

ACADEMIC STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

ACTIVITY SUMMARY FOR APRIL – OCTOBER 2016

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IMMERSION VANDERBILT

Progress

- **Central Administration Infrastructure** – Developed a model for oversight, implementation, and resource provision for the launch of Immersion Vanderbilt and an Immersion Guidebook.
 - **Faculty Governance/Roadshow Presentations**
 - “Roadshows” - Developed faculty-focused presentations to share the central administrative model and immersion planning that has taken place to date. The presentations were designed to support the process of gaining input from the schools and ultimately approval in the curriculum committees of the undergraduate schools.
 - Presented the roadshow to the School of Engineering’s Administrative Committee and Curriculum Committee.
 - Submitted the Immersion Vanderbilt proposals to the Blair School of Music’s Curriculum Committee and the Peabody College of Education and Human Development’s Academic Standards and Procedures Committee as well as their curriculum committee.
 - Met with the Chair of the College of Arts and Science’s Ad Hoc Immersion Committee.
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- **Vanderbilt Communications Working Group** – Started the Immersion Vanderbilt Communications Working Group in summer 2016 with the goal of integrating communications efforts of Development and Alumni Relations, Admissions and Enrollment Affairs, News and Communications and the Office of the Provost.
 - Created a visual identity for Immersion Vanderbilt (logo, wordmark, explanatory graphics)
 - Drafted common and customized language to be used across platforms and audiences
 - Developed a network and system to organize, develop and promote student immersion print and video stories
- **DIVE Finalization Committee & Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)**
 - In May 2016, the University selected [Design as an Immersive Vanderbilt Experience \(DIVE\)](#) as Vanderbilt’s Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), which is part of the university’s regional accreditation requirements.
 - Lori Troxel was named the [director of the DIVE initiative](#), and formed the [DIVE Finalization Committee](#), consisting of seven faculty, four staff, and two students. The DIVE Finalization Committee developed the structure and implementation plan of the DIVE immersion experience, including an assessment plan, marketing strategy, implementation timeline, curricular structure, and budget.
 - Two working groups comprised of Library personnel made recommendations, as follows:
 - **Annotated Bibliography Working Group** – consisted of four Librarians, authored a bibliography of literature on human-centered design.
 - **Best Practices Working Group** – consisted of one graduate student and four Librarians authored a report detailing best practices in the pedagogy of human centered design in higher education.
- **Subcommittee on International Education & Immersion** – A working group of five staff from the Global Education Office and five faculty vetted FACIE recommendations for international immersion.
- **Sub-Committees on the Co-Curricular Experience & Immersion**
 - **Libraries and Immersion** - A committee of 11 librarians recommended how the Library will support Immersion Vanderbilt, including: 1) primary mentoring, 2) co-mentoring, and 3) collaborative consultation, while identifying 15 opportunities for immersive Library Fellows experiences.
 - **The Student Organization Experience & Immersion** - Consisting of two staff members and twelve faculty, this committee produced recommendations on developing immersion experiences for student organization leaders.
- **Sub-Committee on Undergraduate Research Immersion Opportunities** – Consisting of three faculty members, one staff member, two graduate students, and three undergraduate students, this committee produced recommendations on developing Immersion experiences in undergraduate research.
- **I-Seminars** – Selected the 10 faculty for the spring 2017 I-Seminars to be piloted at the Martha River Ingrams Commons as a way to introduce the concept of immersion and guide students in pursuing their experience.

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- **Immersion Vanderbilt Committee** – Reconstituted the [Immersion Vanderbilt Committee](#) for 2016-2017.

News

- [Provost announces Immersion Vanderbilt Quality Enhancement Plan](#)
- [Lori Troxel named as the Director of the DIVE Initiative.](#)

Next Steps

- Refine subcommittee recommendations to inform Immersion Vanderbilt.
- Continue the faculty governance steps with each undergraduate college or school.
- Continue the development of the guidebook and the central infrastructure materials.
- Launch the Immersion Vanderbilt website in November or December 2016.
- Develop the I-Seminars for spring 2017.
- Finalize the DIVE QEP proposal and launch in fall 2017.

