

VERMONT STATE COLLEGES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-020

Adopting Guiding Principles for Developing the  
Mission and Vision of the New University

- WHEREAS, Vermont State Colleges (“VSC”) is undertaking a transformation project to merge the separate institutions of Castleton University (“CU”), Northern Vermont University (“NVU”) and Vermont Technical College (“VTC”) into one new University; and
- WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees is responsible for approving an institution’s mission and vision, the statement of which is required by accreditation; and
- WHEREAS, The Board’s strategic principles provide guidance for the development of a mission and vision statement; therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees adopts these Guiding Principles for developing the mission and vision for the new university:
- Create a mutually beneficial relationship between the New Combined Entity (“NCE”) and our Vermont rural communities “for the benefit of Vermont;”
  - Create an affordable institutional mission and vision that the state understands and supports;
  - Capitalize on the strengths of the three institutions and their strong sense of place;
  - Capitalize on the strengths of the various economic sectors that are important within the respective communities;
  - Support critical components to rural economic development: community, connectivity (broadband), and creativity;
  - Maintain focus on cost, quality, access, and relevance;
  - Focus on applied learning in the workplace that expands out of the classroom into Vermont communities (e.g., reports and materials by NCHEMS, NEHBE, etc.);

- Infuse an ethos of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) into the NCE;
- Differentiate the NCE from UVM and the other institutions of higher education in Vermont;
- Expand the academic portfolio designed largely for traditional students to one that supports life-long learning and student development;
- Establish the NCE, together with CCV, as the affordable and accessible public institution of higher education for many place-bound learners;
- Broaden the collaboration between CU, NVU, and VTC to lead to new and expanded student opportunities within the NCE that are currently not being realized; and
- Learn local, apply global.

Approved: August 4, 2021

*Eileen M Dickinson*

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Eileen "Lynn" Dickinson, Chair of the Board of Trustees