

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON
FY2022 Annual Review Narrative Survey

Unit: Continuum College

Section 1: Programmatic & Academic Vitality Narratives

- 1) Have you made any changes to your unit's strategic plan and/or budget process in the past year? If yes, what are 3-5 key elements of your unit's new/revised strategic plan and/or budget process? If no, please comment on the progress you've made in 3-5 key areas of your strategic plan.**

Our strategic plan is designed to address the reality that employees now change jobs and careers many times and that rapidly evolving industries require them to continually learn new skills. In order to be competitive for the jobs of tomorrow, today's college students will extend their learning over the six decades or so that they will work. Our programs are designed to support the continuing education needs of our learners over their lifetime. Our budget development process has not changed, and our strategic plan in support of the *60-year Curriculum* continues to evolve:

Online Learning: FY21 is our year to pause and create a new vision for online learning and digital innovation partnership.

- Make permanent the online modality options created for non-credit programs during COVID-19
- Complete research study on student preferences
- Grow internal capabilities in support of creating optimal online learning experiences for students
- Identify degree opportunities that would be competitive online and engage in conversation with academic departments
- Partner with the VP for Academic Affairs and a small working group of deans, faculty and administrators to chart a path for using vendors mixed with internal capabilities to extend our capacity to meet the growing demand for online development at UW

Updating the Academic Stack: Improvements to the digital infrastructure are ongoing for the foreseeable future.

- In FY21-25, our primary area of focus is the modernization of our fee-based student information system. This system is used to manage registration, student fees, and related workflow for fee-based students. Discovery is underway.
- Other ongoing, key initiatives include Online Application for non-matriculated students, preparing our systems for integration with UW's Finance Transformation, and continued integration between our SIS and CRM system.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: We are working to create an environment in which DEI is deeply reflected and integrated in our practices, workplace, student population, and partnerships.

- Reduce barriers to educational opportunities that will improve economic equity in support of population health by leveraging our scholarship program for non-credit students. Double scholarships for low-income students to take career-changing certificate programs.
- Document and share DEI-related projects with our staff, create opportunities for conversation and learning, offer two DEI town halls annually, and identify areas for staff development.
- UWC² DEI Committee and leadership partner to identify goals in support of a more inclusive and respectful workplace, utilizing an external consultant.

Improving relationships with Schools/Colleges: We're continuing to develop, document, implement, and communicate our new way for partnership management.

- FY21-22 will primarily focus on launching new fee models and increased options that enable degree programs to utilize the UWC² services that best meet their unique needs (effective July 2022).
- Continue building a comprehensive understanding of each portfolio of programs and the unique needs and goals of each School/College.



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- Distribute annual reports which include enrollment and financial history, along with brief outlook/recommendation for each fee-based program
- Facilitate a workshop series and roundtable discussions to share knowledge of best practices and current topics for self-sustaining programs
- Send quarterly newsletters that feature relevant articles and important dates