THE INNOVATION CENTER NOW CALLED THE WOND'RY

Progress

- Developed the programmatic structure of the center including four pillar programs:
 - Innovation Garage: **an array of corporate and non-profit** sponsors partner with Vanderbilt student and faculty teams on cutting-edge research and interdisciplinary projects.
 - Entrepreneur Pre-Flight: a 7 week Pre-Flight program that provides the foundational knowledge needed to successfully identify, assess, and ultimately launch a quality for profit or non-profit venture.
 - Social Entrepreneurship & Ventures: platform for students to work together to tackle important societal problems like affordable housing, transportation and health, which if successful can be adopted into full scale programs and potential partnerships with non-profit and government organizations.
 - Fostering an Innovation Culture: From artist/music exhibits and speaker series to hackathons and business plan competitions, the center hosts workshops, speakers and events that cater to an innovative and entrepreneurial spirit.
- Worked with a professional services firm to identify a name for the center, a visual identity and messaging strategy. As a result of their efforts and through a consultative cross-campus process, the center was named the Wond'ry. The name is a combination of Wonder and Foundry and is meant to illustrate the importance of creativity, multi-disciplinarily and diversity of perspective for successful innovations and new ventures.
- The Wond'ry continues to make connections across campus to align with key initiatives including the Career Center and Immersion Vanderbilt

Next Steps

- November 9 will be the Wond'ry's open house/grand opening.
- November 10 the Wond'ry will host the Board of Trust for a reception and dinner

News

[Vanderbilt launches the Wond'ry at its new Innovation Pavilion](#)

[Vanderbilt's Wond'ry hosts grand opening](#)

[Take a look inside the Wond'ry](#)

UNDERGRADUATE RESIDENTIAL EXPERIENCE – RESIDENTIAL LIFE

Progress

- **The Martha Rivers Ingram Commons** – The Commons continues to deepen the educational experiences of first-year students.
 - **Committee Work** – Eleven faculty developed ten iSeminars to launch in spring 2017 (see above).
 - **10th Annual Lawson Lecture** – The 10th annual Lawson Lecture featured Perry Wallace, Godfrey Dillard, and Andrew Maraniss, who discussed overcoming racial prejudice and resilience.
 - **Visions Curriculum: QR Codes Facilitate *Strong Inside*** – First-year students scanned QR codes on their phones to help familiarize them with the experiences of Perry Wallace, the subject of the Commons reading *Strong Inside*.
- **Warren | Moore Colleges** – Warren and Moore remain a model for the residential college system. Highlights include:
 - **Faculty Director and Graduate Fellow Programming** – Programming created a rich sense of community through orientation, coffee conversations, Sunday dinners, presidential debate screenings, hiking, and concerts.
 - **Resident Advisor/Head Resident Programming** – RA staff sponsored 43 events focused on “community engagement, diversity and social justice, health and wellness, intellectual excellence, and personal discovery,” and held 150 “meaningful conversations,” or intentional interactions to develop connections.
- **Living Learning Communities (LLCs): McGill Project, McTyeire International House, and Mayfield Lodges** – The LLCs continued their tradition of strong faculty engagement in residential education. Program highlights include:
 - **McGill Project** – The McGill Council – comprised of 20 students, staff, and faculty members – sponsored weekly faculty and staff-led events as part of the McGill Hour Dialogue Series with a total attendance of 150 community members.
 - **Mayfield Lodges** – Nineteen lodges with a strong faculty advising component were selected for the 2016-17 academic year.
 - **McTyeire International House** – The seven McTyeire faculty advisers and other guest faculty and graduate students participated in 61 dinner visits with students.

- **Co-Curricular Engagement External to the College Halls (CEECH)** – In order to support the recommendations of the 2015 [CEECH report](#), initiatives to encourage intentional learning and engagement included:
 - Five faculty dinners at Branscomb Quadrangle, Lewis House, Blakemore House, and Alumni Lawn were attended by 72 students to date.
 - 15 staff-led alternative weekend programs have been scheduled to date, providing after hours programming Thursday through Saturday.
 - Commodore Cruises – faculty led social excursions – occur monthly and are open to all residents. Over 75 students have participated in a cruise to date.

News

- [The new Vanderbilt Visions curriculum included an innovative mobile technology component](#)
- [First-year students learn lessons on race and inclusion at 10th annual Lawson Lecture.](#)

CROSS COLLEGE TEACHING/UNIVERSITY COURSES

Progress

Referred to as “cross-college teaching” in the Academic Strategic Plan, the program’s goal is to foster interdisciplinary teaching and learning and to offer students courses that leverage the university’s innate synergies. This program exemplifies the idea of “One Vanderbilt” and focuses on “big ideas” and “grand challenges”—both generally as well as with a multicultural emphasis.

