

# CENTRAL CHRISTIAN COLLEGE OF KANSAS 2023-2024 STRATEGIC PLAN

Central Christian College of Kansas: Strategic Plan

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# PRESIDENTIAL PERSPECTIVE (2023)

Though CCCK has enjoyed a long history, we fully consider that a rich past does not necessarily guarantee a thriving future. As partners in the creative process, we recognize that just as God giveth, He can also take away. Therefore, we shoulder a responsibility to ensure that we are conscientious in our execution, stewarding the rich resources that God desires to pour out on this campus.

Acknowledging this collaborative process, through which we partner with God and our diverse campus community, the Strategic Plan provides a roadmap that acknowledges our rich heritage and leverages opportunities for continued transformation. In the pages that follow you will discover a plan that is both ambitious in its aspirations, while remaining rooted in reality.

At its very heart, Central Christian College of Kansas remains dedicated to its Christ-Centered approach. Nothing in this plan seeks to alter or change that fundamental focus. In fact, our desire is to dig deeper, providing opportunities for every member of the campus community to know Christ and make Christ known.

As articulated in the Vision Statement, Central Christian College of Kansas seeks to provide a *transformative educational experience*. This is a distinct departure from past visions statements, which focused more on seeking prominence and distinction as an institution. This shift places greater emphasis on how the institution serves the individual, focusing our strategic efforts on the transformation of heart, soul, mind, and strength.

When we began this process in 2018, we had set goals (KPI's) to help stabilize the College by 2025. Elements of the stabilization are now in place. However, with the transition of online enrollment management transitioning from an OPM to the College decreases in online enrollment demanded a response. A course correction was needed. One that would build on improvement, but focus on a realignment for growth.

As we prepare for this journey. I am reminded of the words in Ephesians 3:20, which remind us that God "is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine..." If so, this strategic plan represents what we can ask and imagine. From there, we will anticipate God doing immeasurably more.

Leonard F. Favara Jr.
President
Central Christian College of Kansas

# **INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE**

The current environment of higher education is characterized by unprecedented scrutiny and tremendous change. Added to this is an increased focus on compliance and regulatory control. In response, this strategic plan represents the committed endeavors of this community to achieve our shared mission and vision.

Strategic planning, as it is viewed by Central Christian College of Kansas, is a systemic process that is both organic and ongoing. It represents the efforts of an invested culture participating in its own dynamic, unfolding journey toward the fulfillment of its God given mission and vision.

The purpose of the strategic planning process is to provide a formal articulation of the vision and the mission of the College and those steps and outcomes needed to maintain alignment to those elements that sustain the unique nature of the College.

#### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

Since its inception, the Strategic Plan remains an organic document – evolving as assessment informs the process. In 2020, the Strategic Plan was modified to focus on goals and outcomes to be realized fully in 2025. The influence of the pandemic and modifications in our partnerships required a course correction prior to 2025. This updated plan is focused on preparing the way for 2025 and beyond.

As such, the following outcomes are identified as guiding principles.



Building on these intentions, the following plan features ambitious, yet realistic aspirations designed to recalibrate the operations of the College in alignment with its mission and the global environment in which it exists.

#### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

While this strategic planning document is designed to be comprehensive in scope, is supported by and amplified through a number of other *mission-related* documents (i.e., Governance Manual, Data Book, Catalog, Campus Master Plan, Strategic Enrollment Management Plan, and various Handbooks).

# VISION, MISSION, AND VALUES

The Vision, Mission, and Values are reviewed on an annual basis at the administrative level and again by all staff, as part of Launch Week (Pre-Term Workshop). There is an assumption of affirmation, allowing for any possible modifications or concerns to be worked through the shared governance system. The Board considers reaffirmation or affirmation of modifications as part of its fall agenda, when considering the Strategic Plan.

#### **VISION STATEMENT**

A vision statement is a broad declaration of what the institution believes God desires for us to accomplish. It represents an aspiration that serves as an impetus to drive the institution.

In keeping with its Core Values, denominational heritage, and in humble response to God:

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN COLLEGE ASPIRES TO PROVIDE A TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE,
ROOTED IN CHRIST, TO ANY PERSON DESIRING TO BECOME
A FAITHFUL STEWARD OF HEART, MIND, SOUL, AND STRENGTH.<sup>1</sup>

Ephesians 4:12-13 provides the challenge that beats at the heart of our vision. It reads, "...prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."

