IU Northwest Strategic Priorities

May, 2012
Final Revision: December, 2013

The IU Northwest Strategic Priorities commit our campus to fully engage the expectations for higher education in the 21st Century. The Vision and Values of the campus offer guidance for process and progress toward this objective. The personal and intellectual growth of our students and community remain paramount to our work as we move forward. Based on the premise that growth is healthy, instrumental, and necessary, we emphasize and develop inclusive educational and cultural opportunities for an ever-increasing number of residents of diverse Northwest Indiana, to improve their individual and collective lives. Through growth, we continue to invest to improve our academic programs to advance student success. Through growth we expand educational modalities, to equitably accommodate the region’s wide range of learners. Through growth, we can enhance the many modes of scholarly activity that enrich our students’ academic experience and impact on the region, the nation and the world. Finally, through growth, we will create the financial foundations that support access to IU academic excellence in our region.

• **Student success is our primary mission.** Meeting student objectives in learning, offering the best pedagogical practices, providing high-quality academic and career advising, instituting efforts to improve collaborative learning opportunities, exemplifying equity and inclusion, merging the best technological advances in the conduct of our learning, and other innovative initiatives and partnerships lead us to a premier academic experience and outcome for our demographically diverse student population. Student attainment of degree and credential objectives is central to student success. Continuing efforts to maintain affordability strengthens the prospects for student academic success.

• **Academic excellence is at the heart of curriculum content and disciplinary scholarship that create the high quality Indiana University educational experience.** Expectations in both student and faculty scholarship are paramount in advancing student success, enhancing experiential learning in research and creative activity, and building a thorough foundation to enable lifelong learning. Aggressive and effective recruitment of a strong, diverse faculty of teacher-scholars reinforces good stewardship of our resources and best serves the needs of our students and communities.

• **Community engagement is the hallmark of our commitment to advancing educational opportunities while addressing regional priorities.** The scholarship of faculty and student engagement results in a stronger economic and cultural impact in our region, while simultaneously strengthening experiential learning. Our collaborative engagement with Northwest Indiana communities supports sustainable progress, addressing greater opportunities for diversity, equity, and inclusion among our students and workforce, and providing a valuable context for the complete student experience. Our student, faculty, and staff commitments go beyond their institutional roles to an active engagement with community-based organizations and groups.

• **Student as Future Citizen is an essential component of student success.** Our educational experience embraces development of awareness and participation through discourse, analysis, and reflection integral to learning and application. The role of students in shaping our democratic future requires that they be both active and involved in society, and assume leadership responsibilities in business, government, civic organizations, and other public spheres. The tools and ideas that facilitate this objective are essential components of our education.

• **Outstanding Institutional infrastructure and support are essential elements for achieving success and excellence.** Student learning experiences and faculty scholarship rely on infrastructure that facilitates success. The availability of support resources and accomplished staff furthers student learning, improves engagement, and optimizes the opportunity for substantive scholarship.

“Every Student Matters”
• **Campus human resources and administrative functions are the facilitators of transformational success.** Best practices that strategically focus our resources and stewardship efforts are critical objectives for all units. A culture of continuous improvement and investment in the continuing professional growth of all employees bring about significant transformations in how we accomplish our work and thrive intellectually, as a diverse community of students, faculty and staff.

• **Funding our future builds self-reliance and success.** Academic excellence requires innovative approaches to funding initiatives and pioneering programs. Diversifying and expanding new revenue streams are central to achieving success in our mission. Increasing financial support to strengthen the endowment, maintaining and enhancing both physical and human capital, and supporting current operations are essential for the future. In addition, the resources developed through improved student recruitment and success further enhance a trajectory and culture of continuous improvement, including collaborative relationships with regional high schools and higher education institutions. Students, faculty, and staff work together in developing new financial opportunities.

**OVERARCHING GOAL:**

**A SUSTAINED ANNUAL DEGREE PRODUCTIVITY OF 800 DEGREES**  
**WITH STUDENT CENSUS OF 6500 BY AY 2015-16**

**EXPECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF THE GRADUATING COHORT INCLUDE:**

• 80% UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES AND 20% GRADUATE DEGREES

• **OUR GRADUATING STUDENT PROFILE INCREASINGLY RESEMBLES OUR CONTINUING STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS**

• **IMPROVEMENT IN TIME-TO-DEGREE COMPLETION ACROSS ALL PROGRAMS**

**Vision Statement**

We are Indiana University in Northwest Indiana, providing personal, affordable and life-changing education, to advance the social, economic and civic health of the region. Through our diverse working and learning environment, we help build lives and communities.

**Values Statement**

We, the students, faculty, staff, and alumni of IU Northwest, value:

• Our unique identity as Indiana University in Northwest Indiana;
• Academic excellence and scholarship, characterized by a love of ideas and achievement in learning, discovery, creativity, and engagement;
• The complete richness and dignity of the human family in all of its diversity;
• Supporting aspirations of the individual and community;
• The contributions of all of our constituencies;
• An environment conducive for learning, self-examination, and personal growth that leads to greater student success;
• Graduates prepared for life-long learning, ethical practices, successful careers, and effective citizenship; and
• Collaboration with other educational institutions, external partners, and the Northwest Indiana community.

“Every Student Matters”