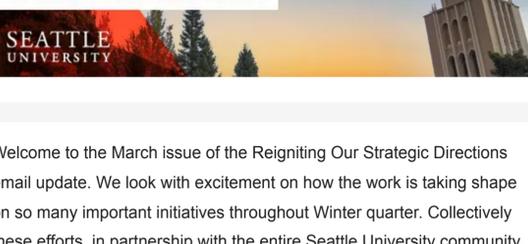


Reigniting Our Strategic Directions

By Office of Strategic Initiatives • Mar 16, 2022

Smart Brevity™ count: 4 mins... 1048 words



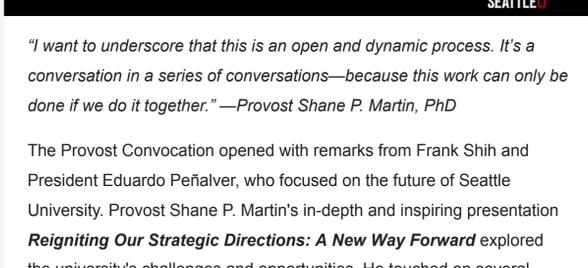
Welcome to the March issue of the Reigniting Our Strategic Directions email update. We look with excitement on how the work is taking shape on so many important initiatives throughout Winter quarter. Collectively these efforts, in partnership with the entire Seattle University community, will enliven our mission and vision for the future. See below for select updates on this month's progress.

Chris Van Liew, Vice President for Strategic Initiatives

March Updates

- Provost Convocation 2022: A New Way Forward
- Provost Fellows Call for Applications
- Landed: New Homebuying Benefit Program for Faculty and Staff
- Launch: Office of Strategic Initiatives Website
- Goal 3: *Enhancing the Student Experience* Gains Ground
- Building Pathways and Partnerships: Jodi O'Brien, PhD
- Supporting Growth, Professional Development for Faculty: Allison Henrich, PhD
- What's Next: Strategic Conversation Series
- Highlights: Launch Video, Goal 5, February Updates
- Ask the Strategic Initiatives Team

Provost Convocation 2022: A New Way Forward



"I want to underscore that this is an open and dynamic process. It's a conversation in a series of conversations—because this work can only be done if we do it together." —Provost Shane P. Martin, PhD

The Provost Convocation opened with remarks from Frank Shih and President Eduardo Peñalver, who focused on the future of Seattle University. Provost Shane P. Martin's in-depth and inspiring presentation **Reigniting Our Strategic Directions: A New Way Forward** explored the university's challenges and opportunities. He touched on several areas of importance, including shifts in the higher education landscape, Seattle University's response to our changing world, enrollment and recruitment.

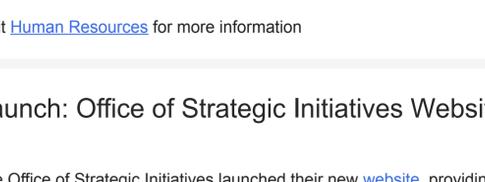
[Watch the video](#)

Provost Fellows Call for Applications

The newly launched Provost Fellows encourages faculty to help advance the academic goals of [Reigniting Our Strategic Directions](#). Fellowships will be filled by faculty with expertise in key curricular themes and related areas of curricular design, pedagogy and holistic student engagement and success. The Fellows will be selected through a competitive application and review process, compensated with course releases and stipends, and charged with bringing a scholarly lens to their work. Collectively, the Fellows will ensure the work of our strategic implementation is informed by the best practices of scholarship and the literature relevant to our work.

Visit the [Provost Fellows homepage](#) for applications and additional information.

Landed: New Homebuying Benefit Program for Faculty and Staff



Seattle University has recently announced a new benefit program with [Landed](#) designed to support faculty and staff on the path to homeownership. Landed's work to address social inequities and wealth gaps in the housing market aligns with the university's mission and values and [Reigniting Our Strategic Directions](#) initiatives. The benefits of working with Landed include in-depth homebuyer education, support through the buying process and down payment assistance via a shared equity program.