### MISSION STATEMENT

A mission statement is an opportunity to convey, in a concise and compelling way, the difference an institution can make in the world. The Board of Trustees approved the current mission statement on October  $8,2010^2$ .

# CHRIST-CENTERED EDUCATION FOR CHARACTER

# **CORE VALUES**

As a member of the Association of Free Methodist Educational Institutions (AFMEI), upholding the Wesleyan-Arminian tradition, the College holds to essential Core Values that articulate the ideals guiding the operations of Central Christian College of Kansas in pursuit of providing a Christ-Centered Education for Character. These Core Values provide a conceptual framework by which the College holds itself accountable. They include:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Revised in 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Adopted in 2010, revised in 2016 with the addition of a dash between *Christ* and *Centered*.

- **Truth**: Acknowledging that God is the source of all Truth, we emphasize a balanced application of Scripture (as the first authority), reason, tradition and experience<sup>3</sup> as the primary approach to interpreting Biblical wisdom, gaining guidance to moral questions, stimulating intellectual curiosity, affirming the veracity of discovery, and interacting with Creation.
- **Spiritual Growth**: Granting that God has called every individual to full devotion to Christ, we are committed to providing an environment through which each individual can develop and sustain a maturing relationship with Christ and the Community of Christ.
- **Comprehensive Education:** Affirming the transformative role of education, we work to sustain an integrated educational experience focused on developing virtuous and responsible citizens, reflecting the likeness (eikoina) of Christ.
- **Excellence**: Knowing that excellence provides an opportunity to honor God and inspire people, we promote an environment of innovation, where people are equipped and encouraged to serve with distinction.
- **Prayer**: Recognizing God's invitation, we continually and consistently utilize prayer as the primary means through which we seek guidance and counsel, articulate our praise and thanksgiving, and ask for God's action and intervention.
- Community: Appreciating that God has uniquely created each individual, we seek to provide an
  environment where each person is treated with respect and dignity, while also being invited to
  seek meaningful avenues of collaboration and mutual edification, as interdependent members
  of the Body of Christ.
- Integrity: Believing that our actions reflect on the character of Christ, we adhere to the highest moral and professional standards, practicing reasonable transparency and accountability in our actions and administration.

The Core Values are reviewed on annual basis at the administrative level and again by all staff, as part of Launch Week (Pre-Term Workshop). There is an assumption of affirmation, allowing for any possible modifications or concerns to be worked through the shared governance system. The Board affirms the Core Values annually as part of its fall agenda.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Wesleyan movement recognizes that there are four general sources that inform theological conclusions. This approach is often referred to as the Wesleyan Quadrilateral. As an approach to reasoning, the Quadrilateral recognizes the interplay between Scripture, orthodoxy (Tradition), practical theology (Experience), and rationality (Reason); with Tradition, Experience, and Reason always being subject to Scripture.

# **STRATEGIC ANALYSIS & OUTCOMES**

Through the strategic analysis, the College assesses the internal and external environments, evaluates available data, and utilizes applicable tools and personnel perception to provide insight. The goals is to gain:

- A Holistic View, allowing for a comprehensive understanding of internal capabilities, the external landscape, and potential opportunities and threats.
- Accurate Challenge Framing, which helps to identify and define core challenges accurately, shaping the strategy development process.
- Proactive Adaptation, helping to anticipate potential bottlenecks and areas for improvement, fostering proactive adaptability.
- Viable Leverage, through the development of strategies that maximize organizational strengths for a competitive advantage.

Each year Faculty & Staff have opportunity to contribute to the development and refinement of the Strategic Plan. Most recently, in 2023, Faculty & Staff participated in a Competitive Analysis, which included a review of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT). While this is a traditional aspect of the process, the addition of the Competitive Analysis amplified insights. By itself, the annual SWOT analysis provides a framework to facilitate a realistic, fact-based, data-driven look at the strengths and weaknesses of the College. The analysis included a review of last year's finding, providing opportunity for revision in light of new data, perceptions, or influences.

The addition of the competitive analysis allowed stakeholders to identify competitors in the market in order to add a layer of reflective evaluation. The results were compiled in an effort to help identify perceptual alignment with the College's own strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats<sup>4</sup>.

Following the fall 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting, the President announced establishment Presidential Task Force on College Stewardship, Stability, and Resilience. This Task Force, made up of four groups, distinct working prioritized cross-functional communication and collaboration.

These working groups were comprised of faculty and staff from across the campus. The goal of each groups was to provide specific recommendations that could have an immediate effect on margin, while maintain the integrity of the mission. The results of this endeavor are

# **Gauging Growth Potential**





What is our current performance? What are the key factors impacting performance? How are finances being affected?



