

Briefing for the NDU Board of Visitors, 18 April 2024

NATIONAL DEFENSE

UNIVERSITY

Washington, D.C.

Imagine, Create, and Secure a Stronger Peace...

Agenda





- Accreditation Updates
- Budget, Hiring, Facilities & Technology
- Realizing the Vision 2022-2027: NDU Implementation Plan
- Command Climate

Accreditation Updates



Imagine, Create, and Secure a Stronger Peace...

Dr. Jim Lepse Provost



Overview





- Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) Institutional accreditation
- Joint Professional Military Education (JPME) Professional accreditation





Middle States Commission on Higher Education

Institutional Accreditation

Notification Letter





Following NDU's Self-Study (Feb 2023) and Evaluation Visit (Mar 2023), NDU received a *Notification of Non-Compliance Action* (Jun 2023) from MSCHE.

Letter directed NDU submit a Monitoring Report due to MSCHE on January 16, 2024, demonstrating:

- <u>Further evidence</u> of compliance with all applicable federal, state and Commission policies and regulations (<u>Standard II</u>)
 - → Show compliance with DoD Human-Subjects Research Protection policies (i.e., IRB)
- <u>Further evidence</u> the implementation of organized and systematic assessments that evaluate institutional effectiveness (<u>Standard VI</u>)
 - → Show completion of Implementation Plan (I-Plan) to NDU's Strategic Plan
- <u>Evidence</u> NDU has achieved and can sustain ongoing compliance with <u>Standard V</u> (*Educational Effectiveness Assessment*)
 - → Resubmit Standard V in entirety (using new 14th edition)



June 29, 2023

Lt. Gen. Michael T. Plehn President National Defense University Bldg 62 - Marshall Hall Fort McNair, DC 20319

Notification of Non-Compliance Action

Dear Lt. Gen. Plehn:

On behalf of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, I am writing to inform you that on June 22, 2023, the Commission acted as follows:

To acknowledge receipt of the self-study report. To note the on-site evaluation visit by the Commission's representatives to the main campus at Bldg 62-Marshall Hall, Fort McNair, DC 20319 on March 12-15, 2023. To note the following branch campus was visited: 7800 Hampton Blvd, Norfolk, VA 23511. To note the following additional location was visited: 2175 Reilly Road Stop A CISA Program, Fort Bragg, NC 28310. To warn the institution that its accreditation may be in jeopardy because of insufficient evidence that the institution is currently in compliance with Standard V (Educational Effectiveness Assessment). To note that the institution remains accredited while on warning. To note further that federal regulations limit the period during which an institution may be in noncompliance, which starts June 22, 2023. To request a monitoring report due January 16, 2024, demonstrating evidence that the institution has achieved and can sustain ongoing compliance with Standard V (Educational Effectiveness Assessment), including but not limited to (1) student learning programs that are characterized by appropriate assessment of student achievement throughout its educational offerings, at both institutional and program levels, with evidence tha faculty and appropriate institutional stakeholders have considered and used assessment results to improve teaching and learning (Standard V) and (2) assessment of student learning and achievement that demonstrates that students have accomplished educational goals consistent with their programs of study (Standard V). To request that the monitoring report also include further evidence of (1) compliance with all applicable federal, state and Commission policies and regulations (Standard II) and (2) the implementation of organized and systematic assessments that evaluate institutional effectiveness (Standard VI). To direct a follow-up team visit following submission of the monitoring report. To direct a prompt Commission liaison guidance visit to discuss the Commission's expectations. Upon reaffirmation of accreditation, the next evaluation visit is

NDU Response Actions





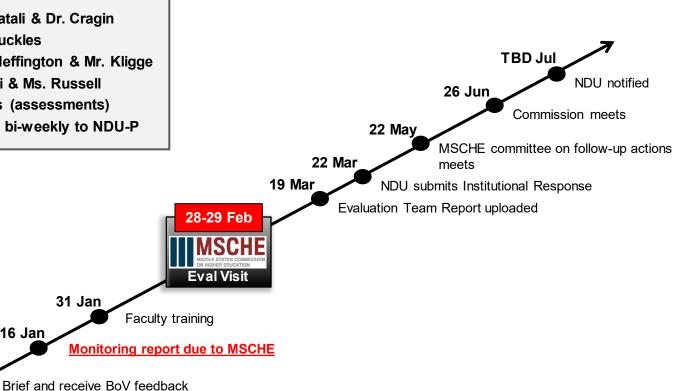
- Provost overall lead for Working Group
 - Assistant Col Matt Hart, USAF
- Four teams:
 - Std II Led By Dr. Natali & Dr. Cragin
 - Std V Led by Dr. Buckles
 - Std VI Led by Mr. Heffington & Mr. Kligge

