

About the Educational Futures and Student Success Task Force

The Educational Futures and Student Success Task Force is charged with developing a vision and strategic plan for meeting the needs of the growing and diversifying student population in the state of Utah.

The task force is exploring innovative ways to accommodate growth at the University of Utah to approximately 40,000 students, respond to workforce needs and raise the intellectual and cultural profile of the university while maintaining the highest quality education.

Growth for the sake of growth is not the objective; rather, it is to uphold the U's responsibility to educate Utahns, ensure the success of an ever more diverse set of students, respond to economic needs and raise the intellectual and cultural profile of the university. In short, it is about the educational, academic and intellectual future of the campus.

The task force will aim to provide an initial report in April, with a mid-term report in September and final report in December.

Some of the goals the task force will address include:

- Increasing six-year graduation rates
- Increasing student and faculty diversity
- Producing 2,500 STEM degree graduates and an additional 6,000 graduates in high demand areas to meet workforce needs
- Expanding the university's online course offerings
- Exploring innovative options to reduce student costs

Diane Pataki, Academic Affairs, and Robert Fujinami, Health Affairs, are co-chairs of the task force, overseeing six working groups. Holly Godsey, Geology & Geophysics/CSME, will facilitate interactions between the working groups and the Task Force Leadership Team.

The working groups and team leaders are:

Financial Analysis: Mark Winter, SVP Office, and Reyn Gallacher, Business

Enrollment Management and Marketing: Aretha Minor, Enrollment Management, and Kevin Perry, Atmospheric Sciences

Student Success and Services: Martha Bradley, Architecture/Undergraduate Studies, and Jordan Gerton, Physics/CSME

Facilities and Infrastructure: Robin Burr, CFO/Design & Construction, and Mimi Locher, Architecture

Educational Delivery and Partnerships: Cathleen Zick, Social and Behavior Sciences, and Al Landon, Business

Graduate Student Success: Katie Ullman, Graduate School, and Kevin Whitty, Chemical Engineering

For more information about the task force, please contact Holly Godsey at holly.godsey@utah.edu.