

Mission Statement

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

Mission Context

The university, established in 1902 by the Church of the Nazarene, offers quality liberal arts and professional programs on its main campus in San Diego and select graduate and professional programs throughout the denomination's southwest educational region.

Vision Statement

Point Loma Nazarene University will be a nationally prominent Christian university and a leading Wesleyan voice in higher education and the church – known for excellence in academic preparation, wholeness in personal development, and faithfulness to mission.

Bob Brower, Ph.D.
President

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Background

Preparing effective leaders for a rapidly changing world.....

Rooted in our mission, vision, and university values, our strategic priorities build upon our successes to ensure the future quality and relevance of a PLNU education for all whom we serve. The rapidly changing context of higher education and the demands of an increasingly complex world require our planning and action to take a proactive approach to our future. While a strategic plan is not intended to describe all that PLNU must do in its pursuit of mission and vision, it is intended to identify priorities that point us toward the institutional quality and vitality that will be necessary to effectively serve our students and communities. These priorities are the result of broad input from across the university, which also incorporated environmental scanning data to help provide the future context of our work.

Preparing students as effective leaders in a rapidly changing world is not a new calling for PLNU; it is the foundation of our history and work. For generations, PLNU has developed students deep in faith and life skills who were academically well prepared to meet the challenges and opportunities of their day. The core needs for the future are similar, but the pace of change and the uncertainties of this age require a new educational agility, with increased student access points, creative learning modalities, and relevant learning outcomes if graduates are to effectively respond to the demands of their day.

Point Loma Nazarene University

Strategic Priorities

**Implementation Report
June 2012**

Strengthen Our Distinctive Learning Community

In order to meet the educational needs of students in a rapidly changing world, we will innovate in our curricular and co-curricular programs to strengthen and enhance student learning.

Accomplishments in 2011-12

- Designed the curricular changes for a First Year Experience (FYE).
- Taskforce completed recommendations for technology-mediated instruction and alternate modes of content delivery for educational purposes.
- Hired a full-time director for the Center for Teaching and Learning.
- Hired a new Associate Vice President for University Advancement with experience in major gift fundraising.
- Expanded the graduate chaplaincy program to all regional centers.

Plans for 2012-13

Pilot test new FYE and finalize Student and Spiritual Development programming. Complete evaluation of PLNU's fundamental technology systems to support current and strategic needs. Conduct an analysis of current GE system. Develop strategies for increased support of faculty scholarship. Implement strategy for focus on raising major gifts. Develop strategies for Liberty Station and Mission Valley properties related to continuing education and space rental.

Increase Educational Access

In order to meet the educational needs of students in a rapidly changing world, we will create opportunities and strategies to increase access to a PLNU education.

Accomplishments in 2011-12

- Piloted expanded version of summer school.
- Introduced new BA in Liberal Studies for adult learners (over 25 with an AA degree).
- Conducted faculty, staff, and undergraduate student campus climate survey to address core value of diversity.
- Offered Summer Academy with the goal of outreach to high school students of color.
- Moved nursing students to Liberty Station which opened up opportunity to admit additional undergraduate students.

Plans for 2012-13

Develop a tested summer school model. Conduct market research to determine demand for new programs in identified locations. Design curricular and co-curricular programs to meet needs of student populations at alternative locations. Identify action items based on campus climate survey. Expand Summer Academy. Develop an expanded system for supporting first generation students. Implement three-year plan to grow student population by 200 FTE.

Foster Innovation and Agility

In order to meet the educational needs of students in a rapidly changing world, we will design proactive strategies that ensure that effective educational programs and institutional systems are created to address the changing contexts in higher education and culture.

Accomplishments in 2011-12

- Developed and refined a system of environmental scanning and dissemination of information.
- Hired an institutional research consultant to conduct an external review of PLNU's institutional research capacity.
- Compiled and submitted academic data to the Delaware Study in order to develop benchmarks for academic departments.
- As a part of seeking funding for innovation, hired a grant writer to help the School of Nursing achieve a grant for _____. An additional grant is being submitted to the Templeton Foundation for a new Center for Science and Religion.

Plans for 2012-13

Use fast-track academic approval system process to approve select proposals for new academic initiatives. Implement institutional research restructuring under new leadership. Establish academic department benchmarks based on Delaware Study and benchmarks for diversity/cultural competence. Expand PLNU's major gifts work.

Demonstrate Accountability

In order to meet the educational needs of students in a rapidly changing world, we will continuously demonstrate and improve student learning and mission fulfillment through effective assessment practices.

Accomplishments in 2011-12

- Completed the PLNU WASC Interim Report and developed a simplified and transparent process involving the "NILOA wheel" for departmental reporting.
- Created and finalized Program Review guideline documents.
- Conducted background data gathering for Dickeson Process on resource prioritization.
- Created a high-level rolling three-year budget and forecasting process.

Plans for 2012-13

Complete WASC report and develop infrastructure for the next round of accreditation. Conduct multiple department program reviews with new guidelines. Begin prioritization assessment based on data gathered. Develop long-term budget forecasting (5+ years) process.