



**Utah Board of Higher Education
Friday, August 20, 2021
Academic Education Committee**

8:00 AM – 8:05 AM	Welcome
8:05 AM – 8:20 AM	<p>Action Item: Report and recommendations from the Board Transfer Council.....TAB A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research strategy: prioritize implementation of State Student ID to improve tracking of transfer students• Direct Transfer Pathway pilot recommendation for fall• New membership on the Council
8:20 AM – 9:20 AM	<p>Action Item: Academic Education Committee priorities and strategic plan responsibilities.....TAB B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review and strategizing of specific priorities assigned to Academic Education Committee• Action: recommendation to forward an additional “pillar” related to research to the full board for inclusion in the strategic plan.....TAB C• Follow up from Chief Academic Officers and Chief Diversity Officers on faculty recruitment and retention tactics
9:20 AM- 10:00 AM	Discussion Item: Concurrent Enrollment and its role in degree completion.



UTAH SYSTEM OF
HIGHER EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TAB A

August 20, 2021

Board Transfer Council Update

The Board Transfer Council (BTC) is forwarding the following recommendations to the Academic Education Committee for approval:

1. Implement the use of a State Student Identifiers to facilitate the collection of transfer data. Carrie Mayne and the Utah System of Higher Education (USHE) Institutional Research Team presented data on transfer within the USHE to the Council in August and shared their strategy for tracking transfer and completion going forward. Because of the difficulty tracking transfer students, the Council recommends that the Utah Board of Higher Education direct the Commissioner's Office and relevant institutional staff to fully implement the use of the Utah State Board of Education-issued State Student Identifiers such that all students can be tracked as they move between institutions.
2. Ask the psychology faculty major committee to design the first USHE direct transfer pathway pilot.

In March, the Board of Higher Education authorized the Transfer Council and the Commissioner's Office to begin work on designing direct transfer pathway pilots in certain majors. A working group of the institutional representatives from the Council used data around transfer and degree completions and existing degree maps to identify the major that affects the largest number of transfer students and has the clearest curriculum pathways to use as a test case of a direct transfer agreement. Based on their evaluation, the BTC is recommending the psychology major become the first direct transfer pilot. The pilot will entail tasking the psychology faculty major committee with mapping two stackable degree pathways: an associate pathway in psychology that could be used to complete a bachelor's degree in psychology at any of the four-year USHE institutions with only 60-62 additional credits (or the equivalent of 2 years of full time enrollment). The pathway will be designed and mapped out early enough in the coming academic year to be included in institutional catalogs for the following year. Based on what is learned from the initial work with psychology, the faculty major committees for the other top majors will then develop the next set of transfer pathways.

3. Update the membership of the Transfer Council to reflect changes in positions on the Board of Higher Education and at institutions. The recommended membership for Academic Year 2022 is:
 - Board members:
 - Chair: Nina Barnes
 - Student member: Tanner Markham
 - Presidents representing distinct institutional roles:
 - Regional Universities: Biff Williams (Dixie State University)
 - Research Universities: Noelle Cockett (Utah State University)
 - Two-Year Colleges: Deneece Huftalin (Salt Lake Community College)
 - Faculty/Curriculum Groups:
 - Utah Council of Faculty Senate Leadership: Timothy Herzog (Weber State University)
 - General Education Task Force Chair: Eric Amsel (Weber State University)
 - Institutional Representatives:
 - Utah State University: Paul Barr
 - Weber State University: Casey Bullock
 - University of Utah: Chase Hagood
 - Salt Lake Community College: Jeff Aird
 - Utah Valley University: David Connelly
 - Southern Utah University: Jon Anderson
 - Snow College: Melanie Jenkins
 - Dixie State University: Sarah Vandermark

Commissioner's Recommendation

The Commissioner recommends that the Academic Education Committee approve the three action items from the Board Transfer Council.



