineated scope to limit overlap or interference with other committees or working groups
 - ✓ Have deliverables, such as an inventory of existing initiatives, environmental scan, and identification of best practices
 - ✓ Have a timeline
 - ✓ Drive towards a coherent change or expansion plan
 - ✓ Have a clear planning or operations mandate
- Staged roll-out over time: groups either feed into or build from the work of others

Suggested Stage One Working Groups:

- Signature Areas
- Experiential Learning
- Community Engagement Strategy
- Multi-campus Strategy
- Professional Development
- Leadership Development

The findings of these groups would feed into future work

Signature Areas

Signature Areas: FPG Criteria

- National and international stature for excellence, relevance, and impact
- Critical mass—opportunity for broad, interdisciplinary engagement
- Grassroots leadership, participation, and support from within our university community
- Stakeholder partnerships
- Research partners (international, community, government, industry)
- Capacity to shape and align with federal and provincial research funding priorities
- Student demand
- Physical and operational capacity
- Geographic or situational relevance

Signature Areas: Why?

We need to.....

Signature Areas: Key benefits

- To maximize the U of A's capacity to effect change for the public good by tackling the big questions and challenges
- To generate new directions in an area of particular strength, ensuring research and teaching is continually renewed and raised to new levels
- To invigorate research and teaching for individuals and at the institutional level through genuine interdisciplinary connection and collaboration
- To attract talented students, graduate students, post-docs, and new hires and build dynamic, innovative, creative teams—people who come to the U of A to be part of something truly extraordinary
- To be in position to apply for major, collaborative research grants—and to win them
- To enable and deepen connections with the external organizations through which we can extend the reach, influence, and impact of our research

Signature Areas Process:

What success would look like

- A development process that has both internal and external credibility is established
- Selection is based on the criteria identified in FPG
- Selected areas demonstrate interdisciplinary breadth of research and teaching excellence with ambitious, large-scale vision and impact
- Both current signature areas and emerging areas are identified
- Broad understanding and acceptance of selected areas leads to strong ownership by the individuals involved, including deans and chairs
- Signature areas engage enthusiastic participation and support from external stakeholders

Please Join Us

State of the University Address

Tuesday, Sept 27

Noon

Convocation Hall