Vision Statement

Duquesne University will consolidate its position in the first ranks of American Catholic higher education by a University-wide emphasis on our Spiritan mission and identity, enhancement of the quality of our students’ experience, and development of our national reputation for academic excellence.

Overarching Goals

The following goals will be achieved throughout the University—in the lives of students, among faculty and staff, and in all administrative units:

I. Our extraordinary and pervasive sense of mission as a Spiritan Catholic university will be the guide for all Duquesne University does.

II. Ethics will be central for the University both theoretically and practically.

III. Leadership and the development of leadership opportunities will be a core focus.

IV. Duquesne University will become an increasingly diverse community and sustain an environment in which human diversity is valued.

V. Service to others will be an essential theme in all our efforts.

VI. Respect for the environment will shape both academic and business decisions.
VII. There will be responsible stewardship of all University resources.

VIII. Assessment will be coordinated University-wide and used as means of planning and improvement.

IX. There will be a new emphasis on Africa and the African diaspora.

1. **Duquesne University will continue to emphasize our Spiritan identity and mission.**

   1.1 Links between Duquesne University and the world-wide Spiritan mission will be strengthened.

   1.2 Service to others will be a theme throughout the Duquesne experience.

   1.3 Duquesne students will be made aware of the problems of poverty, unjust structures, and the degradation of the environment in their own society and around the world.

   1.4 Issues of peace, justice, and the integrity of creation will be highlighted in faculty research projects.

   1.5 The continent of Africa will be a special focus of concern, as well as the world-wide African diaspora. African Spiritans should consider Duquesne University their own.
1.6 There will be new outreach to the poor in Pittsburgh, with special emphasis on partnerships in the Hill District.

1.7 Initiatives will be taken to ensure that relationships on campus are consistent with our mission.

1.8 The Catholic dimension of Duquesne University will be strengthened while preserving our commitments to ecumenism and inclusion.

1.9 New models of connecting mission and ministry will be explored.

2. Duquesne University will further enhance the quality of our students’ experience.

2.1 Freshman classes will continue to become more selective and the average freshman SAT will continue to rise. The percentage of legacy freshmen will increase.

2.2 The student body will become more diverse and the value of diversity will be embraced by students.

2.3 The quality of the student experience will promote life-long bonding to the University.

2.4 The graduate student experience will be assessed and improvements made where needed.

2.5 There will be improved assessment of student outcomes and those assessments will be used for systematic enhancements.

2.6 Intentional collaborations between Student Life and Academic Affairs will be increased.
2.7 Housing facilities will be improved, as well as facilities for commuter students.

2.8 Duquesne student-athletes will perform at the top of their conferences in sports and in academic performance.

2.9 The development of campus will continue with emphasis on functionality and beauty.

3. **Duquesne University will further develop our national reputation for academic excellence.**

3.1 Outstanding faculty and academic support professionals will continue to be hired and retained. Average salaries will remain in the top quartile of our AAUP category or the top half of the relevant professional accrediting body’s surveys.

3.2 Scholarship will increase with emphasis not only on numbers of publications but also on quality.

3.3 Interdisciplinary scholarship and interdisciplinary programs will be supported and new efforts in this area encouraged. Programs on sustainability will be a special focus.

3.4 An interdisciplinary program on Africa and the African diaspora will be established.

3.5 Research funding will reach $20 million per year.

3.6 Endowed chairs will continue to be increased with a goal of ten new chairs.

3.7 Graduate programs will be improved, with special emphasis on enhancing the quality of our Ph.D. programs.
3.8 Academic facilities and support technologies will continue to be improved.

3.9 Our libraries will become improved facilities for research and study and will be supported in accessing additional electronic resources.