Agenda

- Pathways to Opportunity: The Virginia Plan for Higher Education
- University Innovation Alliance
- Competition
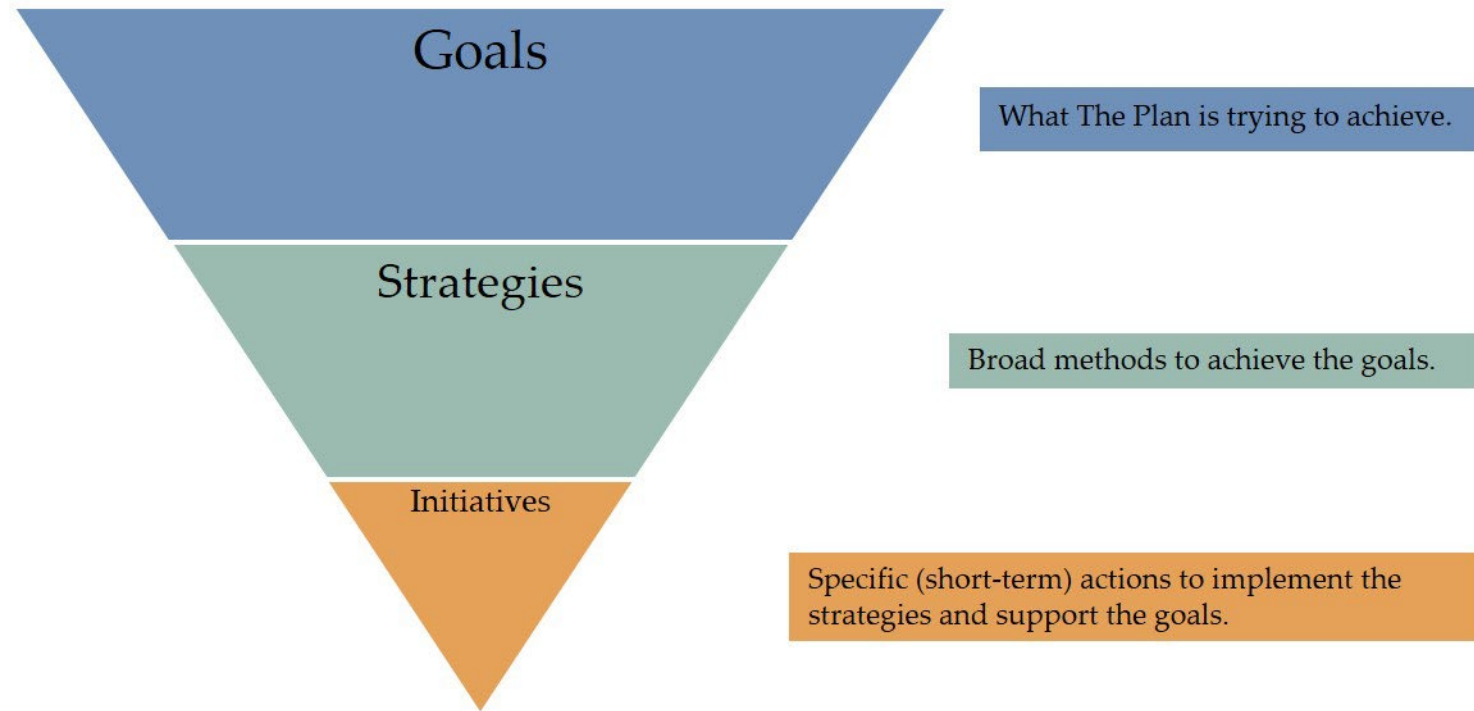- Q & A

Pathways to Opportunity - Goals

Remove barriers to access and attainment, especially for Black, Hispanic, Native American and rural students; students learning English as a second language; students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds; and students with disabilities.

EQUITABLE
Close access and completion gaps.

AFFORDABLE
Lower costs to students.
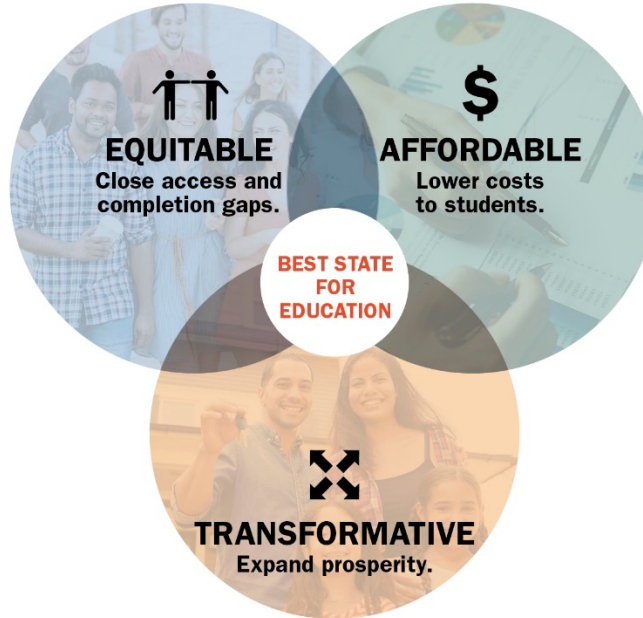
Invest in and support the development of initiatives that provide cost savings to students while maintaining the effectiveness of instruction.

