

Guide Star: A college powered by the word “And.” A place where students benefit from world-class academics and an array of co-curricular involvements. A college where a student can compete for a national championship in athletics and still study abroad; receive conservatory-quality training in the arts and still have the full college experience; develop friendships with people who are like them and people who have totally different world views. A college where students can follow their existing interests and develop new passions. A college that has stayed true to its roots and adapted to meet the needs and interests of current students.

Strategic Plan Focus: Provide students with a life-shaping liberal arts education that unlocks their potential to be the architects of their lives. To do this, we will focus on six areas of institutional focus.



Read full plan

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES	
Financial Aid & Affordability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance financial assistance to ensure all students can attend without incurring significant loan debt • Reduce financial stressors by building on the Red Thread Grant program • Ensure study abroad, summer internships, and other meaningful experiences are accessible to all students • Stay committed to low- and middle-income students
Faculty & Academic Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest in our faculty and academic programs • Support outside-of-the-classroom experiences that create mentorship moments • Continue to expand the arts, global programs, Lisska Center, and the CfLT • Enhance academic spaces • Support scholarship and creative work of faculty • Implement Academic Priorities Plan
Residential Student Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reexamine first-year onboarding • Focus on being a welcoming and inclusive campus, aligned with Denison Forward plan • Develop lifelong habits of well-being • Promote open minds and intellectual discourse • Focus on residence hall communities, and student spaces for social engagement • Implement Student Life Plan
Career Exploration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on Knowlton’s four pillars (coaching & career communities, faculty partnerships, alumni & employer relations, and Denison Edge) • Make Sophomore Journey a signature program • Support student entrepreneurs through Red Frame Lab • Support students seeking fellowships through Lisska Center • Support alums 5 years post-graduation
Alumni Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renew Big Red Weekend, Reunion, Denison Everywhere, and other signature programs • Refresh regional events • Make ReMix a signature alumni event • Develop impactful volunteer roles for interested alumni • Engage alums in the work of the Knowlton Center for Career Exploration
Workplace Environment & Operational Excellence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform compensation and benefits studies, updates • Nurture on-campus community and ensure great workplaces • Enhance professional development opportunities • Focus on being an inclusive and welcoming campus, implement Denison Forward plan • Develop and implement sustainability plan to reduce carbon footprint • Invest in HR to increase support for culture and community