

STRATEGIC 2020 PLAN

Our

“The plan captures contributions from the entire University community — students, faculty, staff, administration, alumni, parents, and, of course our Trustees. It’s a great blessing to have this plan in place at the start of my presidency ... There is so much on which we can build together.”

— Rev. Joseph G. Marina, S.J.,
President of The University of Scranton

Our Mission

The University of Scranton is a Catholic and Jesuit university animated by the spiritual vision and the tradition of excellence characteristic of the Society of Jesus and those who share its way of proceeding. The University is a community dedicated to the freedom of inquiry and personal development fundamental to the growth in wisdom and integrity of all who share its life.

Our Vision

The University of Scranton will be boldly driven by a shared commitment to excellence. We will provide a superior, transformational learning experience, preparing students who, in the words of Jesuit founder St. Ignatius Loyola, will “set the world on fire.”

Purpose Statement

Deeply committed to our mission as a Catholic and Jesuit institution, The University of Scranton, in the spirit of Saint Ignatius of Loyola, answers the challenging signs of our times by building on our strengths as we embrace innovative new ways of proceeding. We plan for the future with confidence inspired by our past success and by a shared sense of ownership displayed by the entire campus community. We draw upon the successful Mission Priority Examen, Middle States Self-Study, and strategic enrollment planning, and are informed by the Universal Apostolic Preferences from the Society of Jesus. Through our plan, we will work together wholly and collaboratively to bring greater understanding and recognition of the value of a Scranton education.

The foundation of our strategy and plan is *our community, our core* and *our commitments*. Guided by our mission, we act on these key themes through the following goals and objectives:

The Humanities as a Foundation for Transformation

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Ensure that the Scranton student experience is transformational, integrated and grounded in the **humanities** as a pathway to understanding the human experience in its many dimensions.

To achieve this goal, we will:

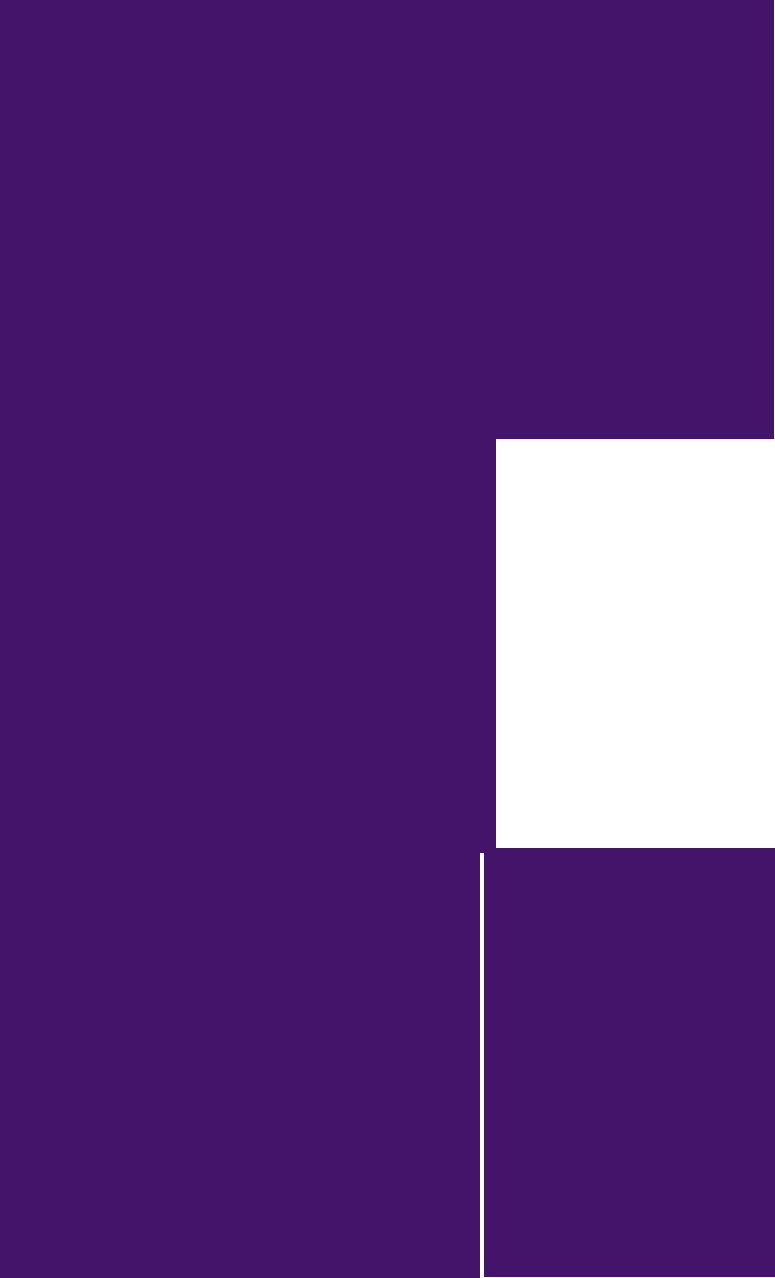
- Reaffirm and reinvest in our liberal arts core through a reinvigorated general education curriculum, new signature academic programming, and expanded interdisciplinary offerings.
- Define and integrate principles of the humanities, including those that emphasize ethical, cultural, and global awareness, across all academic disciplines — arts, sciences, and professional — and within programs that welcome and support students throughout University life.

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Engage students as individuals through personal attention that helps them explore their **faith**, discern their **purpose** and pursue their **passion**, as they work to create a more just and sustainable world.

To achieve this goal, we will:

- Support student success by strengthening onboarding and first-year experiences, advising and early alert processes; expanded and integrated academic and career development services; and programs that promote student well-being, self-efficacy, and resilience.
- Ensure that all students have opportunities to apply curricular and co-curricular learning in practical, collaborative settings through a broadened, well-supported, and marketed portfolio of residential learning, experiential learning, and other High Impact Practices.
- Enrich the spirit of mission in campus life, articulating mission-related outcomes for all programs; strengthening relationships between





Advancing the University Through Innovation

Advance the University into the future by challenging ourselves to educate and support an ever-changing, diverse landscape of students in ways that are **affordable, relevant and innovative**.

To achieve this goal, we will:


- Build a University-wide academic master plan to guide innovations, cohesion, and flexibility in the delivery and development of existing and new educational programming; learning spaces, modalities, and technologies; student formation and success initiatives; and faculty development.
- Implement a holistic process for strategic enrollment management that is mission, student, and market sensitive, and serves as a catalyst for improved student recruitment, retention, and success.
- Improve our understanding and support of the unique needs and educational pathways of graduate, transfer, and non-traditional students, and students enrolling in remote learning activities, improving access and completion through tailored services and expanded opportunities to experience the mission and life of the University.
- Pursue initiatives to make a Scranton education more accessible and affordable for students and their families, sharing the value and impact of the University's transformational education.
- Expand and solidify the financial capacity and sustainability of the University, supporting our mission through disciplined approaches to resource management and stewardship that rely on collaborative, data-informed decision making in the review and allocation of resources and the management of our infrastructure.

Reflect and understand the diversity of the world by demanding that **diversity** be a priority as we build an **inclusive community and campus culture**, develop and deliver our education and shape our student experience.

To achieve this goal, we will:

- Implement an institutional plan for diversity and inclusion, drawing from a comprehensive review of University departments, organizations, spaces, and processes that provide and support inclusion and diversity-related education and programming that





*“We are committed to
the University remaining
an engine of opportunity,
a voice for social justice
and a hub of cultural,
intellectual and
spiritual life.”*

— Fr. Pilarz, *Inauguration*

