

USF Mission Statement

As a Catholic university rooted in the liberal arts, we are a welcoming community of learners challenged by Franciscan values and charism, engaged in a continuous pursuit of knowledge, faith, wisdom, and justice, and ever mindful of a tradition that emphasizes reverence for creation, compassion and peacemaking. We strive for academic excellence in all programs, preparing women and men to contribute to the world through service and leadership.

Objective 1

Leverage our Catholic heritage and Franciscan identity (of a values-oriented institutional culture) to create an intentionally diverse and welcoming community - so that our students lead, succeed, and graduate in order to positively contribute to their communities.

Goals

1. Ensure the student body embraces and reflects the diversity of a global world
2. Increase understanding and commitment to the tenets of a Catholic Franciscan higher education grounded in the expression found in the Catholic Social Teachings so that we exceed national averages for student and alumni.
3. Strengthen communities of learning to provide all members a sense of belonging.
4. Maintain a persistence and completion rate higher than our peer institutions in each of our student populations and for specific vulnerable populations.

Objective 2

Enhance the reputation and awareness of USF as a leading Catholic, Franciscan university with excellent student educational outcomes to increase the size of the student population.

Goals

1. Promote a broad portfolio of specialized accreditations validating program quality by external, nationally-recognized accrediting agencies – thereby increasing undergraduate and graduate applications.
2. Grow increasing awareness of USF brand and message regionally, nationally, and internationally by using consistent branding, promoting our achievements, and explaining USF's distinctive points to prospective student audiences and "influencers".
3. Improve and increase USF's rankings in national and international college reviews and quality listings.
4. Increase the percentage of alumni who philanthropically support the university.

Objective 3

Increase the quality of USF's academic and co-curricular programs – so that graduates of USF are prepared to contribute to the world through service and leadership.

Goals

1. Manage a broad portfolio of specialized accreditations validating program quality by receiving strong reviews with minimal concerns from nationally recognized accrediting agencies.
2. Consistent or increased student performance on key Gen Ed outcomes, and increased quality of assessment for academic programs
3. Provide high-quality academic programs and develop co-curricular and experiential learning opportunities that prepare graduates to contribute to the world through service and leadership.

Objective 4

Strengthen the financial capacity and long-term sustainability of USF through strategic investments, securing major grants and donations, and effective stewardship of resources.

Goals

1. Allocate resources to ensure program viability & quality of USF's mission-essential and market-driven programs.
2. Increase scale and scope of revenue beyond traditional tuition revenue.
3. Strengthen the balance sheet while constraining expense growth.

Objective 5

Cultivate an environment that attracts, develops, and retains faculty, staff, and administrators, who embrace a culture of continuous improvement along with USF's mission and values.

Goals

1. Develop a strengths-based culture across all divisions by focusing on Employee Engagement.
2. Retain employees who exhibit a commitment to continuous improvement and USF's mission.
3. Establish policies & procedures to ensure the safety of all personnel.