31 Jan

16 Jan

- Evidence Ms. Laski & Ms. Russell
- **Hired 2x Expert Consultants (assessments)**
- Weekly updates to Provost, bi-weekly to NDU-P

1 Dec



MSCHE Evaluation Team Visit





- MSCHE evaluation team visit was conducted 28-29 February
 - 3 evaluators + MSCHE liaison
 - Held meetings with Faculty, Students, Academic Deans, Institutional Research Directors, Working Group members (Standards 2, 5, and 6), and Academic Affairs leadership
- Team report seems promising, but commission will make final call
 - Acknowledged the great progress NDU has made
 - Included 4x recommendations and 2x pieces of collegial advice
- NDU submitted an institutional response to the evaluation team report to ensure clarity and understanding of NDU context

Key Response Actions







New Documents

- Wrote and Published NDUI 9020.01, Educational Assessments
- Wrote and Published NDUI 9010.01, Human Subjects Research Protection Program (IRB)
- Wrote and Published NDUI 5025.02, Issuance Program (Ops Team)
- Updated NDU Directive 5100.01A, Organizations and Functions
- ✓ Developed Strategy of the Future Implementation Plan
- ✓ Completed Monitoring Report with 143 pieces of cited and uploaded evidence



New Oversight

- ✓ New Office of Human-Subjects Research Protection (INSS)
- ✓ AA reorg* created two new Associate Provosts
- ✓ Committee on Educational Effectiveness Assessment
- ✓ Recently onboarded new Director of Inst. Research

^{*} Initiated in Spring 2023





Joint Professional Military Education (JPME)

Professional Accreditation by the Joint Staff

JPME Transition & Milestones





- To award JPME credit, NDU programs must receive accreditation through the Joint Staff's Process of Accreditation for Joint Education (PAJE)
- All JPME programs are transitioning to new Outcomes-Based Military Education (OBME) requirements codified in the CJSCI 1800.01F Officer Professional Military Education Policy. Programs have established their own timelines to meet the OBME milestones:

Review of Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) and a program's PLO development process.

Review of a program's Assessment Plan and process for developing, implementing, and documenting annual assessments.

Review of a program's compliance with JPME requirements mandated by statute and policy. For conditional recertification, a program must also demonstrate compliance with the six common education standards (CES).

Review of reports demonstrating continued CES compliance (annual) and PLO achievement (biennial).
Programs are eligible for full recertification after two accepted biennial reports.

NDU Timeline

Mission complete

NLT July 2024

NLT July 2025

Every two years >

OBME Status





- NDU colleges are making progress towards OBME milestones
- No anticipated delays, but relies on JS/J7 support

College	Milestone 1	Milestone 2	Milestone 3	Milestones 4, 5, & 6
CIC	✓	May 24		
CISA	✓	May 24		
ES	✓	✓	Sep 24	
JAWS	✓	May 24		
JCWS	✓	✓	Apr 24	
NWC	✓	√	Jun 24	

Dates reflect best estimates





Questions





Backup Slides



Accreditation Standards



JPME Common Education Standards	MSCHE Standards (14 th Edition)
Standard 1 Joint Acculturation	Standard III Design and Delivery of the Student Learning Experience
Standard 2 Academic Experience	Standard III Design and Delivery of the Student Learning Experience Standard IV Support to the Student Learning Experience
Standard 3 Student Achievement	Standard V Educational Effectiveness Assessment
Standard 4 Program Review	Standard I Mission Achievement Standard V Educational Effectiveness Assessment Standard VI Planning, Resources, and Institutional Improvement
Standard 5 Faculty Selection, Development, and Performance Assessment	Standard III Design and Delivery of the Student Learning Experience
Standard 6 Infrastructure and Financial Capabilities	Standard III Design and Delivery of the Student Learning Experience Standard VI Planning, Resources, and Institutional Improvement

