

Strategic Positioning Framing Concepts University of Minnesota

GOAL

To be one of the best public research universities in the world.

VISION

To improve the human condition through the advancement of knowledge.

The University of Minnesota aspires to improve the human condition through excellence and innovation in research, teaching and outreach, in order to create new knowledge for the world, to drive economic development in the State of Minnesota, to train a talented work force, and to educate an engaged citizenry.

MISSION

The mission of the University, as articulated by the Board of Regents, January 14, 1994, is built on the philosophy that people are enriched by understanding, and that the University should be dedicated to the advancement of learning and the search for truth; to the sharing of this knowledge through education for a diverse community; and to the application of this knowledge to benefit the people of the state, the nation, and the world.

The University's mission, carried out on multiple campuses and throughout the state, is threefold:

- Research and Discovery: To generate and preserve knowledge, understanding, and creativity by conducting high-quality research, scholarship, and artistic activity that benefit students, scholars, and communities across the state, the nation, and the world.
- Teaching and Learning: To share that knowledge, understanding, and creativity by providing a broad range of educational programs in a strong and diverse community of learners and teachers, and prepare graduate, professional, and undergraduate students, as well as non-degree-seeking students interested in continuing education and lifelong learning, for active roles in a multiracial and multicultural world.
- Outreach and Public Service: To extend, apply, and exchange knowledge between the University and society by applying scholarly expertise to community problems, by helping organizations and individuals respond to their changing environments, and by making the knowledge and resources created and preserved at the University accessible to the citizens of the state, the nation, and the world.

VALUES

As a University community we value:

- Integrity
- Academic freedom
- Innovation
- Discovery and the search for truth
- Diversity of ideas and community
- Excellence
- Stewardship and accountability of resources and relationships
- Sharing knowledge in a learning environment
- Service as a land grant institution to Minnesota, the United States, and the world

ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE

The University of Minnesota aspires to be a community that . . .

- Demands excellence in research and discovery, teaching and learning, and public outreach and civic engagement
- Fosters high achievement, innovation, and inspirational energy
- Attracts top faculty and bright, curious students
- Supports academic freedom
- Invests in physical environments and technological infrastructures to support excellence in research, creative work, and learning
- Produces knowledge for the people of Minnesota, the country, and the world
- Embraces diversity of ideas and community and promotes mutual respect
- Operates with integrity and complies with ethical practices
- Practices individual accountability and stewardship of resources in order to operate efficiently and effectively, seeking constantly to improve
- Appropriately balances centralization with decentralized autonomy
- Respects Minnesota's history and cultures, and values the University's role in the state.

STRATEGIES

- Provide strong disciplinary and interdisciplinary research and teaching
- Offer exceptional professional and graduate programs and a distinguished, challenging undergraduate education

Students should:

1) be intellectually curious

2) be ambitious

3) be motivated to learn

4) be prepared to achieve in a challenging academic environment

5) expect to graduate in a timely fashion

Graduates should be able to:

- 1) research and evaluate information*
- 2) solve problems*
- 3) master knowledge*
- 4) understand the roots of civilization in a transformed global society*
- 5) communicate effectively, both orally and through written expression*
- 6) understand research methodologies*
- 7) become engaged citizens and life-long learners*

- Function as an academic and economic talent magnet
- Create and nurture world-class information and research centers
- Support a greater diversity of ideas and communities
- Strategically align resources with intellectual and academic goals
- Serve as a catalyst for economic growth in Minnesota
- Improve the quality of life for Minnesotans