

NMC NEXT

OUR COMMUNITY. OUR COLLEGE. OUR FUTURE.

To: NMC Community
From: Jason Slade, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives
Date: September 21, 2022
Subject: Collegewide Fall 2022 Strategic Plan Update

The Strategic Plan is in full swing, moving from the outreach stage to implementation. The past six months have focused on the execution of the action steps toward our objectives. As Dr. Nissley shared, even in that short timeframe, we have had successes and reasons to celebrate. This achievement is due to the hard work and efforts of our champions, objective leads, and their action teams. The action teams are made up of individuals from across NMC, providing their input and expertise to drive the objective forward. None of the work around the five strategies, 24 objectives, or 142+ action steps (and growing) would be possible without the dedication and determination of these teams. It is their hard work that drives this plan forward as we look to create NMC's future state.

Where are we now?

I thought it was important to give you a summary of where we stand with the five strategies. The current status of each is noted below. This is just a snapshot as we update the objective status monthly:

Strategy 1: Future-Focused Education (Champion: Stephen Siciliano)

Enhance offerings through flexible academic pathways, innovative instructional delivery models, and relevant, hands-on educational experiences to empower global learners for the future.

Status: Five objectives are in progress and on track. These objectives focus on increasing the percentage of online and hybrid courses, success rates in these types of courses, accelerated pathways, credit for prior learning, and experiential learning opportunities for every credential-seeking student at NMC.

Strategy 2: Student Engagement and Success (Champion: Todd Neibauer)

Develop and deliver comprehensive support services, robust engagement opportunities, and a vibrant collegiate experience to foster learner success, goal completion, and employability.

Status: Four objectives are in progress and on track; one objective is in progress, minimally behind schedule. The objectives in this strategy include increasing enrollment of our traditional and adult learners, increasing retention of current students, and increasing student success.

Strategy 3: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (Champion: Marcus Bennett)

Cultivate an inclusive environment that fosters a sense of belonging and delivers equitable opportunities so all students and employees are able to thrive and succeed.

Status: Four objectives are in progress and on track; one objective is complete. With Dr. Marcus Bennett at the helm, we are moving forward with our DEIB strategies. The newly formed advisory committee is assisting as we create a DEIB statement and develop ways to address the barriers to entry and success of vulnerable student populations.

Strategy 4: Community Partnerships and Engagement (Champion: Jason Slade)

Enhance collaborations that advance community engagement, economic and workforce development, and innovative opportunities for lifelong learning.

Status: Four objectives are in progress and on track. The community strategy has been focused on evaluating and inventorying current partnerships, rolling out Workforce Development initiatives including training that addresses the skills gaps identified by Traverse Connect, welding, manufacturing, surveying, and marine technologies. Four-year partnerships are being strengthened as we look to address the learning needs of the community.

Strategy 5 - Institutional Distinction and Sustainability (Champion: Troy Kierczynski)

Leverage distinctive programs that strengthen institutional sustainability and expand global connections for our learners and communities.

Status: Four objectives are in progress and on track; three objectives are in progress, minimally behind schedule. The objectives in this strategy are focused on providing the avenues necessary for our distinctive programs to thrive. These include the goal of expanding aviation, reimagining the Great Lakes Culinary Institute, developing a joint culinary/maritime certificate program, revamping of Great Lakes Water Studies Institute as it drives the new blue economy, and supporting International Affairs Forum, the Denno's Museum Center, and WNMC radio station.

The [internal dashboard](#) (accessible with NMC login) will begin to contain metrics around each objective and be reported out to the Board of Trustees along with the monthly board summary. These dashboards, created by ORPE, are critical as we work toward meeting our objectives and adjusting our actions appropriately. I encourage you to review the dashboards or the summaries in the board packet beginning with the September memo focused on Strategy #1 - Future-Focused Education.

So what is next?

The action steps currently being executed are classified as “Year 1” and most will be completed by June 30, 2023. However, this is only year one of a three-year plan. In late fall, objective leads will be developing the additional action steps as needed. They will be reaching out to many of you for assistance as they formulate the next tasks to move the objective forward, and hopefully close out. In addition, this is your chance to align opportunities you see with the objectives. We won't be adding new objectives, but we will be looking for ways to move our existing 24 forward. As a reminder, all objectives are located [here](#). I encourage you to review

the internal dashboards as well as the monthly Board of Trustees updates (located in the board packet) for the latest information on the Strategic Plan. Again, thank you for your hard work as the Strategic Plan becomes the core of what we do. Please do not hesitate to reach out if I can provide more insight or information.

Jason Slade
Vice President for Strategic Initiatives
jslade@nmc.edu || 231-995-1995