Budget, Hiring, Facilities & Technology Update



Ms. Kathryn Kolbe Chief Operating Officer

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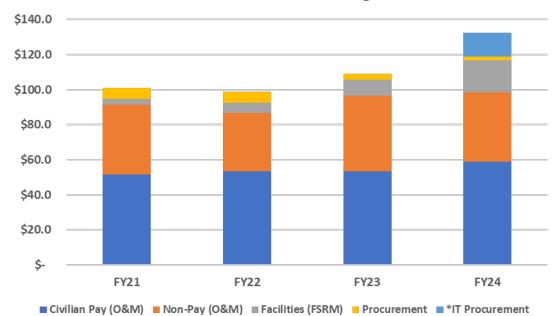
Budget and Resourcing



NDU Budget Profile FY 2021-2024



FY 2024 Direct Funding



*Civilian Pay (O&M) Non-Pay (O&M) Facilities (FSRM)

Total O&M

Procurement
**IT Procurement
Total Procurement

Total Funding

F	Y21	F	Y22	F	Y23	FY24
\$	51.4	\$	53.4	\$	53.5	\$ 59.0
\$	39.9	\$	33.2	\$	43.2	\$ 39.3
\$	3.6	\$	6.0	\$	9.2	\$ 18.5
\$	94.9	\$	92.6	\$ '	105.9	\$ 116.8
\$	6.0	\$	6.0	\$	3.1	\$ 2.2
						\$ 13.5
\$	6.0	\$	6.0	\$	3.1	\$ 15.7
\$	100.9	\$	98.6	\$ '	109.0	\$ 132.5

*FY24 NDU-P approved Civilian Pay: \$59M
**IT Procurement pending JS reprogramming

FY24 Enacted Funding





The Joint Staff FY24 Summary Detail:

Defense-Wide O&M							
		Request		P.L. 118-47		Change	
JCS Staff	\$	461,370	\$	433,370	\$	(28,000)	
JTEEP	\$	701,081	\$	677,081	\$	(24,000)	
JCS Cyber	\$	8,210	\$	8,210			
NDU	\$	118,172	\$	118,172			
Total	\$	1,288,833	\$	1,236,833	\$	(52,000)	
	Procurement						
JCS Staff	\$	1,581	\$	1,581			
*NDU	\$	2,166	\$	2,166			
Total	\$	3,747	\$	3,747			
Grand Total	\$	1,292,580	\$	1,240,580	\$	(52,000)	

^{*}Does not include JS reprogramming of \$13.5M

- Significant Program Pending Obligation/Spending Way Ahead:
 - Civilian Pay: \$30.3M
 - IT Procurement (Auditorium/Classroom/SCIF Modernization): \$13.5M
 - IT Support Services Contract: \$10M
 - Facility Operations and Maintenance Contract: \$9.2M
 - Eisenhower AV/IT Support Requirements: \$4.8M

Reimbursable Cost Model



- The Cost Model purpose is to capture costs incurred supporting reimbursable customers
 - The DSCA Regional Centers receive direct operational support from NDU administrative directorates
 - Per DoD Regulation, NDU requires reimbursement for the cost of operational support provided to the Regional Centers.
- Used GAO cost estimating and assessment guide to calculate
 - Cost per course for courses offered across the colleges
 - Reimbursable costs for the regional centers
 - Cost to educate international fellows & visiting scholars
- The costs were developed leveraging operational costs & support costs allocated by cost drivers
 - Number of faculty, staff and contractors
 - Number of students on campus vs distance learning students
 - IT accounts
 - Square footage







Hiring and Staffing

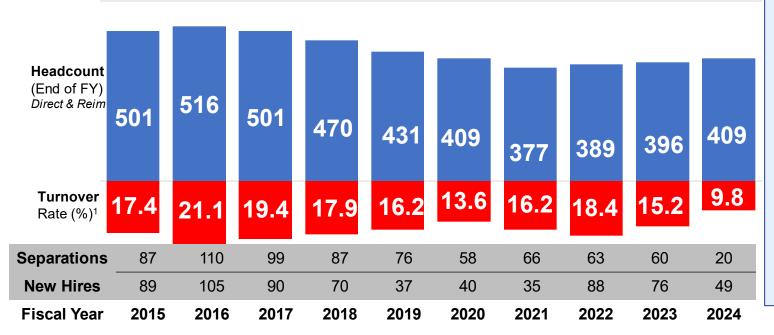
Staffing & Hiring Trends





NDU	staffing	levels	vs.	turnover
	(20	15-202	4)	

