

# Plan for Pitt 2025

## Workshop Notes

Date: Tuesday, January 21, 2020

Participants: Graduate and Professional Students

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**Goals Exercise:** In this exercise participants broke into groups and discussed the definition of each goal included in the current Plan for Pitt, the outcomes Pitt should try to achieve for each goal in the next 5 years, and what actions Pitt is or could take to achieve those outcomes. Participants then rotated and reacted to the ideas already presented and added additional thoughts. (+ indicates other workshop participants agree with the idea; - indicates disagreement)

\*Due to small number of participants (4) they worked in one group and addressed three of the goals, as well as other items that are relevant to graduate students.

### Goal 1: Academic Excellence

- Accessible/flexible office hours for professors
- Difficulty reaching advisors/ mentorship
- Course offering/ availability
  - Required courses not offered when needed to take them
  - Courses in areas of interest not offered, or not enough courses offered
    - For example, the school of education only offers two qualitative methods courses
  - Ways to increase collaboration between schools and graduate students
    - Cross list courses to different schools and allow flexibility in required courses to take theses

**Goal 2: Research of Impact**                      **NOT ADDRESSED**

### Goal 3: Strengthen Communities

- Increasing awareness of learning hubs -> people outside school of education could become engaged in these
  - Few people know about, and not

**Goal 4: Diversity and Inclusion**                      **NOT ADDRESSED**

**Goal 5: Embrace the World**                      **NOT ADDRESSED**

**Goal 6: Foundational Strength**

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- Promoting collaboration across schools
  - Right now, different schools are very siloed
  - Creation of a catalog/websites of projects/work that faculty and graduate students to help promote collaboration / have a place to find what others are doing to see who may be collecting data similar to you or may be able to mentor/ collaborate

### Areas of need for graduate students

1. Mentorship
  - a. Incentivizing mentorship for faculty to spend more time with mentees
  - b. Annual review of mentors and/ or ombudsmen with standardization across schools to resolve conflicts
  - c. In-school liaison – (like an HR person, logistics coordinator that you can speak with figure out how to approach different problems, i.e. funding)
    - i. In place of teaching a course for this faculty member perhaps
2. Living stipend
  - a. Transparency in funding mechanism and potential opportunities to gain additional funding
  - b. Transparency in payment for additional responsibilities
    - i. If asked to do additional duties (teaching), needs to be clear that additional payment/funding comes with it
  - c. Grocery store
    - i. on campus, groceries that are responsibly priced
  - d. Survey with percentage of stipend
    - i. Rent
    - ii. Food
    - iii. Medical
3. Mental health