Are our strategic objectives in alignment with our liquidity or financing options? What is our quantum (capacity and capability) to support realignment



What efficiencies need to be realized to support strategic outcomes? Are academic and auxiliary offerings profitable and sustainable?



What measures are in place to ensure ongoing monitoring to pace investment with return or to address control of the increasing deficit?

Adapted from 2023 KPMG LLP. Financial Sustainability in Hilinger Education

articulated in the 2023 Strategic Update: Presidential Task Force of Stewardship, Stability, and Resilience.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Results of the SWOT Analysis and Competitive Analysis can be found in Appendix B.

# **OPERATIONAL AND STRATEGIC OUTCOMES**

This revised plan seeks to continue our prioritization of stabilizing fiscal resources, while also identifying quick wins for the College in order to offset recent deficiencies in online enrollment. The goal is to provide a basis through which the College can adapt its model while supporting the core mission. In light of the assessment insights gained through this process the following themes have emerged:

- The need to build on the successful alignment of strategic, academic, and financial planning (Integrated Planning). This includes the refinement of the College's zero-based budgeting process to support the allocation of resources in alignment with strategic iniatives and an accurate understanding of costs.
- The need to further develop enrollment strategies specific to academic programs and the financial impact of particular pedagogic strategies.
- The need to define an updated campus master plan that aligns with academic and student life needs, as well as identifying specific facility, information technology, and infrastructure needs.
- The need to balance the stabilization of financial ratios while also allocating resources toward strengthening operations, revenue, FTE enrollment, and the College brand.

In alignment with these themes, this iteration of the strategic plan will focus on the following outcomes.

# **KPI 1: FISCAL VIABILITY**

- Annual Net Tuition/Fees (Residential) >\$ 13,000
- Annual Fund Revenues ≥ 12% of Operating Revenue
- Non-traditional Net Tuition Revenue ≥ 50% of overall Net Tuition Revenue
- Annual overall cost of Advancement and Fundraising functions ≤ 50% of unrestricted contributions
- Budget contingency ≥ 5% of operating revenues
- Long-term Debt ≤ 50% of annual operating revenue
- Total salary and benefit costs ≤ 70% of Net Tuition Revenue
- Strengthen ratio scores in an effort to maintain a CFI above 1.5

# **KPI 2: CURRICULA & CO-CURRICULA PROGRAMMING**

- Average non-traditional class size ≥ 15
- Average residential class size ≤ 20 / ≥ 15<sup>5</sup>
- Refine residential academic programing resulting in ≥ 10% increase in enrollment and ≥ 70% retention.
- Refine non-traditional academic programming resulting in 25% increase in enrollment growth (4 years = 250)
- Maintain housing occupancy ≥ 90%

## **KPI 3: INFRASTRUCTURE & ADVANCEMENT**

- Develop an aligned Master Plan
- Support Employee Healthcare Costs at 75% of premiums
- Provide 403(b) matching contributions ≥ 5%
- Devote ≥ 10% of operating surplus toward shared bonus initiative
- Include deferred maintenance line item ≥ 2% of prior year revenue
- Complete Capital Campaign > 100%
- Increase Annual Fund Giving to >\$550,000

Directors, overseeing the various divisions of the College, may set discrete goals and measures that help support these overarching outcomes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Minus Varsity Activity and DPI's. This KPI is under review to better clarify purpose, which is to minimize courses with less than 10 students.

# **Strategic Plan (2023-2024)**

#### Vision

Central Christian College aspires to provide a transformative educational experience, rooted in Christ, to any person desiring to become a faithful steward of heart, mind, soul, and strength.

#### Mission

Christ-Centered Education for Character

# Outcomes & Measures

#### Heart (Justice)

Miville-Guzman Universality-Diversity Scale (M-GUDS): Target: Graduate Average Mean Scores of > 3.00 (Proficient); ≥ 3.5 (Ideal)

#### Mind (Reason)

California Critical Thinking Skills Test: Target: Graduate Scores ≥ National Average (Proficient); 75<sup>th</sup> percentile (Ideal)

#### Soul (Temperance)

Lifeway Spiritual Well Being: Target: Graduate Average Mean Scores of 3.01-4.44 (Proficient); ≥ 4.5 (Ideal)

#### Strength (Fortitude)

Senior Career Portfolio: Target: Successful completion of Senior Career Portfolio = 100% & Placement Scores ≥ 85%