Avg. Days to Hire	Past	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Title 5	211	165	118	96
Title 10	274	200	168	169



Key Takeaways

- NDU staffing declined 20% between 2015-21
- Focused hiring effort led to net gains in FY22, FY23, & FY24
- Over 74 hiring actions are in progress currently

^{1.} Employee turnover rate = the percentage of employees who leave an organization over a given period Source: NDU DFAS Quarterly Update





Facilities Restoration & Modernization

Eisenhower Hall Restoration & Modernization Status

- The original estimated beneficial occupancy date (BOD) was
 Feb 25, but unexpected site conditions have delayed the ECD
 - Delays to remove solar panels from the roof, by the garrison, postponed roof replacement & interior work, due to leaks
 - Modifications to telecom infrastructure are required to deliver a usable building
- The project is approximately 45% complete.
 - HVAC installation is 40% complete
 - Roof & building envelope 60% complete
 - Piping replacement throughout 70% complete
- Awaiting construction modification estimates for changes to request funds from Joints Staff and OSD.

Upcoming Milestones	Original Estimate	Current Estimate
Roof Completion	21 Nov 23	28 Aug 24
Construction Complete	26 Apr 24	21 Apr 25
Fit Out	1 Aug 24	20 May 25
BOD	28 Feb 25	28 Feb 26







Roosevelt Restoration & Modernization Design

- The restoration and modernization design is under way (65% complete)
- Building design will be completed in FY25
- Renovation project ready to advertise in May 2025, funding dependent.



- Estimated construction award date in November 2025, funding dependent.
- The projected renovation cost is \$65M+
- The project ranked #25 (out of 87) on the Army's Facility Investment Plan (FIP) prioritization list in FY23

Upcoming Milestones	Original Estimate	Current Estimate
100% Design Completion	12 Dec 23	29 Jan 25
Ready to Advertise	9 Feb 24	14 May 25
Construction Award	16 Sept 24	TBD
Construction Complete		AY28

National Defense Authorization Act House and Senate Reports



- FY24 Senate NDAA report states:
 - DoD budgetary decisions have left NDU facilities in disrepair
 - It's anticipated "building systems will fail, jeopardizing the NDU mission and alternate use of the facility as a continuity of operations site."
- Both House and Senate Committees on Armed Services requested FY24 reports to identify the needs and assessment of gaps related to aging NDU infrastructure.
 - Capital investment strategy is being updated to respond to Congress:
 - Common deficiencies seen across North and South Campuses such as deteriorating building envelopes, cracked concrete & stone, declining support systems, and issues affecting life, health, safety.
 - Forward-looking, capital investment is needed vs. low-cost O&M projects.
 - Academic technology requirements and climate change resilience will also be addressed

Structural Cracking



Lincoln Hall



Normandy Hall

Flooding & Climate Change Vulnerabilities





- Fort McNair is vulnerable to three types of flooding:
 - Riverine flooding & sea-level rise from the Potomac River
 - Pluvial, or stormwater, from overwhelmed storm drainage infrastructure
 - Coastal storm surges
- Requirements due to Fort McNair siting within the 500-year flood plain, with the southern portion in the 100-year flood plain
 - Raising critical infrastructure above 500-year flood plain.
 - Locating any future projects 1-foot freeboard of the 500-year flood plain
- The garrison also has roughly 5,750 linear feet of seawall in various stages of repair.
 - The National Park Service is planning to rehabilitate approximately 6,800 feet of seawall in the Tidal Basin due to similar conditions & rising sea levels.







Information Technology

Command Cyber Readiness Inspection (CCRI) Results



Results:

Conducted 27 Nov - 8 Dec 2023; NDU network assessed as "Very High Risk"

Way Ahead Priorities:

- Enlist Joint Staff cyber expertise
- Fill all government cybersecurity roles
- Augment staff & continue SAV(s):
 - VA National Guard & AF Reserve Assistance Visit (May/June)
 - DISA Visit (Fall 2024)
- Add threat intelligence to operations

Top Five Cyber Focus Areas:

- 1. CCRI vulnerability remediation
- Prioritize security over functionality & convenience
- 3. Remove/replace end of life/end of service equipment
- Implement procedures for remediating newly released vulnerabilities
- 5. Purchase/implement software/tools to validate security of network