- **The inaugural set** of University Courses is currently being taught. Of the five currently approved University Courses, Tackling Big Questions with Mobile Cloud Computing and Historic Black Nashville are being taught this Fall 2016 semester.
- **A [blog page](#)** for each course has been created to engage students within and outside of the classes, and to promote the courses both internally and externally. Blog posts are being distributed through multiple channels including the new iNCLUSIVE newsletter.
- **Faculty Funding Forums** – Two forums were held in early fall to promote University Courses as well as other internal funding programs. These provided faculty an opportunity to learn about the program and best practices, and to ask questions. These forums were well attended (more than 120 across both events) and faculty were engaged in the discussion.
- **[New web content](#)** was designed to provide faculty information on each of the four internally-funded grant programs.
- **A new applications submission platform** was selected and procured and the groundwork for opening the application window was completed.
- **A communications plan** was developed with the sole purpose of promoting University Courses to Vanderbilt students and to encourage enrollment in the Spring 2017 courses. Highlights of the campaign included:
 - A poster campaign with posters hung in residence halls, Sarratt Student Center and other high-traffic areas across campus.

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- Stories pitched to the Vanderbilt Hustler and MyVU for placement in both the last week of October (just before enrollment opens on Oct. 31)
 - An email from the registrar to all students distributed in late October
 - The second call for University Courses was made in late October for the 2017-18 course launch. Proposals will be due in December with awards announced in February.

News

- [Two Faculty Funding Forums were announced.](#)

Next Steps

- Input will be collected through an end of semester course evaluation to track progress of the program and understand its successes and areas for improvement.
- In Spring 2017, Justice, Mercy and Incarceration as well as The Nation's Health: From Policy to Practice will be taught for the first time.
- Additionally, Tackling Big Problems with Mobile Cloud Computing will be offered again to allow students to further develop their projects and move beyond the development into the implementation phase. Enrollment in the Fall 2016 course is **not** a prerequisite for enrolling in the Spring 2017 course.
- Work has begun with new Associate Provost Ifeoma Nwankwo on strategies to ensure broad participation in the program.

TRANS-INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS

Meetings and Progress

- **Faculty Funding Forums** – As noted above, two forums, hosted by the TIPs co-chairs, further informed faculty about the application process and best proposal writing practices. More than 120 faculty members attended these informational sessions with roughly 65 in attendance at each session.
- **Office of Cross College Initiatives** – TIPs, along with University Courses, Discovery Grants and Research Scholar Grants are now being managed and promoted by the Office of Cross-College Initiatives (OCCI), a recently-created office within the Office of the Provost.
 - As was done for the University Courses, [new web content](#) was designed to provide faculty more information on the TIPs program and funding processes.
 - **A new applications submission platform** was selected and procured and the groundwork for opening the application window was completed.
 - **A communications plan** was developed and is in the process of being implemented that will ensure that major TIPS accomplishments are broadly promoted.

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- **2016 TIP Awards:** The 13 awardees will be asked to report on their progress in their first year of funding. For future progress reports, an InfoReady form will be created to streamline the collection of information, which will include updates on key accomplishments, funding used to date and student engagement.
 - **2015 TIPs Awards:** The 17 awardees have submitted their progress reports, which included updates on key accomplishments, notable awards or recognition received, funding used to date and student engagement.
 - **2017 Awards:** The call for proposals was made in late October. Pre-proposals are due November 28, with full proposals due in January.

News

- [Two Faculty Funding Forums were announced.](#)

Next Steps

- Work has begun with new Associate Provost Ifeoma Nwankwo on strategies to ensure broad participation in the programs
- The TIPs Council and Review Panels will provide recommendations to the Provost and Chancellor in the spring with award decisions to be announced in May.
- A [blog page](#) is being launched as a platform to promote the progress and research of the TIPs projects. The Academic Strategic Plan website will also contain overviews of projects, highlighting key successes.
- A new progress/final report is being developed to be used by the 2015 and 2016 recipients to review their results and make decisions on funding renewal.
- Promotion of 2015 and 2016 Awards will begin later this semester, both internally and externally with content primarily being delivered through a series of MyVU stories and the Academic Strategic Plan [website](#).

