Implementing “For the Public Good”

General Faculties Council
September 26, 2016

David H. Turpin
President and Vice-Chancellor

Steven Dew
Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
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 of 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