# Nurture Stewardship, Synergy, & Sustainability

Strategic Goals (Long Range – Broken Down to Short-Range)

- .. Annual Net Tuition/Fees (Residential) >\$10,000
- 2. Annual Fund Revenues ≥ 8% of Operating Revenue
- Non-traditional Net Tuition Revenue ≥ 46% of overall Net Tuition Revenue
- Annual overall cost of Advancement and Fundraising functions ≤ 40% of unrestricted contributions (annual)
- 5. Budget contingency ≥ 3% of operating revenues
- 5. Long-term Debt 62% of annual operating revenue
- 7. Total salary and benefit costs ≤6 5% of Net Tuition Revenue
- 3. Strengthen ratio scores in an effort to maintain a CFI above 1.5

Operational Goals (What is needed to support)

- 1. Launch Public Phase of Campaign with 75% pledged
- 2. Goal \$455K Unrestricted (\$45,000 Business Drive)
- 3. Transfer advancement operations to College
- 4. Launch Chief Advancement Officer Search
- Enrollment Headcount: Fall 2024 Residential: (140 New/280 Overall); Fall 2024 Online (156); DC (40); July 2023 - Master's Program (15)
- 6. Maintain a residential GBR <63% (Overall <50%)
- 7. Obtain DOE-CFI >1.0 (FY2023)
- 8. Realize positive Unrestircted Net Assets
- 9. Review Mission in alignment with workorce intersection

# **Curricular & Co-Curricular Programming**

### Strategic Goals

- Maintain enrollment (students) diversity ratios above regional benchmarks
- 2. Five Star Champion of Character (NAIA)
- 3. Review Academic Matrix study
- Maintain Placement Rate >9 2% (SAS)
- 5. Average non-traditional class size ≥ 6 Students
- . Average residential class size > 13

#### **Operational Goals**

- 1. Evaluate GE Philosophical Framework
- Investigate & submit request for competency based learning (SPE)
- 3. Develop Co-Curricular Badging Matrix
- 4. Launch "Jesus & Me" CANVAS course (badgr)
- 5. Initiate recognition process for HSI (Hispanic Serving Institution)
- 6. Define a 4-Year Developmental Framework (Co-Curricular)
- 7. Re-Initiate Cross Country
- 8. Launch two Industry Based Majors (SAS Acadmeics)
- 9. Submit second SGS Request (Human Resources)
- 10. Retention: > 65% (SAS)

# Infrastructure & Advancement

### Strategic Goals

- 1. Maintain Cyber-Security Score above industry standard
- 2. Maintain no VPR scores < 9.0 for Internal Network Vulnerabilities
- 3. Support Employee Healthcare Costs at 75% of premiums
- 4. Provide 403(b) matching contributions of at least 3%
- 5. Devote ≥ 1% of operating surplus toward shared bonus initiative
- 6. Vet and Identify Firm to assist in Campus Plan
- 7. Include .025% in budget for deferred maintenance
- 8. Annual Fund @ > \$475K

#### **Operational Goals**

- Deploy identity management system
- $2. \hspace{0.5cm} \textbf{Identify and begin initial installation of CRM for Advancement} \\$
- 3. Create plan to address SIS replacement
- 4. Deliver a year-round grounds maintenance plan
- 5. Deliver a Comprehensive Facilities Plan
- 6. Deliver infrastructure refresh/replace plan.
- 7. Complete Outdoor Fitness Court
- 7. Complete Outdoor Fitness Court
- 8. Install fire suppression system in server room
- 9. Break Ground on Dining Hall Renovation
- 10. Develop archuteruial drawings for residential expansion

#### Core Values

Truth: we emphasize a balanced application of Scripture (as the first authority), reason, tradition and experience.

Spiritual Growth: we are committed to providing an environment through which each individual can develop and sustain a maturing relationship with Christ

Comprehensive Education: we work to sustain an integrated educational experience

**Excellence**: we promote an environment of innovation, where people are equipped and encouraged to serve with distinction.

Prayer: we utilize prayer as the primary means through which we seek guidance and counsel, articulate our praise and thanksgiving, and ask for God's action and intervention.

