

Neumann University

Strategic Priorities 2026 - 2029

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN THE FRANCISCAN TRADITION



NEUMANN
UNIVERSITY



NEUMANN UNIVERSITY STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2026 -2029

Guided by Neumann University's Mission and RISES Values

In March 2026, Neumann University concluded its year-long 60th anniversary celebration and turned its focus toward the next 60 years.

Our new Strategic Priorities provide a clear roadmap for meeting the needs of today's learners while building a stronger, more innovative and resilient future for Neumann. Through it all, two things remain steadfast: our students and our mission. Who we serve and why we serve them are foundational to our Franciscan identity.

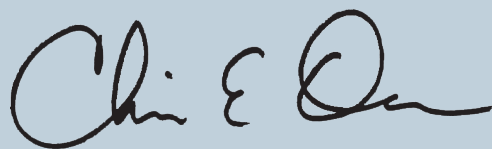
As we look ahead, we will build on what makes a Neumann education distinctive—combining academic excellence, experiential learning and Franciscan values to prepare students not only for rewarding careers, but for lives of purpose and impact.

From embracing emerging technologies and expanding hands-on learning to strengthening enrollment and investing in our campus and digital infrastructure, these priorities position Neumann to adapt, grow and lead.

To everyone who is part of the Neumann community—our faculty and staff, students, alumni, donors, friends and valued partners: As we work together to bring these priorities to life, I ask that we always remember what grounds us and guides us:

Our mission remains our foundation. Our students remain our focus. And the future is ours to shape—together.

Sincerely,



Dr. Chris Domes, President





FOCUS:

LIFELONG LEARNING: Embrace innovation and an entrepreneurial spirit

PILLAR 1:

MISSION-DRIVEN INNOVATION & FUTURE-PROOF EDUCATION

RISES Values: *Excellence, Integrity*

STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

FUTURE-PROOF EDUCATION –

Preparation that combines AI literacy, essential human skills such as critical thinking and ethical reasoning, and applied learning experiences that connect education directly to career pathways. The following are essential to this strategy:

- Strengthening support for a robust teaching and learning environment.
- Animating Neumann's mission and values by meeting the needs of the modern learner.
- Expanding and adopting technology to further improve the student experience.

GOALS:

- Prepare students for life and work in an AI-powered, global economy.
- Expand and modernize academic offerings for online and hybrid learners.
- Expand curriculum innovation with measurable student outcomes that produce documented competencies that can be communicated to employers and graduate schools.
- Deepen mission-aligned curriculum through innovation, creativity and collaboration.

INITIATIVE:

- Develop and implement an AI strategy across academic disciplines and administrative departments.
- Expand AI literacy, experiential learning, and future-focused curriculum design.
- Grow and strengthen online and hybrid degree programs to reach new markets.
- Launch faculty development initiatives in emerging pedagogies and digital learning.
- Design mission-infused learning experiences that frame future-proofing the curriculum as an ethical and moral imperative.

PILLAR 2: **HIGH IMPACT EXPERIENCES & HIGH-LEVEL OUTCOMES**

RISES Values: *Service, Stewardship,
Excellence*

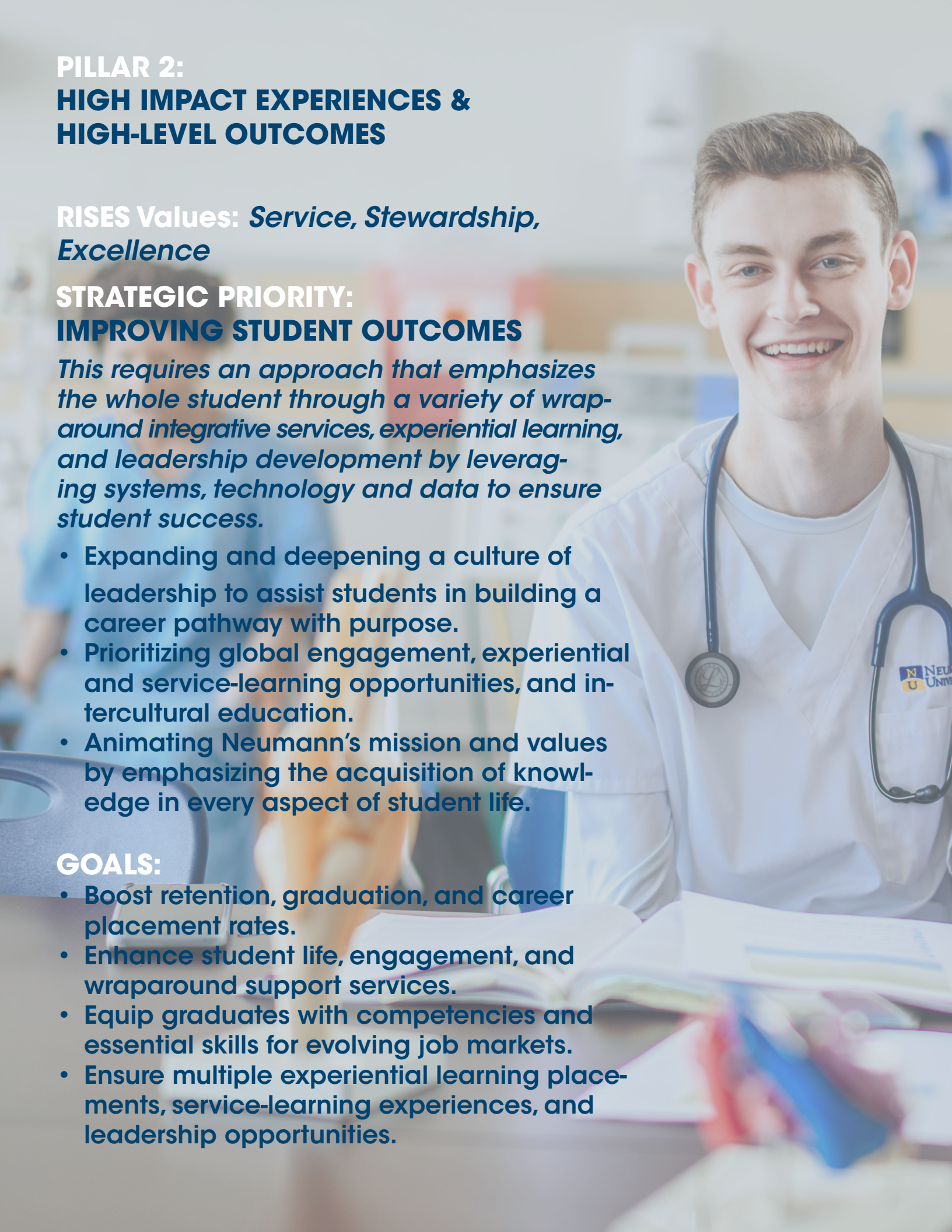
STRATEGIC PRIORITY: **IMPROVING STUDENT OUTCOMES**