UTAH SYSTEM OF
HIGHER EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TAB B

August 20, 2021

Strategic Plan Update: Assigning Strategies to Specific Board Committees

In 2020, Utah's two higher education systems merged, creating a single system of 16 higher education institutions. The Utah Board of Higher Education adopted a comprehensive strategic plan in May 2021 to guide the newly-merged System for the next five years. To develop the strategic plan, the Board and Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education engaged in a rigorous, collaborative, and creative process built on previous boards' past initiatives and incorporated feedback from institutions, state leaders, students, and other stakeholders. The Board's strategic plan focuses on six key priorities:

- System Unification
- Access
- Affordability
- Completion
- Workforce Alignment
- Research

Two main themes guide the strategic plan:

1. Alignment of measures between statewide postsecondary attainment goals and performance-based funding
2. Centering of educational equity and inclusion so that higher education opportunities exist for all Utahns

Strategies to Board Committees

The Commissioner's office has assigned strategies from the strategic plan to specific Board committees. This does not mean a specific strategy will not impact other committees, but that an identified committee will keep an eye on its assigned strategies' progress and actively work to shepherd the strategies along. (A note: The Academic Education and Technical Education Committees share all of their strategies, as they impact both degree-granting and technical institutions.)

Progress on the Strategic Plan Thus Far

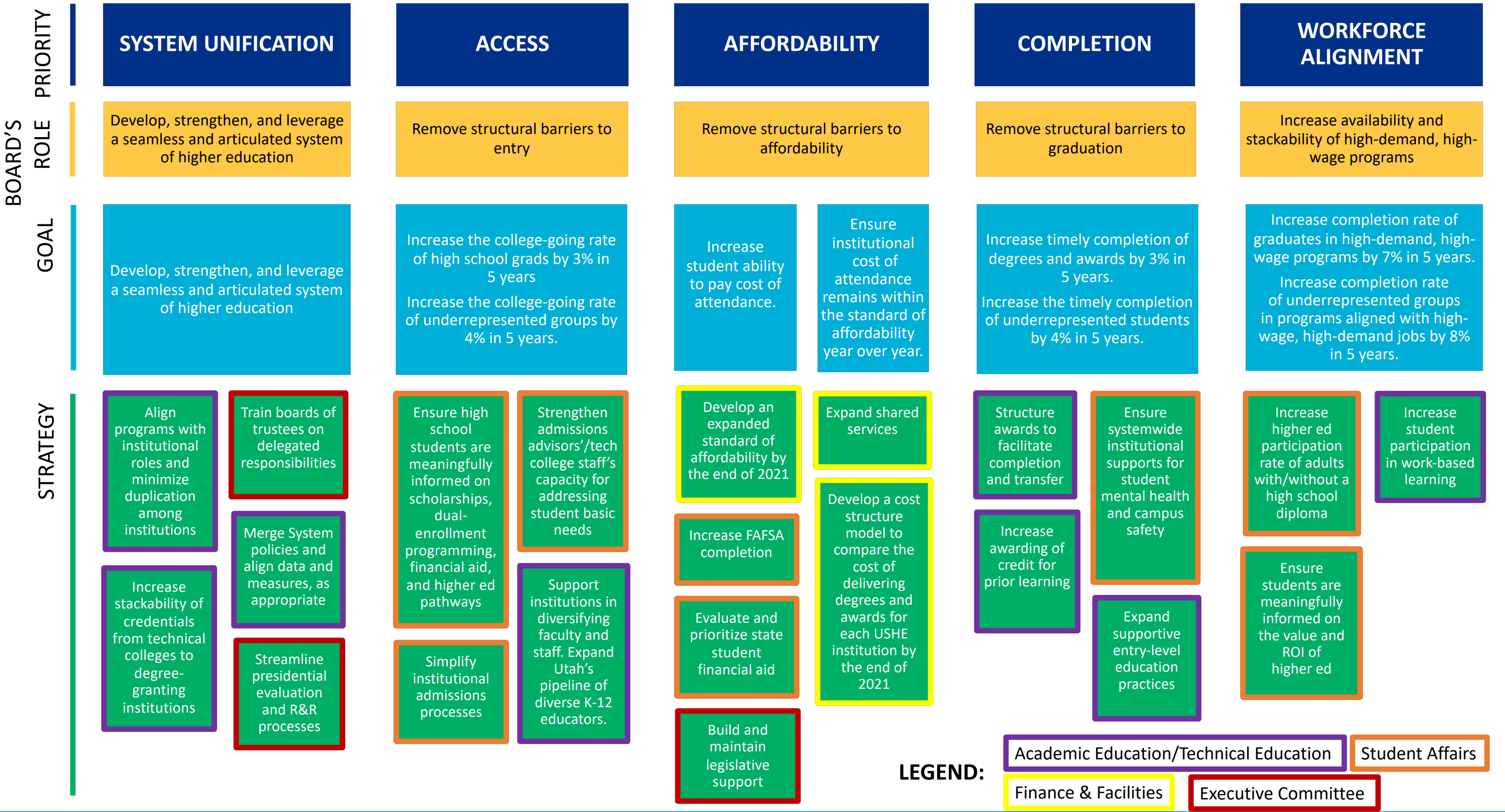
The Commissioner's office is developing project plans for each tactic identified in the strategic plan, as well as an implementation timeline for the next 12 months. The Commissioner's office will present the first progress report on the strategic plan at the September 2021 Board meeting. The progress reports will be updated monthly and available on www.ushe.edu.