**Community:** we seek to provide an environment where each person is treated with respect and dignity,

**Integrity**: we adhere to the highest moral and professional standards.

# **STRATEGIC DASHBOARD**

Goal	Long-Term Measure	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Annual Net Tuition/Fees (Residential)	>\$13,000	\$9,677	Audit	\$10,000						
Annual Fund Revenues	≥ 12% of Operating Revenue	7%	Audit	8%						
Non-traditional Net Tuition Revenue	≥ 50% of overall Net Tuition Revenue	45%	Audit	46%						
Annual overall cost of Advancement and Fundraising functions	≤ 50% of unrestricted contributions (annual)	39%	Audit	40%						
Budget contingency	Unrestricted Assets ≥ 5% of operating revenues	4%	Audit	3%						
Long-term Debt	≤ 50% of annual operating	64%	Audit	63%						
Total salary and benefit costs	≤ 70% of Net Tuition Revenue	65%	Audit	65%						
	Composite: ≥ 1.5	1.6	Audit							
CFI	Primary Reserve: ≥ 0.20	.61	Audit							
	Equity: ≥ 1.00	1.19	Audit							
	Net Income: ≥ 0.20	20	Audit							
Average non-traditional class size	≥ 15	Calculating	4.25	6						
Average residential class size	≤ 20 / ≥ 15	Calculating	12							
Refine and establish programing	≥ 10% increase in new enrollment	277	268	280	285	290	295	300	305	
resulting in	≥ 70% retention (SAS)	49%	63%	65%						
Refine and establish non-traditional programming resulting in	25% increase in enrollment growth (4 years = 250)	204	125	156	195	243	250			
Maintain Housing Occupancy	≥ 90%	89.55%	88.38%							
Develop an aligned Master Plan	Completion	Old	Finding Firm							
Support Employee Healthcare Costs	75% of premiums	75%	75%							
Provide 403(b) matching contributions	≥ 5%	2%	2%							
Devote operating surplus toward shared bonus initiative	Devote ≥10%	0	0							
Include deferred maintenance line item	≥ 2% of prior year revenue	0	0	.0025	.0050	.0075	.100	.015	.0175	
Annual Fund	> \$550,000 (w/o Estates)	\$454	\$429K	\$440K	_					

Italicized data are calculated goals that are for illustrative purposes.

# **APPENDIX A**

# **MILESTONES**

# FISCAL VIABILITY

- In-House collection efforts on old student account balances
- Obtained a 1.00 (CFI)
- Obtained >2.0 (CFI)
- Revamped HR
- Met Business Drive Fundraising Goal
- Sale of Kids Kampus and investment of Unrestricted Net Assets (Contingency Fund Established)
- Ratifed Governance Structure Integrated Planning Structure
- Met annual payables goal (22 & 23)
- Hired FT Accountant
- Maintained Health Insurance Premiuin Coverage a @ 75%
- Temporarily Restricted Funds at parity
- Endowment Distributions stalled to address parity
- Silent Phase of Capital Campaign Launched

# CURRICULA & CO-CURRICULA PROGRAMMING

- Approval of School of Graduate Students (SGS) with Master of Science in Strategic Leadership (MSSL) 11-20-20
- Revamped Freshman Seminar
- Yearly Mission Trip Offered
- Merged Student Success and Library
- New Degree in Health Science Division: Associates of Science in Health Science 11-20-20
- General Education: Created General Ed Committee (GEC) with regular monthly meetings. Reworking Quad-Review questions.
- Spiritual Emphasis Week: Engage
- Met Student Diversity Goals/Member of HACU
- Refurbish of SH-Third Floor Completed
- Sponsored monthy Morale Booster activity
- Completed Workforce Analysis (11-20-20)

#### INFRASTRUCTURE & ADVANCEMENT

- Named Room initative resulted in 17 rooms named
- Able to update some areas on campus not originally planned for (deferred maintenance) in light of additional COVID funding assistance
- Basketball floor project fully funded and projected completed
- Dalke Lane/South Entrance funded and construction complete
- Endowment analysis completed
- Zoom Room installed
- New Scoreboards installed (Soccer, Softball, Baseball, and Basketball)
- Wresting Center funded and project completed
- Outdoor Fitness Court completed
- Hall of Fame Kiosk Installed
- South Gym Lobby retrofit
- Greer sound project completed, zoom technology project started

# **APPENDIX B**

# **2023 SWOT ANALYSIS**

# STRENGTHS (INTERNAL)

- Academic Success Enhancements
- Accountability/integrity
- Biblical Foundation
- Care & Grace for students/ student centricity
- Central Community (Team)
- Christian Leadership w/vision
- Class Size
- Commitment to Spiritual Development
- Committed Faculty/Called Staff
- Current CFI
- Diverse Student Body
- Environment magnify Christ, rejoice in success
- Focus on Assessment & Data-Driven Decision-making
- Friendly
- Graduate Program
- Heritage
- Individual attention size, small & compact
- Interpersonal Relationships
- Learning Management System
- Liberal Arts Education
- Living Testimonies (Past/Present)
- Master's program
- Missional/Core Four Culture (Holistic Ministry)
- Personable and relatable
- Prayer Focus of Leadership
- Praying Supportive Culture
- Resilience