CHANCELLOR FACULTY FELLOWS

Progress

- The 2016 CFF Cohort was invited to a dinner hosted by the Provost and provided the Provost Office with suggestions on programming for the year. The resulting program includes the following topics:
 - Tenure and Promotion with a panel of recently promoted full professors
 - Funding and lessons learned
 - Student engagement with Dean's, Dinner Series hosted by the Commons
 - Strategic Plan discussion with leadership
- 2017 CFF Cohort nomination deadline is November 17.

News

- [Call for 2017 CFF nominations](#)



Next Steps

- TIPS committee will review the nominations and recipients will be notified early Spring semester

EDUCATION TECHNOLOGIES

Meetings and Progress

- **Course Management System (CMS) Selection Committee** – The CMS Selection committee, with representation across Vanderbilt’s ten schools, met twice during summer 2016 in order to review CMS vendors and their products. A recommendation was made to the Provost in order to launch a new course management system in summer 2017.
- **The Effectiveness of Education Technology Committee** – Chaired by Associate Provost for Digital Learning, John M. Sloop, the committee convened in fall 2016 to investigate curricular and research initiatives pertaining to online learning and big data.
- **Center for Teaching (CFT)**
 - **Leading Lines Podcast**
Launched in fall 2016, this new educational podcast is a collaboration of the CFT, the Jean and Alexander Heard Library, Vanderbilt Institute for Digital Learning (VIDL), and the Associate Provost for Digital Learning. The podcast explores creative, intentional, and effective uses of technology to enhance student learning, featuring interviews with educators, researchers, and technologists. Five episodes have been released and viewed collectively 1,447 times.
 - **BOLD Fellows Program**
The NSF-funded BOLD Fellows program helps graduate student and faculty teams build expertise in developing online instructional modules using best practices in instructional design. In fall 2016, two BOLD Fellows cohorts consisting of ten faculty and six graduate students convened.
 - **Educational Technology Teaching Consultations**
Of the 189 faculty, staff, and graduate student consultations held at the CFT between May and September 2017, 45 dealt explicitly with educational technology. The most frequently discussed technologies were course management systems (e.g. Blackboard), and classroom response systems (e.g. Poll Everywhere).
- **Jean and Alexander Heard Library** - Vanderbilt Libraries both supported and created educational technologies, ensuring that learning and research at VU benefited from cutting-edge resources and tools. Of note:
 - In June 2016, the library sponsored a two-day symposium titled [Cultural Heritage at Scale: A Semantic Web Symposium](#) with funding from the Mellon Foundation to explore preserving digital cultural heritage at scale;
 - The library sponsors [3 digital scholarship working groups](#) on linked data and the semantic web, open source geographic information systems, and XQuery; these working groups are meeting weekly during the fall semester, and are a mixed group of 8-12 faculty, students, and librarians.

- The library sponsors [digital scholarship workshops each Friday](#) of the fall semester; subjects range from geographic information systems to data visualization to the digital humanities.
- 1 Librarian is a member of the Digital Storytelling Working Group, which received a VIDL microgrant (launched fall 2016).
- Embedded Librarian Initiative - The embedded librarian initiative reached approximately 400 students. Embedded librarians provide consistent and personalized assistance to students in a course, and are particularly valuable for online classes that include a research component.
- **Vanderbilt Institute for Digital Learning** – In order to best serve the Vanderbilt community, VIDL became a service center – or CORE – offering four key services effective in July 2016, including project management, instructional design, videography, and studio services.
 - The VIDL Self-serve Studio extended their hours to increase accessibility. Since January 2016, 128 community members have utilized the studio.
 - The Owen School of Management’s EDI certificate in Management Fundamentals facilitated by Coursera launched on October 31st.
 - Coursera enrollments from January 2016 to present include 212,043 learners, 61,583 active learners with 14 faculty/instructors.
- **Vanderbilt University Information Technology**
 - **New Tech Hub Location**

A VUIT Tech Hub in Featheringill Hall opened with 90 walk-ups in the first week.
 - **Engineering & Science Building and Innovation Pavilion**

The AV Design and Support Team equipped three state-of-the-art classrooms to support innovative teaching techniques, such as distance learning and videoconferencing.
 - **Summer Classroom Upgrades**

In summer 2016, the AV Design and Support Team upgraded 277 classrooms, 814 classroom, lab, and kiosk desktop systems were reimaged, and the wireless network infrastructure was overhauled in six residence halls, among other technological improvements across campus.

News

- [VIDL awards funding to enhance teaching and learning through digital technology](#)
- [New podcast to explore how educational technology can enhance student learning](#)
- [Course management system demos, new policy, upgrade coming soon](#)