Current Remediation Status

	Corrected	Open	% Complete
Key Indicator of Risk (KIOR)	6	7	54%
Category I	18	5	78%
Category II	61	31	66%
Category III	8	5	61%

Digital Transformation





Enterprise Initiatives



NDU Connect (Academic)

Provides an academic data management platform for accreditation & to facilitate student & academic success



NDU Connect (Operations)

Creates an enterprise data management platform to modernize & facilitate operational perform ance



ABS Processes

Standardizes
& automates
Academic & Business
Support processes
& empowers staff to be
more productive in
supporting student,
staff & faculty success



Knowledge & Data Management

Modernizes the creation, use, management & sharing of information to drive mission success and eliminate silos

Supports NDU Strategy & Improves Organizational Effectiveness





Questions

Realizing the Vision 2022-2027: NDU Implementation Plan



Mr. Steve Heffington
Director of Strategic Planning and
Innovation

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Implementation Plan '22 – '27: "Achieving the Vision" Agenda





NDU Strategic Planning Environment

- 3 - Slides

NDU Implementation Plan Concept

2 - Slides

NDU Implementation Plan Actions

1 - Slides

NDU Implementation Plan Tracking and Assessment

2 - Slides

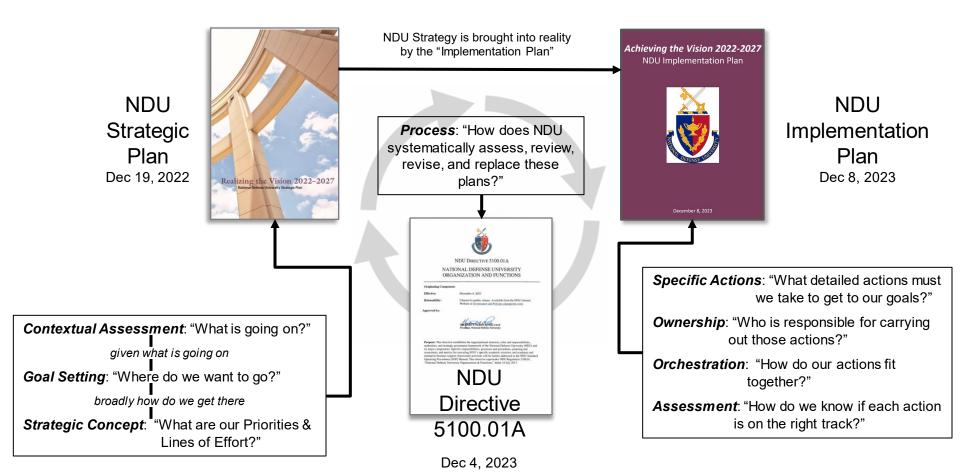
"Force is a vicious cycle—or rather, a spiral—unless its application is controlled by the most carefully reasoned calculation. Thus war, which begins by denying reason, comes to vindicate it—through all phases of the struggle." B.H. Liddell Hart



NDU Strategic Planning Environment - Process







Strategic Planning Environment - Outline





Strategic Goals:

Goal 1: Model educational innovation; holistic intellectual and professional development; and teaching, research, and outreach excellence across the national security enterprise.

Goal 2: Provide an attractive environment in which to work, learn, and grow that fosters ethical behavior with an inclusive, diverse, and collaborative professional community that advances national security.

Strategic Plan Lines of Effort:

LOE 1: Enable Student, Alumni, and Stakeholder Success

- NDU-P Strategic Initiative 1: Wargaming Center and Cyber Labs (Operate Phase)
- NDU-P Strategic Initiative 2: Distance Learning, Short Courses, and Certificates

LOE 2: Improve Our University

- NDU-P Strategic Initiative 1: Wargaming Center and Cyber Labs (Build Phase)
- NDU-P Strategic Initiative 3: Infrastructure and Technology Revitalization

LOE 3: Develop Our Team People and Partners

Academics, Research, § Engagement

Infrastructure § Processes

Strategic Planning Environment – Budget Alignment





Strategic Plan Lines of Effort:

LOE 1: Enable Student, Alumni, and Stakeholder Success

NDU-P Strategic Initiative 2: Distance Learning,
 Short Courses, and Certificates

