

## Background

As the University of Virginia enters its third century, we encounter unprecedented opportunities and challenges. Across the nation, public universities face debate about their role and relevance within society. As a top university, UVA has a vital opportunity and responsibility to serve as a leader in this conversation. Embarking on our next chapter, the moment is appropriate to reflect on our strategic direction, envision innovative actions and initiatives that will propel UVA into the future and set a course for higher education.

On his first day in office, President Jim Ryan posed critical questions about how UVA can best build community, support discovery, and serve the community, commonwealth, nation and world. Through the “Ours to Shape” initiative, we took these questions into the community, inviting all to share their ideas and vision for UVA’s future.

The Strategic Planning Committee builds on this initiative and will facilitate the development of a new strategic plan for the University of Virginia.

## The President’s Charge to the Committee

During the 2018 – 19 academic year, the presidentially-appointed Committee will lead a structured process that will enable University leadership to make informed strategic decisions about the forward-facing direction of UVA. Co-chaired by Michael Lenox (Professor, Senior Associate Dean and Chief Strategy Officer at the Darden School) and Margot Rogers (the President’s Special Advisor for Strategic Initiatives), the Committee will complete its work by late spring 2019 with the goal of sharing a draft plan with the University’s Board of Visitors at their meeting on June 5, 2019.

The strategic plan that results from this process will be operational for a minimum of five years and slated to achieve the vision for the University over 10 to 15 years. The process will be inclusive of the University and community’s diverse constituencies and foster a climate of mutual respect. Not every stakeholder may agree with every position or action that the resulting strategic plan may advance, but all should feel that the process is inclusive and fair.

## Committee Membership and Representation

The Committee should be small enough to maximize the potential for relatively quick and fully-engaged work. It should include members from across Grounds who will seek input from others. The Committee’s outreach must allow for additional vetting of ideas with wide-ranging constituencies, including those not represented on the Committee.

## Time Commitment

The Committee will hold meetings approximately monthly, with some work in between meetings. Depending on their roles at the University, members may be called on to facilitate outreach sessions with groups on Grounds or work on answering specific questions that are aligned with members’ areas of expertise.