BEST STATE FOR EDUCATION

TRANSFORMATIVE
Expand prosperity.

Increase the social, cultural and economic well-being of individuals and communities within the Commonwealth and its regions.

Plan Goals, Strategies and Initiatives

Goals — What The Plan is trying to achieve.

Strategies — Broad methods to achieve the goals.

Initiatives — Specific (short-term) actions to implement the strategies and support the goals.

Goal 2: Affordable – Lower Costs

Supporting Strategy

S.7: Foster program and administrative innovations that enhance quality, promote collaboration and improve efficiency.

Priority Initiative

I.7: Fund an initiative focusing on institutional collaboration and innovations to improve equitable student persistence and completion.

- Using FFEI funds, develop pilot parameters. Model after University Innovation Alliance and tailor to Virginia institutions.

University Innovation Alliance

National coalition of public research universities committed to increasing the number and diversity of college graduates in the United States, particularly low-income students, first-generation students and students of color.

University Innovation Alliance (cont'd)

"For too long, colleges and universities wasted time and resources trying to solve this graduation challenge by themselves. It was inefficient and ineffective, and students paid the price."

University Innovation Alliance (cont'd)

Established in 2014

Arizona State University

Georgia State University

Iowa State University

Michigan State University

North Carolina A&T State University

The Ohio State University

Oregon State University

Purdue University

University of California Riverside

University of Central Florida

UMBC

Virginia Commonwealth University

University Innovation Alliance (cont'd)

Goal: In just 10 years, UIA institutions would graduate 68,000 more students than they were otherwise projected to graduate, and at least half of those additional graduates would be from low-income backgrounds.

University Innovation Alliance (cont'd)

Five core principles:

1. Using data to measure progress and catalyze change; transparently sharing data across institutions

2. Reengineering institutions around students, using process mapping and design-thinking strategies to focus on what is and is not serving students – and what would serve them better

University Innovation Alliance (cont'd)

3. Fostering a collaborative, empowered environment across the UIA network
4. Embracing continual improvement and using data, organizational learning, and annual evaluations to monitor progress
5. Setting ambitious goals and holding each other accountable

University Innovation Alliance (cont'd)

Three-pronged commitment:
- Rapid experimentation;
- Deep collaboration; and
- Radical sharing of challenges, insights and data

University Innovation Alliance (cont'd)

Initiatives UIA Chose:

- Predictive Analytics (2015)
- Proactive Advising (2016)
- Completion Grants (2017)
- College to Career (2018)
- Chat Bots (2019)
- Doctoral Research Fellows (2019)

University Innovation Alliance (cont'd)

Website: https://theuia.org/our-work

University Innovation Alliance (cont'd)

Report: Innovating Together: Results from the University Innovation Alliance (June 2021)

- Goal of graduating 68,000 additional students was met in 6 years and goal was exceeded by 5,000 graduates
- Produced 36% more low-income graduates and 73% more graduates of color since the alliance started

FFEI Grant Competition

Established in 2016 by the General Assembly

Focus is:
1. to stimulate collaborations among public school divisions, community colleges and universities and to expand affordable student pathways and
2. to pursue shared services and other efficiency initiatives at colleges and universities that lead to measurable cost reductions

FFEI Grant Competition (cont'd)

Previous competitions

- 2016: Affordable Pathways Partnership Grant: support affordable pathway partnership expansion or implementation
- 2017: Planning grants

FFEI Grant Competition (cont'd)

2022 Spring: 1st competition based on UIA
Three awards:

- Patrick & Henry Community College and Ferrum College
- Radford University and New River Community College
- UVA-Wise and Mountain Empire Community College

FFEI Grant Competition (cont'd)

Timeline

1. Proposals Due: December 5, 2022
2. Award Announcement: Mid-January 2023
3. Start Date: February 1, 2023 (estimated)

FFEI Grant Competition (cont'd)

Awards

- Award amount: up to $100,000 over 30 months
- There is no minimum amount for requests
- No matching funds are required
- Funds cannot be used for indirect costs

FFEI Grant Competition (cont'd)

Eligible Applicants: Teams of institutions

- R1 research institutions
- Other four-year public institutions
- Four-year private, non-profit institutions
- Two-year public institutions
- HBCUs

FFEI Grant Competition (cont'd)

What will grantees do?
- Dive into data
- Identify any gaps in attainment
- Figure out what is and what is not serving students
- Literature search, discover potential solutions
- Design and implement a pilot project
- Assess the impact of the pilot intervention
- Write reports
- Share results

FFEI Grant Competition (cont'd)

Things to Consider
- SCHEV has data available at research.schev.edu
- Will your pilot intervention require IRB review?
- When conducting the literature search and choosing the target population for the pilot, review recent literature on ethical research practices within indigenous communities, for example, or with foster youth, etc.
- Include the voices of students!

FFEI Grant Competition (cont'd)

Contents

- Cover sheet (with signature from OSP or AOR)
- List of personnel
- Narrative
  - Table of contents
  - Executive summary
  - Project description
- Budget & Budget Narrative
- Biosketches

FFEI Grant Competition (cont'd)

Q & A

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