FRAMING THE FUTURE THROUGH STUDENT SUCCESS, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
Letter from the President

In 2013 Columbus State Community College refined its long-standing mission, vision and values ahead of 50th anniversary celebrations slated for 2013. Building on those renewed principles, the college joined the Achieving the Dream national network, articulated a Completion Plan, formalized the Central Ohio Compact, and adopted a Master Plan that would guide short- and long-term decisions regarding the college’s physical environment, facilities, and industry-aligned academic programming and partnerships. A Strategic Plan followed in 2014, coalescing the initiatives and providing a flexible but focused framework for the future.

The Strategic Plan evolved from comprehensive planning sessions involving several hundred faculty, staff, and administrators. This process engaged our entire community, including a cross section of alumni and regional leaders. Three priorities—Student Success, Workforce Development and Civic Engagement—dominated the conversation, and dedicated workgroups were charged with developing priorities and practical initiatives for each goal. Assembled together, these individual priorities became the Strategic Plan, which now drives the college to perform its mission, realize its vision, and live its values.

David T. Harrison, Ph.D.
President
Our Mission
To educate and inspire, providing our students with the opportunity to achieve their goals.

Our Vision
Columbus State Community College is Central Ohio’s front door to higher education and a leader in advancing our region’s prosperity.

Our Values

Student Success
We welcome and engage all students in creating individualized, accessible, and mutually accountable pathways that allow them to pursue their goals.

Inclusion
We reflect the demographics of Central Ohio, and we leverage the college’s rich diversity for the benefit of our local and global communities.

Quality
We expect excellence and accountability in ourselves and our students.

Innovation
We embrace bold ideas and an entrepreneurial spirit, and we are responsive to the changing needs of students, employers, and other stakeholders.

Learning
We are a community of teachers and learners who believe that fulfilling lives are grounded in self-awareness and continuous learning.

Partnership
We recognize that more can be accomplished collaboratively than individually, and we seek like-minded partners to advance our shared goals.

Stewardship
We are careful and thoughtful stewards of the resources entrusted to us.

Leadership
We lead by action and example to help our community pursue opportunities and address the challenges of the 21st century.

Strategic Plan: Our Three Priorities

Our strategic vision for the future aligns three priorities as a framework in support of our college mission, vision, and values.

These strategic priorities represent the ways in which we will best serve our students, Central Ohio educators, regional employers, service providers, and key community stakeholders.
We serve as the trusted business partner for employers in the region. Qualitative works in short supply in growing and rural industries. Many high-paying jobs leading to increased career opportunities are found in the attainment of an associate degree or industry-recognized certificate. To match skilled workers with growing industries, Columbus State will continue to partner with business leaders to create student-centered educational programs and career pathways for students.

Develop industry-leading strategy aligned with employers to meet incumbent and emerging workforce needs.

- Partner with high schools and regional post-secondary institutions to maintain a rigorous connection to the labor market.
- Enhance the relationship with industry partners to align and update career pathways.
- Employ innovation programming to provide alternate pathways for adult learners who wish to transition to new careers, upskill their skills, or secure employment.

Build 9-14 career pathways aligned with labor market needs.

- Implement the Regional High School to Work pathway to plan, implement, and utilize the career pathways in four of the region’s most vital industry sectors, including but not limited to, logistics, advanced manufacturing, healthcare, information technology, and other sectors.
- Employ business leaders in the development of aligned career academies and delivery of industry-recognized credentials that students may pursue with industry-recognized credentials as well as a head start on postsecondary studies.
- Establish collaborative and collaborative efforts with industry leaders, higher education, and K-12 districts partners to invite student access to post-secondary learning.
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- Create and communicate clear requirements to support student academic achievement.

Establish Career Placement Services office to support students with career planning and successful job placement.

- Implement career development programs that connect students and graduates with employers.
- Build a job placement tracking system to measure placement success and opportunities for improvement.

We foster intentional partnerships to enrich and support the student experience and strengthen the community. Education doesn’t happen in a vacuum. It’s enhanced and connected through connections with the local community. To this end, Columbus State works in concert with corporate, governmental, and nonprofit organizations to maximize learning opportunities for students and address non-academic barriers to student achievement.

Grow community partnerships to ensure the opportunity for success for all students.

- Provide access, open, and supportive environments to identify student needs and connect students to relevant resources that will address both academic and non-academic barriers.
- Cultivate an informed and engaged community college system to empower students and foster meaningful relationships where students feel welcomed and supported.
- Develop strategic partnerships between the college and area for strategic partnerships between the college and area for strategic partnerships between the college and area for strategic partnerships between the college and area for strategic partnerships between the college and area for strategic partnerships between the college and area for strategic partnerships between the college and area for strategic partnerships between the college and area for strategic partnerships between the college and area for strategic partnerships between the college and area.
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Expand service-learning and community service opportunities to address community priorities and needs.

- Engage local businesses and community members to serve as mentors and support the development of service-learning activities that deepen student civic engagement.
- Develop and deploy locally-focused service-learning projects to address community issues and challenges.

Establish innovative forms of instructional delivery in collaboration with industry leaders, higher education, and K-12 districts partners to invite student access to post-secondary learning.

Cultivate mutually beneficial partnerships that advance student success and address community needs.