This requires an approach that emphasizes the whole student through a variety of wrap-around integrative services, experiential learning, and leadership development by leveraging systems, technology and data to ensure student success.

- Expanding and deepening a culture of leadership to assist students in building a career pathway with purpose.
- Prioritizing global engagement, experiential and service-learning opportunities, and intercultural education.
- Animating Neumann's mission and values by emphasizing the acquisition of knowledge in every aspect of student life.

GOALS:

- Boost retention, graduation, and career placement rates.
- Enhance student life, engagement, and wraparound support services.
- Equip graduates with competencies and essential skills for evolving job markets.
- Ensure multiple experiential learning placements, service-learning experiences, and leadership opportunities.





INITIATIVE:

- Deploy an integrative approach to create an Ecosystem for Student Success by continuing to enhance a full complement of case management tools and strategies including advising, coaching, tutoring, career development, and wellness initiatives and programs.
- Expand alignment between Academic Advising, Career Coaching, and Residence Life.
- Expand career readiness programs with support from alumni mentors and corporate partners.
- Track and publish Experiential Learning, Internship, and First-Destination Outcomes to measure career path data, learning goals, and graduate success.
- Create a Life After Neumann program to support transition to careers/grad school.

FOCUS:

ROI FOR STUDENTS: Defining, tracking and measuring “Student-First Destination Success”

PILLAR 3: ENROLLMENT GROWTH & FINANCIAL RESILIENCE

RISES Values: *Stewardship, Reverence, Integrity*

STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

ENROLLMENT STABILITY & OPERATIONAL DISCIPLINE

As a tuition dependent institution it is essential that there is a consistent focus on enrollment growth, commitment to student retention and success, and a culture of financial stewardship.

GOALS:

- Stabilize and strategically grow enrollment in high-demand programs.
- Expand online programs and offerings.
- Continue to strengthen financial resilience by optimizing operational efficiency and identifying additional revenue opportunities.
- Leverage partnerships to extend Neumann's reach and value.

INITIATIVE:

- Develop a transparent, data-driven, and resourced Targeted Enrollment Growth Plan for traditional and adult learners.
- Create and expand corporate educational partnerships to provide workforce-aligned opportunities and on-going corporate support.
- Expand scholarship and financial aid strategies to increase accessibility.
- Maintain discipline around operational efficiency with a consistent focus on cost-containment and business process optimization planning.



FOCUS:
INSTITUTIONAL RESILIENCE



FOCUS:
GROWTH MINDSET

PILLAR 4:

CAMPUS RENEWAL & DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

RISES Values: *Excellence, Stewardship*

STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

INVESTING IN FACILITIES & FUTURE INFRASTRUCTURE

Quality infrastructure and advanced technology are central to ensure institutional growth and advancement.

GOALS:

- Modernize campus spaces to align with contemporary student needs.
- Advance campus-wide digital transformation.
- Commit to long-term sustainability—financially, technologically, and environmentally.

INITIATIVE:

- Consider facility enhancements with flexible, tech-ready design
- Continuing to improve technology infrastructure and digital strategy, including AI integration, to support both online and on-ground education.
- Embed environmental stewardship in capital planning.
- Build a data-informed culture of continuous improvement by:
 - Tracking and analyzing outcomes related to student success, persistence, and equity.
 - Documenting the development of essential skills across curricular and co-curricular experiences.
 - Strengthening institutional dashboards and reporting that support transparent decision-making.

MISSION STATEMENT

Neumann University educates a diverse community of learners based upon the belief that knowledge is a gift to be shared in the service of others and that learning is a lifelong process.

VISION STATEMENT

Neumann University strives to be a teaching university of distinction, providing innovative, transformational education in the Catholic Franciscan tradition. Neumann RISES on the core values of Reverence, Integrity, Service, Excellence, and Stewardship and lives the actions which these values inspire. Neumann's curriculum promotes thoughtful and ethical leadership in service and response to a global and technologically complex world.

CORE VALUES - RISES

REVERENCE

INTEGRITY

SERVICE

EXCELLENCE

STEWARDSHIP



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