

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE MOVING FORWARD: THE PC200 STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN

JUNE 2024



BACKGROUND

PC200, the college's 10-year strategic plan, was adopted in late fall 2018. Just as the college was creating implementation plans for some of the larger PC200 initiatives, work was paused by the pandemic.

A change in presidential leadership followed soon after, with Father Kenneth R. Sicard becoming PC's 13th president on July 1, 2020.

The post-pandemic higher education landscape revealed new concerns and considerations, which led Father Sicard to begin a process of defining new initiatives – within the PC200 framework – to address emerging and imminent needs.

ADVANCING THE PLAN

While the drastically changing landscape in higher education reveals the need to continually maximize flexibility in making strategic investments, the essence of PC200 remains relevant, even as we pass the halfway point of its original 10-year inception. Thus, advancement of any pertinent objectives that have not already come to fruition will continue as deemed necessary.

The essential objectives of The PC200 Strategic Action Plan are: 1) identify and advance any initiatives from the existing plan that have not been fully realized; 2) identify key emerging initiatives (or "priorities") not identified in PC200 that hold potential for transformational institutional progress; and 3) update and otherwise develop an operational business plan for implementing key priorities.

Refreshed Goals Originating From PC200



GOAL 1

Academic Innovation

Investments that will animate PC's mission-driven commitment to high standards of academic excellence, engaged scholarship, and student-centered learning.



GOAL 2

Institutional Stewardship

Purposeful development and use of our valuable resources to ensure PC's momentum as a coveted destination for personally fulfilling experiences in and out of the classroom.



GOAL 3

Access and Opportunity

Access to a superior education and continued personal development for a talented and diverse student body.



GOAL 4

Holistic Wellbeing and Belonging

A beloved community that values the development of the whole person – mind, body, and soul – through the pursuit of truth, virtue, and excellence.



PRESIDENTIAL PRIORITIES

Father Sicard has indicated a primary interest in initiatives currently underway including addressing a gap in the college's academic portfolio through a Center for Technology and Computational Sciences, continuing the launch of the School of Nursing and Health Sciences, executing a Slavin Center renovation, and fortifying PC's connections with global Dominican communities.

There is also considerable emphasis on addressing policies that will affect financial aid and affordability.

These initiatives continue to undergo business modeling and review. Learn about additional priorities on the following pages.



COMMUNICATION PLAN

To maintain momentum and activate initiatives that achieve the promise of the strategic plan, an updated web-based communication platform is in development. Activities include:

- An updated PC200 Strategic Action Plan website with progress reports, timelines, and initiative-specific information
- Distribution of a faculty survey in the fall of 2024 to solicit suggestions
- Upcoming roundtable conversations within the PC community to maintain open channels of communication





A RENEWED PLANNING PHASE

Several new strategic initiatives have emerged since the inception of PC200. These include areas focusing on student well-being, recruitment, and access and affordability. Some of these initiatives are immediate and underway and others are currently being studied for feasibility.

For the renewed planning phase, steering committees comprising various constituencies were created to assess the viability of existing initiatives. Additional priorities that would supplement the considerable progress achieved in PC200 will be discussed with the PC community in the coming months.

Nearly 50 initiatives were advanced for consideration, tracing back to PC200. Father Sicard, the Cabinet, and Board Committees elevated 12 emerging concepts, which are now under review to determine cost, sustainability, and impact.

A summary of the refreshed priorities is listed on the following page and will be detailed on the PC200 Strategic Action Plan website under development.



“The Strategic Action Plan is a roadmap towards achieving our vision to be among the most admired and sought-after institutions of higher education, steeped in the liberal arts and strongly grounded in the Catholic and Dominican intellectual tradition.”

– Father Kenneth R. Sicard, O.P.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES



Original PC200 Initiatives	PC200 Strategic Action Plan Priorities
Enable students to discover and reflect on faith and personal values and to choose paths, both during and after their years at Providence College	Deepen engagements through Catholic and Dominican partnerships
Assess emerging higher-education trends and anticipate changes in consumption, competition, and regulation over a 10-to-20-year horizon	Establish the Center for Technology and Computational Science
	Actualize the full School of Nursing and Health Sciences strategy
	Launch immersive programs in Communications and Digital Media
Update the master space plan to ensure residential, dining, and office spaces are attractive, comfortable, and conducive to community-building and co-curricular learning	Execute a Slavin Center renovation to support a contemporary student experience
Ensure students participate in a variety of high-impact educational practices and co-curricular activities	Develop high-impact Experiential Learning initiatives
Explore opportunities for maximizing and diversifying revenues including in-person, hybrid, or online certificates; graduate degree programs in emerging areas; and utilization of campus facilities during off-peak periods	Propose and approve selective graduate pathway programs
Assess and continue to improve resources, programs, and services that promote students' academic success and overall well-being	Facilitate the development of integrative programming for holistic well-being
Increase recruiting efforts in geographical areas with growing and diverse populations of college-age students who would be drawn to the cultural, spiritual, and intellectual experience offered by Providence College	Commit resources to support diversity recruitment and enrollment
Develop and implement long-term strategies, including partnerships with donors, to create scholarship programs based on financial need	Develop policies affecting financial aid and affordability
Create and endow the Providence College Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, building off initiatives that promote the liberal arts even more authentically	Create a Center for Innovation and Interdisciplinary Studies
Foster and support a mission-driven, student-centered athletics program to enhance campus community building, strengthen alumni engagement, and broaden the college's national profile and admissions reach	Ensure sufficient resources to accommodate sports and recreation