Visit [Human Resources](#) for more information

Launch: Office of Strategic Initiatives Website

The Office of Strategic Initiatives launched their new [website](#), providing the Seattle University community and beyond with information about the functions of the office, the Vice President and Core Team. Visitors are encouraged to check out the [News](#) and [Resources](#) pages for content relating to strategic initiatives and [Reigniting Our Strategic Directions](#).

Goal 3: Enhancing the Student Experience Gains Ground

Winter quarter has been a productive time for the [Enhancing the Student Experience working groups](#) addressing key areas relating to communication and engagement, student development and support, and health and wellness. Ongoing assessment of gaps across systems and services continues as the work of improving student retention and completion moves forward.

The integration of Student Development and Academic Affairs is beginning as efforts are directed toward adopting the most effective models for student support and rethinking how resources are deployed to meet student needs. New working groups and subgroups have been formed to implement strategic initiatives in enrollment, advising, degree planning and progression, student communications, student employment, and community-building. Established Goal 3 working groups continue to take actionable steps, including the *Address Student Health and Wellness* working group, as they collaborate with partners like [TimelyMD](#) and develop strategies to address the top health-related issues impacting students.

Explore the initiatives and work of [Enhancing the Student Experience](#)

Get to Know the People Behind the Work of Reigniting Our Strategic Directions



Building Pathways and Partnerships: Jodi O'Brien, PhD

Jodi O'Brien, PhD
Professor, Sociology
Associate Appointment, Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies
Principal Investigator, SU Advance
Co-chair, Professional Development for Faculty

Jodi O'Brien is a path-breaking leader who co-chairs the [Reigniting Our Strategic Directions Goal 2](#) working group *Professional Development for Faculty*. Jodi is contributing her extensive experience, understanding and commitment to the goals of [SU Advance](#) as a principal investigator for the work. In this role, she works to enhance pathways for recognition and promotion for women and faculty of color in higher education. Seattle University's mission and values are at the heart of Jodi's work, and she is known for building partnerships and engaging her colleagues.

In 2020, Jodi was featured in a [Faculty Spotlight](#) article and commented on the continued need to change institutional policies and practices to cultivate more diversity among university faculty. She said,

"As we continue to hire more diverse faculty, we need to also keep pace with transforming our institutional systems, so they make the best use of the talents, contributions and expertise of those faculty."

[Read Jodi's full profile](#)

Supporting Growth, Professional Development for Faculty: Allison Henrich, PhD

Allison Henrich, PhD
Professor of Mathematics
Co-chair, Professional Development for Faculty

Professor of Mathematics and knot theory researcher Allison Henrich, PhD has joined the [Goal 2](#) working group Professional Development for Faculty as co-chair.

A Seattle University faculty member since 2009 and experienced collaborator, Allison brings insight and energy to this initiative and says,

"I am excited to contribute to the *Reigniting* effort, supporting my colleagues in flourishing in their careers as they grow as scholars and contributors to the mission of Seattle University."

[Learn more about Allison, her work and research](#)

Stop here to revisit update highlights and explore special content.

What's Next

Coming Soon: Strategic Conversations

The Strategic Conversations series will focus on topics that relate to the goals and initiatives of *Reigniting Our Strategic Directions*. Each *conversation* will be hosted by representatives from the various working groups charged with meeting our strategic goals.

Visit the [Reigniting Our Strategic Directions](#) website for schedule updates.

Update Highlights and More

President Peñalver Introduces *Reigniting Our Strategic Directions*

[Watch the video](#)

Goal 5: Reposition for Growth Update

[Learn about the initiatives and progress](#)

February 2022 *Reigniting Our Strategic Directions* Update

[TimelyMD, co-chair profiles, goal updates and more](#)

Ask the Strategic Initiatives Team

Do you want to know more about the strategic planning process, a goal or initiative? Ask a question and we will answer it in an upcoming email.

Submit questions to strategic-initiatives@seattleu.edu

For the latest information and updates, visit [Reigniting Our Strategic Directions](#).

Feedback

Anonymously tell us what you thought of this newsletter. Your responses will help us create better content for you!

Was this edition useful?