- Build a collaborative network with the capacity for long-term partnerships to promote academic success, meet community needs, and impact neighborhood revitalization.
- Implement strategic alignment, implementing opportunities that integrate and advance the character of the Discovery District, Delaware campus, and other communities where the college has a presence.
- Establish a partnership inventory and a repository for related resources and opportunities.
- Engage and deploy faculty as civic leaders to address community issues and challenges.
- Establish innovative forms of instructional delivery in collaboration with industry leaders, higher education, and K-12 districts partners to invite student access to post-secondary learning.

With the phrase “Beyond Measure” it is applied to convey the value and possible benefits of a Columbus State education, there are concrete ways to measure student success. Columbus State will look at key indicators related to college readiness, persistence or progress toward an academic goal, and completion rates.

For college readiness, Columbus State will follow:
- The number of students who successfully complete college coursework.
- The increase in dual credit students and their attainment of college credit.
- The success rate of students in developmental courses and their advancement to college-level courses.

To gauge student progress, the college will measure:
- The success in gateway courses in subjects such as English and Math.
- The successful completion of all courses.
- Student persistence from Autumn to Spring and from Autumn to Autumn semesters.
- Student participation in out-of-class academic support services.

To ascertain how many students reach their college completion and career goals, Columbus State will track:
- The number of students who graduate with an associate degree or certificate.
- The number of students who transfer to a four-year school.
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We serve as the trusted business partner for employers in the region.
Qualitative research is short supply in growing and rural industries. Many high-paying jobs leading to successful careers are created through the attainment of an associate degree or industry-recognized certificate. To align skilled workers with growing industries, Columbus State will continue to partner with business leaders to create work-based educational programs and career pathways for students.

Develop industry sector strategies aligned with employers to meet incumbent and emerging workforce needs.

- Identify and align collaborative efforts to create workforce solutions that address specific student needs.
- Establish an honors curriculum to promote and celebrate academic distinction.
- Cultivate an informed and engaged college community that welcomes students as key partners in college governance.

Student achievement is at the center of everything we do.
When students succeed, everyone benefits. With the Ohio Board of Regents stressing improved College completion rates and the Ohio Department of Education reporting the percentage of area residents holding postsecondary credentials, academic success is essential, and not just a fleeting effort.

Expand access and improve college and career readiness for all students:
- Develop innovative approaches and standards to academic and career pathways for students transitioning into higher education in an academic or career pathway.
- Partner with high schools to expand career counseling and dual credit programs to accelerate the time to complete a degree while decreasing drop-out rates.
- Increase the number of high school graduates who intend to enroll in Columbus State degree or credential, creating seamless pathways that align with career opportunities.
- Develop the use of emerging technologies to expand the access to postsecondary credentials and create alternate pathways for adult learners.

Furth support for college persistence, completion, and job attainment:
- Implement a first-year experience that lays the academic and cultural foundation for students, fosters meaningful relationships, and connects them to resources so that they may succeed.
- Establish an honors curriculum to promote and celebrate academic distinction.
- Implement a menu of services and programs that support all students in their transition to new careers, upgrade their skills, or secure employment.

Support students’ persistence, completion, and job attainment.
- Implement a first-year experience that lays the academic and cultural foundation for students.
- Build rigorous connections to the talent development in the region.
- Enhance workforce development through collaboration with industry leaders to align and update career pathways.
- Implement a menu of services and programs that support all students in their transition to new careers, upgrade their skills, or secure employment.

Teach students about credit-bearing courses.
- Implement a menu of services and programs that connect students and graduates with employers to meet incumbent and emerging workforce needs.
- Develop the use of emerging technologies to expand the access to postsecondary credentials and create alternate pathways for adult learners.
- Establish Career Placement Services office to support students and employers.

Education doesn't happen in a vacuum. It is enhanced and cemented through connections with the local community. To that end, Columbus State works in concert with corporate, government, and nonprofit groups to maximize learning opportunities for students and address key issues facing students and families.

Grow community partnerships to ensure the opportunity for success for all students:
- Provide access, open, and supportive environments to identify student needs and connect students with relevant interventions that will address both academic, and non-academic barriers.
- Cultivate an informed and engaged college community to empower students and foster meaningful relationships where all students feel welcomed and supported.
- Develop and implement strategies that facilitate the college and city, neighborhood entities, school districts, and higher education institutions to pursue regional strategies, share resources, and align efforts to address student success.

Develop strategic partnerships between the college and other educational or workforce development institutions.

Expanding servant leadership and community service opportunities to address community priorities and needs:
- Engage and develop a workforce with the skills needed to address community needs.
- Strengthen the academic and civic connection.
- Implement a menu of services and programs that connect students and graduates with employers to meet incumbent and emerging workforce needs.

Utilize the use of emerging technologies to expand the access to postsecondary credentials and create alternate pathways for adult learners.
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Engage businesses leaders in the development of aligned curricula and delivery of programs that cultivate the skills workers need to address community priorities and needs.
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- Establish a partnership inventory and a repository for related resources and experiences.
- Develop innovative approaches and build academic and career pathways for students.
- Implement a menu of services and programs that connect students and graduates with employers to meet incumbent and emerging workforce needs.
- Develop the use of emerging technologies to expand the access to postsecondary credentials and create alternate pathways for adult learners.
She always took the time to explain things and wouldn’t let him be a quitter.

Because of her, he was the first in his family to graduate from college.