The Commissioner's office will present a draft of the Research priority of the strategic plan (added at the May 2021 Board meeting) to the Academic Education Committee in August for discussion. A final draft will be presented to the Board for consideration in September.

Commissioner's Recommendation

This is an information item only; no action is required.

Attachment





UTAH SYSTEM OF
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MEMORANDUM

TAB C

August 20, 2021

Discussion: Draft Research Priority of the Board's Strategic Plan

In 2020, Utah's two higher education systems merged, creating a single system of 16 higher education institutions. The Utah Board of Higher Education adopted a comprehensive strategic plan in May 2021 to guide the newly-merged System for the next five years. The Board's strategic plan focuses on six key priorities:

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- Affordability
- Completion
- Workforce Alignment
- Research

The Research priority of the strategic plan was added at the May 2021 Board meeting, as research is an important institutional role of degree-granting institutions. It contributes millions of dollars to the state's economy, creates thousands of jobs and hundreds of companies, improves the quality of life by addressing key issues within the state, and results in numerous direct technology transfers.

The Commissioner's office worked in partnership with the University of Utah and Utah State University to develop a draft of the priority, strategies, and tactics (attached) for discussion at the Academic Education Committee. Based on the committee's recommendation, the Commissioner's office will present a final draft of the priority to the Board for consideration at the September 2021 meeting.

Commissioner's Recommendation

The Commissioner recommends that the Academic Education Committee discuss the draft Research priority and forward its recommendations to the Board of Higher Education for adoption into the Board's strategic plan.

Attachment

PRIORITY	RESEARCH		
BOARD'S ROLE	Communicating/Advocating for the role of research in innovation, discovery (cutting-edge), technology transfer, workforce/economic development, and community engagement and impact; state funding to support graduate students, research		
GOAL	What goal can we reach in 5 years?		
TACTIC STRATEGY	Advocate for the role of research in innovation, technology transfer, economic development/workforce, and community engagement and impact		Ensure institutions have needed supports to conduct research and support graduate students
	DEGREE-GRANTING	TECHNICAL	
	Build into legislative narrative		Consider one-time funds in 2022 budget request to support research facilities
	Integrate role of research into strategic marketing campaign		Include research initiatives at research universities in Board budget process that are most high-impact (community health, etc.)
	Mechanism for research to be more ingrained in Board discussions/decisions		Identify state-level issues, rely on research universities to lead out on innovations and solutions to issue, serve as leader for other institutions and demonstrate partnerships with other institutions, through strategic funding
	Point of the Mountain Innovation Hub		