LOE 2: Improve Our University

- NDU-P Strategic Initiative 1: Wargaming Center and Cyber Labs (Build Phase)
- NDU-P Strategic Initiative 3: Infrastructure and Technology Revitalization

LOE 3: Develop Our Team

Budget Alignment Examples

- All CivPay
- Infrastructure Sustainment
- Academic Delivery & Ops
- Information Tech Sustainment
- Outreach & Engagement
- Infrastructure Revitalization and Modernization
- New Infrastructure
- IT Modernization & New IT
- Pro-Dev Funds
- Adjunct Professor Funding
- Manning Studies
- Faculty & Staff Recruiting
- DEI & Climate Activities

Implementation Plan Concept: Methodology

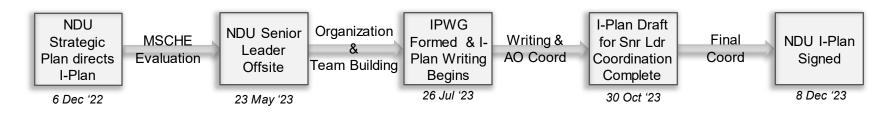




NDU Implementation Plan Development Starting Point

- <u>Not a "Shelf-Plan"</u> Plan designed to be a used and living document that forms the foundation for NDU forward progress
- Whole of University Effort Transparent, inclusive planning effort. Purposefully brought in as broad an input as possible
- Shared Responsibility All Components had veto for any critical non-concurs in the base plan
- Broad Ownership Each Component responsible for writing and updating their own annex

NDU Implementation Plan Development Timeline



Implementation Plan Concept: Structure





LOE 1: Enable Student, Alumni, & Stakeholder Success	I-PLAN Actions
 Obj 1: Adapt curricula and research to meet enduring and emerging need Obj 2: Ensure academic Support Obj 3: Expand cross-component & cross-governmental collaboration Obj 4: Increase Alumni and Stakeholder Engagement & Support 	6
LOE 2: Improve our University	
 Obj 1: Develop Beyond State-of-the-Art Infrastructure Obj 2: Implement Industry-Leading Business Processes 	9 7
LOE 3: Develop our Team	
 Obj 1: Develop Faculty and Staff to Meet Enduring and Emerging Needs- Obj 2: Hire to Mission Needs- Obj 3: Promote and Retain Top Talent- Obj 4: Foster Environment of Transparency, Trust, Belonging, & Partnership- 	6 2 4

Implementation Plan Actions: Prioritization and Sequencing



Reasoned Sequencing and Prioritization Crucial to Success

- Insufficient bandwidth to do tackle all actions at one time
- Many actions are dependent on other actions being accomplished first
- All Actions in the main I-Plan prioritized and sequenced (Priority **1A** "Highest Priority immediate" though Priority **4D** "Lowest Priority")

Priority: 2A

Action: Implement & Sustain a Modern Student Information & Enterprise Data Management System: Enable LOE1 through a modern data management system that delivers an intuitive, trusted platform for critical academic and mission support functions (i.e., faculty and student user creation, enrollment, grades, and assessments course and program creation reporting against learning outcomes).

