



Members of the University Community:

The time has come to think even more creatively about our work and to plan differently for our future.

The parameters of a meaningful life — that our students rightly expect us to help them discover — are in a constant state of flux. The foundation of a successful economy — that our state rightly expects us to help it deliver — is ever-changing. And the goal of sturdy and stable communities — that our people rightly expect us to help them sustain — is more challenging than ever before.

The time has come to cast aside the tired and numbing routines of planning that lead to generic and uninspired results. The time has come to commit ourselves instead to new approaches as we seek new solutions. The time has come to plan not for what is, but for what is next.

To commence this essential undertaking, our Board of Trustees engaged yesterday with 80 faculty, staff, and students in three future-focused scenarios that encouraged the expansion of the range of available strategies; the avoidance of the pitfalls and blind-spots in traditional planning; and the consideration of how best to develop a campus that accommodates the learning and career needs of tomorrow's undergraduate, graduate, and professional students.

General themes emerged, which when combined with thoughtful consideration of the University's other essential missions of research and service, will lay the foundation for the University's next Strategic Plan.

VISION:

Meet Our Students Where They Are; Get Them To Where Kentucky Needs Them To Be

THEMES:

Tailor High-Impact, Goal-Oriented Experiences
Evaluate and Cultivate Tools for Success
Make Academics Challenging; Navigation Easy
Redefine Achievement; Consistently Reward It
Leverage the Value of Diversity
Harness the Power of Technology
Engage Within and Beyond the Campus
Prepare For The First Job and The Next Job

RESULT:

Be the University Of, For, and With Kentucky

Under the leadership of Provost David Blackwell and his team, we will soon begin a robust and forward-thinking campus-wide conversation. We will be announcing more details about our process that will provide multiple and varied opportunities for reflective input from every member of our community.

The time has come to think even more creatively about our future.

Eli Capilouto
President