

Academic Affairs
2019-20 Goals

Academic Affairs is pleased to present the following goals for 2019-20. Many build on initiatives started previously, while others open new areas of focus. These goals are consistent with our commitment to maintain excellence across all our programs and establish a culture of reassessment and improvement rather than complacency. Although we recognize the high quality of our programs, faculty, and staff, the landscape of higher education also demands that we maintain an attitude of self-criticism, openness to innovation, and commitment to ongoing improvement. We are great, but we can always be better. These goals are developed with that mindset, and with full attention to developments and trends within higher education.

1. Advance and Develop Academic Programs

- Develop Artificial Intelligence institute and programs and build connections across campus
- Collaborate with Institutional Advancement to achieve endowment for the new institute
- Facilitate interdisciplinary, integrative, and collaborative conversations to align programs and create program/degree tracks where appropriate
- Explore/develop alternative delivery systems for courses/programs as appropriate to discipline and pedagogy
- Expand and integrate opportunities for academic excellence through coordinated programming such as Honors Program and partnership with Student Experience
- Increase digital literacy and use of digital technologies within programs and finalize system of quality assurance
- Collaborate with C&B to expand and enhance integration of diversity in the curriculum

2. Strengthen Experiential Learning as a Distinctive Feature of Nazareth

- Establish framework for advancing and leveraging commitment to collective impact
- Assess current high impact practices for potential integration and to identify areas of strength/weakness
- Strengthen existing local, national, and global partnerships/establish new ones to maximize impact of experiential learning activities and identify new areas and pathways for development
- Create additional experiential pathways to serve programs with specific discipline or professional needs that do not fit with traditional internships
- Strengthen student engagement with scholarship and study abroad opportunities
- Initiate integration of national social innovation standards and practices across campus
- Formalize and streamline student research process and systems

- Collaborate with units across campus to develop and implement socially and fiscally responsible policies and practices for local and global community-campus partnerships

3. Improve Student Retention and Success

- Implement Finish in Four initiative in August 2019 and assess process for future iterations
- Collaborate with Student Experience to develop Living Learning Communities
- Collaborate with Student Experience to define signature experiences by year
- Collaborate with Student Experience to deepen curricular and co-curricular experience for graduate students
- Expand interdivisional effort by identifying key priorities for year and approaching budgeting, professional development, and assessment in a collaborative manner
- Review and improve student and advisor processes to ensure students have filed for commencement and have completed all requirements for timely graduation.
- Embed life's work exploration and preparation into the Nazareth student experience through both discipline/program-specific and integrative methods
- Collaborate with units across campus to implement additional tools for student support and engagement
- Develop a Master Advisor Level 2 course
- Launch MakerSpace in Fall 2019 and institute programming throughout year; assess use at end of academic year
- Evaluate new pathways for undergraduate student research consistent with SPARK and Honors Program
- Collaborate with C&B on co-curricular engagement
- Increase opportunities for and access to high impact practices across the institution

4. Finalize workload redistribution (progress to 3-3)

5. Support professional development and evaluation

- Develop effective evaluation systems for department chairs, program directors, deans, and adjuncts;
- Expand training opportunities for department chairs, including those consistent with implementation of new Year-End Faculty Self-Evaluation process
- Develop programming to support faculty engagement in international education and experiential learning experiences
- Collaborate with C&B on programming to support/mentor underrepresented faculty
- Grow number and competitiveness of external grant submissions by faculty

- Collaborate with C&B to establish framework for integrating diversity in the curriculum

6. Strengthen Graduate Programs

- Collaborate with Admissions to increase the number and diversity of graduate students
- Improve use of data specific to graduate population
- Increase and systematize pathways for graduate integration on campus
- Strengthen pipeline from undergraduate to graduate programs at Nazareth
- Identify potential new programs or revisions to existing programs, including use of alternate delivery methods
- Examine potential for certificates, non-degree programs, and micro-credentials

7. Build Global Initiatives/Outreach

- Increase underrepresented participation in international experiences
- Increase number of faculty involved in study abroad and explore compensation models
- Collaborate with Admissions to build inbound international students pipeline
- Establish new destinations and program themes for short-term study abroad
- Collaborate with C&B and Student Experience to develop programming for international students on campus and integrate them into student experience more effectively
- Collaborate with academic divisions to promote lectures/presentations of international significance (relevant to presenters, topic, or associated issues)

8. Establish Broad Commitment to Institutional Effectiveness

- Launch Administrative Assessment process
- Collaborate between IR office and Faculty Assessment Coordinator to expand assessment beyond academic side and develop institutional commitment to continual improvement
- Establish software system for collecting, logging, and sharing information about institutional effectiveness
- Use CIRP survey results more effectively by having academic units define one or two actions based on the data