



UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY

OFFICE *of* THE PRESIDENT

TO: University Planning Advisory Committee (UPAC)  
FROM: President Astrid S. Tuminez  
DATE: September 10, 2020  
SUBJECT: 2020-21 Presidential Charge

Thank you for your willingness to serve on the University Planning Advisory Committee (UPAC). UPAC plays an essential role in the university's planning, assessment, and accreditation processes and serves in an advisory capacity to the President and other senior leaders on university planning and effectiveness. Members represent a broad range of programs and services in an effort to reflect diverse viewpoints, collaboration, and coordination across UVU's operations, functions, and resources and to promote broad ownership for the university's plans. We are entering a period of major changes and disruption in higher education. The work that you do will enhance the brain trust needed to make UVU stronger and more relevant to a vibrant Utah society and economy.

UPAC's ongoing responsibilities include:

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| <b>Planning</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Advising the University Executive Committee and university leadership regarding the university's mission and goals. Of critical importance now and in the next few years is our completion goal of 45% by 2025.</li><li>• Reviewing the alignment of UVU planning efforts with initiatives and trends beyond the university, especially those of the State of Utah and the Utah System of Higher Education (USHE). This is especially important in light of the current legislative review of the future directions of Utah public higher education.</li><li>• Reviewing new and revised major operational and unit master plans.</li></ul> |
| <b>Assessment</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identifying meaningful, measurable, and verifiable indicators, measures, and benchmarks for evaluating achievement of UVU's mission, action commitments, and objectives in cooperation with other university organizations and in accordance with the standards and policies of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.</li><li>• Assessing whether UVU is fulfilling its mission, action commitments, and objectives and whether it will be able to do so sustainably in its foreseeable internal and external operating environments.</li></ul>  |
| <b>Communication</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Disseminating information presented to UPAC to the broader campus community and offering opportunity for input by constituencies.</li><li>• Providing feedback for the Planning, Budget, and Assessment (PBA) process.</li><li>• Providing recommendations and feedback regarding major presidential initiatives and addresses.</li></ul>   |
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In assessing the role of UPAC and UVU's planning needs for the coming year, I am specifically asking UPAC to:

- Conduct UVU's biennial SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) analysis to help inform this year's strategic planning at UVU.
- Support implementation of Vision 2030, in particular reviewing measures of achievement for the plan and coordinating Vision 2030 metrics with indicators for mission fulfillment.
- Become informed about growth pressures and identify strategies for responding to growth pressures in support of a planned update of the Strategic Plan for Managing Growth, and review implementation of other major operational plans.
- Understand, support, and, to the extent practicable, contribute to the higher education agenda of the Utah Board of Higher Education; support UVU's alignment of its intentions with those of UBHE as they evolve; and support UVU's responses to continuing efforts of the Higher Education Strategic Planning Commission.
- Participate in the NWCCU Mid-Cycle Review virtual site visit, communicating UPAC's role in the development and assessment of UVU's mission, action commitments, and objectives.
- Maintain awareness of the ways that the COVID-19 pandemic may affect mission fulfillment and assessment processes.
- Investigate issues of importance to UVU's ability to sustainably fulfill its mission, action commitments, and objectives that the university or the committee may find appropriate.

UPAC is comprised of representatives of the administration, faculty, staff, and students. Many members serve by virtue of their position. General committee members are appointed by the President and serve two-year terms. Regardless of appointment, I expect that UPAC's members will:

- Attend and participate in all meetings or find a substitute if unable to attend,
- Review all materials from committee projects and give input as requested,
- Facilitate two-way communication between UPAC and the broader campus community, particularly your own organizations,
- Maintain awareness of broader UVU and higher education issues in general, and
- Model the positivity and enthusiasm that differentiates us as Wolverines.

UPAC is co-chaired by a faculty member and the Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Planning, and Accreditation Support. I have asked Susan Thackery to continue as faculty co-chair, joining Jeff Johnson in his co-chair role as Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Planning, and Accreditation Support. Linda Makin, the Vice President for Planning, Budget, and Human Resources, serves as the executive sponsor. Under their leadership, I know UPAC will be focused and productive in advancing the aims and mission of Utah Valley University.

Thank you for your service and commitment to Utah Valley University. Careful planning and collaboration are keys to our success, and I look forward to UPAC's insights on many critical issues. Together, we will demonstrate exceptional care, practice exceptional accountability, and achieve exceptional results, creating a positive difference in the lives of our students, faculty, staff, and community.