

Coyotes Rising Strategic Plan 2030

Mission

To promote and integrate academic excellence, spiritual development, personal well-being, & social responsibility

Strategic Plan Vision

KWU's purpose-driven education and experiences empower students and communities to create meaningful change toward transforming our world.

Strategic Priority 1 Relationship-Rich Education

“Human connection is the basis upon which learning takes place. Relationships are essential because there is no learning without relationships.”

Randy Bass, Georgetown University

“Relationships are the path to the learning, professional, and civic outcomes of higher education for students.”

Relationship-Rich Education by Felten and Lambert

Four Guiding Principles

- 1** All students must experience genuine welcome and deep care
- 2** Relationships are powerful means to inspire all students to learn
- 3** All students must develop webs of significant relationships in college
- 4** All students need meaningful relationships to help them – and to challenge them – to examine the big questions of their lives. Felten and Lambert

Strategic Priority 2 Redefining Learning

“To thrive in this new era, colleges must redefine the classroom as a hub for collaboration, interaction and discovery, supported by scalable, innovative online options. In-person time should become something students actively seek out, offering meaningful engagement, real-world application and the kind of connections online learning cannot replicate.”

Inside Higher Education, March 13, 2025, by Steven Mintz

“Liberal arts education is typically broad-based and exposes students to science, mathematics, social sciences, and humanities. This broad knowledge of the wider world will prepare you to deal with complexity, diversity, and change. . . . and transferable intellectual and practical skills, such as communication, analytical, and problem-solving abilities, and a demonstrated ability to apply knowledge and skills in real-world settings.”

Coalition for College, Jennifer Hollis

MISSION ALIGNMENT

	Relationship-Rich Education	Redefining Learning
Academic Excellence	✓	✓
Spiritual Development	✓	✓
Personal Well-being	✓	✓
Social Responsibility	✓	✓

Relationship-Rich Education

Year 1

Priority 1 Coyote Connections

Create a relationship-rich environment by cultivating belonging among faculty, staff, and students

Priority 2 Host Family Communication

Reimagine the structure of the Host Family Program to include strategic community events, and promotion to improve connection between host families and KWU

Priority 3 Non-Activity Student Retention

Finding solutions to retain students not involved in sports or fine arts, and those no longer participating in other activities

Priority 4 Build the Pack

Strengthen our campus community by enhancing social and professional connections among faculty, staff, coaches, and mentors

Priority 5 Restructuring the Domestic and International Student

Enhance the success and integration of all students, with a focus on underserved and “high-risk” populations

Priority 6 Transfer Experience

Elevate the transfer experience through thoughtful, research-based initiatives that promote a smooth transition, foster meaningful integration into campus and community life, and support both academic and personal success

Redefining Learning

Year 1

Priority 1 Class Schedule Taskforce

Analyze the Kansas Wesleyan class schedule to identify alignment and misalignment for our current and future students

Priority 2 Degree Reimagination

Drive innovation by exploring and implementing cutting-edge degree models, like the 90-credit hour bachelor's degree and outcome-based assessment, through collaborative learning journeys with peer institutions, internal stakeholders, and industry partners to enhance student success & career readiness

Priority 3 Grow Academic Offerings

Expand academic offerings through online/hybrid undergraduate and graduate programs

Priority 4 Practical Arts Center

Cultivate work-ready graduates by providing hands-on, industry-relevant skills and experiential learning opportunities that bridge the gap between academics and professional success