# Weaknesses (Internal)

- ADA Development
- AR Collections
- Arts
- Athlete/Non-Athlete Ratio; Reliance on athletics as primary enrollment driver
- Budget (tight, small); Monetary Restrictions
- CCCK presence in the community
- Collaboration between departments; Communication deadlines not met, emails and phone calls not read and unanswered
- Default Rate
- Endowment
- Enrollment driven/low enrollment
- Facilities & Deferred Maintenance
- Focusing too much on the "ideal" instead of the reality
- Inferiority Complex
- Infrastructure (Buildings, Technology, Resources, Curb Appeal)
- Lack of Broad Alumni Support
- Low academic functioning students
- Marketing Brand Awareness
- Need more Biblical elective for online and on ground
- Need more bodies to do the job/stretched thin
- Online Adjunct Instructors
- Online Course Offerings
- Politics can come to play ② power struggle
- Poor data for graduate placement
- Scholarship structure/effective implementation
- Silos
- SIS (CAMS)
- Staff not knowing other staff member's roles
- Staff Retention

# **Opportunities (External)**

- Biblical worldview
- Chrome books for students
- Community Support/Involvement
- Corporate Culture and Companies in McPherson
- Dual-Credit
- Emerging Alternative Funding Concepts for Students
- Fitness Court
- HCC and other community colleges
- International/Underrepresented Population Markets
- Internships/real world experiences for students
- Master's degree build on it
- McPherson Daycare Shortage
- McPherson, KS (Safe, supportive, Future-Focused)
- Mission Opportunities
- Need for micro-certificates
- Area High Schools recruit from local youth groups
- Cross denominational opportunities
- Partnerships with employers for internships
- People Need Jesus
- Promote God's love for other to get thinking from self to others (i.e. chapel speakers)
- Restructure programs to what is needed in the world
- Shift to online learning
- Social Justice (sex trafficking and other topics)
- Specialized degrees
- Technology
- Transfer GPA aids with shock in their transfer

#### Threats (External)

- Competition (Geographic, Virtual, Saturation)
- Culture shifts and degrading social morals (depending on target population)
- Cyber attacks
- Devaluing of a college/bachelor degree
- Economic instability; perception of student debt (cost of education) by customers
- Free College
- Generational divide
- Global Political Instability
- Inflation rates rise but salaries stay the same which causes financial
- Interest rates rise and banks will cover? How do we adjust?
- Keeping up with new tech (financially)
- Loss of Government \$ from political agenda
- Predicted Decrease in College Student Population
- Proposed legislation and regulatory issues (FSLA, Loan Forgiveness, Personal Liability, Equality Act, NC-SARA, etc.)
- Residential Experience (Perception of Cost vs. Value)
- The temptation to compromise our beliefs to satisfy the culture
- Tuition Driven/Affordability of Private Education

# **2023 COMPETITIVE ANALYSIS**

# STRENGTH ANALYSIS

The following list illustrates the top answers for "why we think we win"?

- Christian
- Small
- The Community
- The Diversity
- Athletic Scholarships
- The People
- Opportunity to Play/Participate

The following list illustrates the top answers for "why we think we lose"?

- Cost
- Condition of Physical Plant
- Lack Distinctive Academic Offerings
- Technology/Infrastructure
- Instructor Pool (Size)
- Deficiency of Arts
- Deficiency of Resources
- Deficiency of Course Offering
- Location

Based on internal responses, the following are perceived as highly valued by our consumers and difficult for our competitors to replicate. These represent strengths that we can build upon:

- Christian Mission (Holistically Practiced & Modeled)
- Size and Location (Personable & Safe)
- Diversity of Campus Community & Diversity of Opportunities
- Curricular/Co-curricular Support Intentional focus on overall student success (Holistic CORE4)
- First Chance U over Last Chance U: We provide opportunities for 1<sup>st</sup> Gen, those with socioeconomic obstacles, and those needing a chance.

When asked to identify weaknesses that are most easily addressed and would have the greatest impact on core functions, the following were highlighted:

- Facilities/Curb Appeal
- Technology
- Elevate Student Experience (Tech/Infrastructure/Offering)