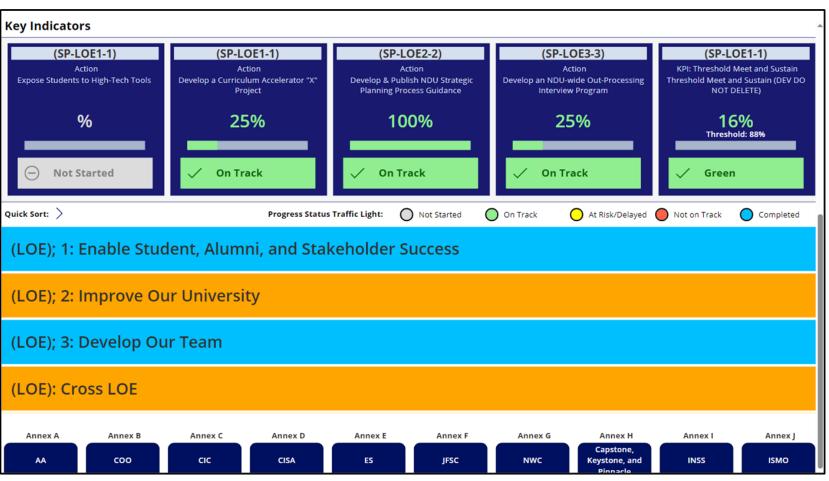
OPR: COO / CIO
 OCR: AA / APEI

- Timing & Completion: FOC AY25
- Resources Needed: Procurement Funding to Complete Development through FOC and with Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Funding to Sustain the Platform for Steady-State Operations
- Dependencies: Contracting Agency Support; Sustained Funding; Awarded Contractor Cost,
 Schedule and Performance Delivery
- Key Performance Indicator(s):
 - Initial Operational Capability (IOC) Mid-AY24; FOC AY25
 - Required Reports to Support Accreditation

Implementation Plan Tracking







SharePoint Dashboard <u>no PPT updates</u> – drill down capable dashboard to check and track I-Plan status – Anytime, by anyone in NDU

Implementation Plan Assessment





All Advisory Councils Submit Evidenced Based Reports to EC

October

EC Reviews all Reports and Writes Recommendation to NDU-P

December

NDU-P Strategic Planning Guidance

January

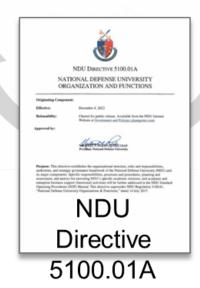
SPWG/IPWG Review and Revise Strat Plan / I-Plan

February

Budgeting Cycle – UFR and POM

Mar - Sept

Process: "How does NDU systematically assess, review, revise, and replace these plans?"



Dec 4, 2023





Questions

Command Climate



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Ambassador Roxanne Cabral Senior Vice President



Command Climate





- NDU Strategic and Implementation Plans
- Defense Organizational Climate Survey (DEOCS)
- Culture and Climate Advisory Council (CCAC)
 - Mission
 - Key Features
 - Current Initiatives
 - Future Working Groups
- Challenges



NDU Strategic Plan



"Our success is dependent on the collective energy, intelligence, and contributions of all our team members."



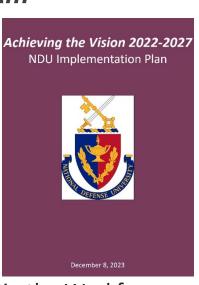


NDU Implementation Plan



Line of Effort 3: Develop Our Team

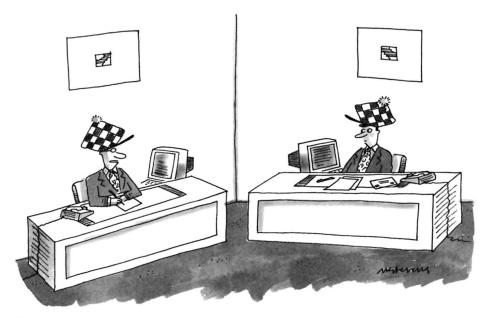
- Hire to Mission Needs
- Develop Training and Professional Development Program
- Refine Recruitment Plan
- Understand Why People Leave
- Create Retention Plan that Accounts for the Value of Diversity in the Workforce
- Develop Mentorship Program
- Foster an Environment of Transparency, Trust, Belonging, & Partnership
- Accountability



Defense Organizational Climate Survey (DEOCS)



- Hiring and Recruiting Working Group
- Transparency and Communications Working Group
- Fairness and Climate of Respect Working Group



"I don't know how it started, either. All I know is that it's part of our corporate culture."



Culture and Climate Advisory Council (CCAC)



Mission: The CCAC contributes to the NDU Strategy by identifying opportunities to optimize talent and experience of its diverse workforce, enabling individuals and teams to effectively serve and function at all levels.

CCAC Key Features



- Independent Advisory Group to NDU Leadership
- Focus on the most "pressing and prevalent" issues, including diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and transparent communication
- Employee led and open to all NDU employees
- Council composition is representative of the broad diversity and functions at NDU
- Senior Vice President is the Executive Agent
- Three Co-Chairs
- Student Representation

Current Tasks





- Develop a Charter
- Gather data on "most pressing and prevalent issues"
- Understand retention issues

Future Working Groups





- Outreach
- Component or affinity sub-groups
- Mentoring and Professional Development
- Best practices for Creating Inclusive Curricula



Challenges





- Need for additional expertise
- Applicability of DoD Tools and Resources to academic setting
- Complexity of retention issues





Questions