

Developing the Lake Forest College Strategic Framework

Faculty and Staff Town Hall Meetings

Fall 2022



LAKE FOREST
COLLEGE

Agenda

- Review the planning group process
- Goals of today's session
- Developing a strategic framework
- Review leadership recommendations
- Discussion questions



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**5 planning groups
(2021-22)**

**Reports and
recommendations**

**Intended to lay a
foundation**

Reviewed by BOT

**Shared with
campus**

Academic

**Strategic
Partnerships**

Enrollment

Residential

**Diversity,
Equity &
Inclusion**

Goals



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- Position Lake Forest College for success as a leading, liberal arts institution with a pragmatic, modern approach to education
- Clear road map for the College
- Clear guidance document for setting annual strategic priorities which guide decision-making, activities, investment and planning
 - What do we say "yes" to and what do we say "no" to
- Clear identity and brand
 - Who we are and who we are not
- High degree of alignment, connected to 3 unifying themes
 - Mitigates the effect of pulling levers in opposite directions
- "Something in it for everyone"
 - Can I see myself and my role at the College reflected in the plan?
 - We can't be all things to all people

Why a framework and not a plan?

- Iterative, dynamic, ongoing process
- Assessed annually with specific goals and performance indicators
- Resource needs and capacity are fluid
- Support for the framework
 - Facilities condition assessment
 - Fundraising campaign
- External forces at play
 - Higher education landscape and trends
 - Population, migration, demographics
 - Financial outlook



Unifying themes

Building

Building an inclusive, thriving community

Our commitment to inclusive excellence through diversity remains a priority and one in which we will work hard to do better and to be better. Inclusivity—providing equitable access to opportunities and resources for all members of the community—is foremost in our minds and necessary for strengthening our Forester Family.

Stewarding and promoting

Stewarding and promoting the unique Lake Forest College brand

We offer a rare combination of a rigorous, yet innovative, flexible curriculum paired with an intentional, early, and consistent focus on career preparation so that our students can balance their academic experiences at the College with their aspirations of what they want to be. This is what sets Lake Forest College apart.

Investing

Investing in and securing our future as a leading residential liberal arts campus

Our beautiful campus serves as an intellectual hub and a cultural beacon for the city of Lake Forest and surrounding communities. This lies at the heart of collectively imagining what our campus will look like in the future and how we will get there together. Whatever paths we choose to secure our future, we have put a stake in the ground to retain our prominence as a leader among liberal arts colleges across the country.



Recommendations from the
Academic Planning Group



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Academic Planning Group:

- Dawn Abt-Perkins
- Dominique Allion
- Carla Arnell
- Nancy Brekke
- Muris Hadzic
- Chloe Johnston
- Anna Jones
- Erica Schultz
- Lori Sundberg
- Tracy Marie Taylor
- Sara Jamshidi
- Courtney Joseph
- Matt Kelley
- Nathan Mueggenburg
- David Park
- Davis Schneiderman
Krebs Provost and Dean of Faculty
(Planning Group Chair)



Key Academic Challenges

1. Demographic trends are not favorable for future enrollment at colleges and universities, and the budget of the College is highly dependent on enrollment.
2. The student body is changing.
3. Careers and outcomes are important to students and their families and will likely continue to increase in importance in the coming years.
4. Students expect their areas of academic study to reflect the present realities of the job market.
5. Our faculty are an invaluable asset that must be nurtured and developed.



Academic Planning: Priority Recommendations

1. Develop a temporary Curricular Working Group reporting to CPC and ARRC.
2. Develop a temporary Faculty Experience Working Group, reporting to FPPC
3. Ask ARRC to recommend shifts of permanent allocation (to the Dean and President) informed by Curricular Working Group.
4. Have the Student Success Committee take the lead in considering policy questions related to the student academic experience.



Discussion Questions

- These are the main recommendations, but there are many other facets to the report. How can we set the scope of work for each group?
- How do these align with the three themes of the next strategic framework?
- What will advance our brand and position the College for future success?
- What is the highest priority/need? A lower but important need?
- What is missing or hasn't been considered?





Questions Feedback Insights

Deciding on annual strategic priorities

- ❑ Begins in late winter, finalized in spring
 - Implement for the following academic year

- ❑ Facilities condition assessment will play a major role
 - State of academic buildings

- ❑ The work of these committees should be used to facilitate the setting of annual priorities



How might things be different?

- Different way of thinking about the College as a whole
- Promote better alignment and allocation of resources that reflect the values and mission of the College
- We should be prepared for change by using a more active and strategic approach
- We are more prepared for adverse conditions and have the resilience to respond effectively



UPCOMING TOWN HALLS

- Tuesday, November 8 at 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. in Lillard 200: Strategic Partnerships
- Thursday, November 10 at 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in the Tarble Room: Student Town Hall
- Tuesday, November 15 at 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. in the Tarble Room: Enrollment Planning
- Thursday, November 17 at 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. in Lillard 200: Residential Planning
- Thursday, November 17 at 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. in the Tarble Room: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

