2021 Strategic Plan

Our Mission
Our mission is to create and grow a community of exceptional students, faculty, staff, alumni and industry partners that strive to create a common future for all where innovative, sustainable and equitable solutions to global engineering challenges are realized for the benefit of this generation and future generations.

Our Vision
Our vision is a community that fosters:

1. An environment for experiential student-centered learning, preparing the interdisciplinary leaders of tomorrow.
2. Research making a positive difference on grand challenges facing society.
3. Making big ideas real through a culture of innovation, entrepreneurship, and collaboration.
4. A diverse and inclusive community supporting our students, alumni, faculty and staff.
5. Real-world computer science and engineering by being a catalyst in encouraging industry and academia to collaborate, enabling experiences connecting students and faculty with alumni and industry, both at home and abroad.
6. Sustainability, in order to create thriving, healthy, diverse and resilient communities for this generation and generations to come.

Core Values
These are the values for which we hold each other responsible:

1. Accountability: Committing to the efficient and transparent stewardship of our resources to achieve excellence
2. Achievement: Ensuring distinction in learning, scholarship
3. Collaboration: Fostering cooperation to advance learning, entrepreneurship and inquiry
4. Freedom: Striving for truth with responsibility and civility, respecting the dignity of all individuals
5. Innovation: Cultivating discovery, creativity and originality
6. Service: Engaging in the application of teaching, learning and discovery to improve the human condition and support the public good
7. Diversity and inclusion: Ensuring a culture of mutual trust and respect where individuals of differing cultural backgrounds, identities, abilities, ideas, beliefs and life experiences are embraced, engaged and empowered to drive excellence
8. Integrity: Adhering to the highest standards of honesty, respect and professional and scholarly ethics
9. Perseverance: Encouraging faculty, staff and students to meet their aspirational goals
Recruitment: Increase number of new full-time, first-time freshmen to 500 and transfer students to 200, master’s degree students to 200, and Ph.D. students to 100 by 2027.

Retention and Graduation: Increase the overall graduation rate to 70 percent by 2027 by focusing on readiness and retention. Increase total degrees awarded annually to 700 by 2027.

Research: Increase the annual research expenditures to $35 million in 2027, by assisting faculty with applications for individual research grants, providing support for post-award management, and developing multi-investigator cross-disciplinary research programs. Identify areas of research focus (e.g., pharmaceutical engineering, sustainability and clean energy, materials development, healthcare, regenerative medicine and rehabilitation, cyber and cyber-physical systems, and data science) and make strategic investments in them. Increase research output and its value to society in terms of publications and citations as well as new discoveries, patents and products.

Resources: Provide the resources and incentives by which students, faculty and industry partners can initiate tomorrow’s solutions. Achieve $25 million in new philanthropic donations by 2027 to be used for endowed chairs and professorships; support for faculty startup, retention, and infrastructure; and support for students through scholarships and stipends and infrastructure to advance learning. This includes the annual bond payment of $3.6 million for the Engineering Research Building.

Reputation: Enhance College of Engineering reputation to achieve a national ranking in the top 75 by 2027.