



Engaging the Future: An Update on Year Three

USI faculty, staff, and administrators continue to make progress on the ambitious strategic plan approved by the Board of Trustees in summer 2010.

In order to continue to increase the graduation rate, new advising centers are being established in each of USI's four colleges, in fall 2012 for the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education and the College of Nursing and Health Professions and for fall 2013 in the College of Liberal Arts and College of Business. The new centers will create greater alliances to benefit students, generate a more central understanding of the advising role and processes on campus, and provide a more consistent advising experience that will allow for each college to manage the complexities of its respective student population. Overall, the new college advising centers will improve the academic advising experience for all students on campus.

In the effort to increase the graduation rate, a taskforce consisting of faculty, administrators, and students spent much of last year revising the University Core Curriculum in order to make the core curriculum more concise, flexible, appealing, and accessible.

In the past five years, the number of USI courses available by distance education has increased by 138 percent, from 52 to 138. In addition, steps are being taken to allow students eventually to fulfill all core university curriculum requirements via distance education.

"The focus on improving our graduation rate gets to the heart of the strategic plan," said President Linda L. M. Bennett. "Through better advising, more flexible ways to earn a degree, and other retention efforts, we will give students a better chance for academic success – and produce more graduates for our state and region. Improving student experience and success is evident in each of our goals."

See a [presentation \(http://www.usi.edu/president/strategicplan/USI_Strategic_Plan-UPDATE_Fall_2013_v2.pdf\)](http://www.usi.edu/president/strategicplan/USI_Strategic_Plan-UPDATE_Fall_2013_v2.pdf) on progress to date on the USI strategic plan.

Strategic Plan Goals

[Enhance Experiential Learning Opportunities \(/strategicplan/goals/enhance-experiential-learning-opportunities\)](/strategicplan/goals/enhance-experiential-learning-opportunities)

[Increase the Graduation Rate \(/strategicplan/goals/increase-the-graduation-rate\)](/strategicplan/goals/increase-the-graduation-rate)

[Preserve & Nurture the Campus Community \(/strategicplan/goals/preserve-nurture-the-campus-community\)](/strategicplan/goals/preserve-nurture-the-campus-community)

[Provide Leadership to Indiana and the Region \(/strategicplan/goals/provide-leadership-to-indiana-and-the-region\)](/strategicplan/goals/provide-leadership-to-indiana-and-the-region)

[Increase Diversity of Faculty, Staff, and Student Body \(/strategicplan/goals/increase-diversity-of-faculty,-staff,-and-student-body\)](/strategicplan/goals/increase-diversity-of-faculty,-staff,-and-student-body)

[Become a 24/7 Campus \(/strategicplan/goals/become-a-247-campus\)](/strategicplan/goals/become-a-247-campus)
