

STRATEGIC PLAN

innovate, enable, excel

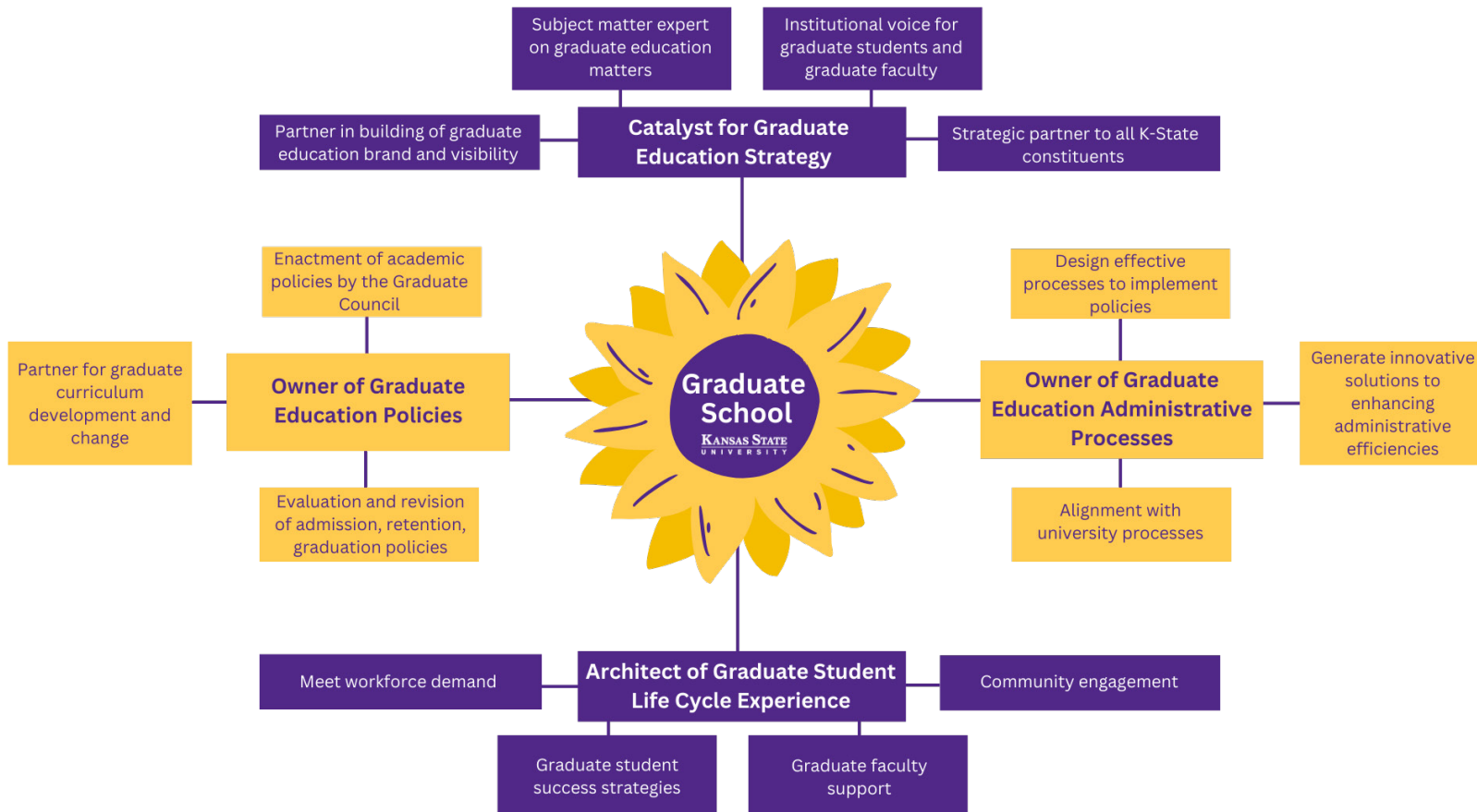
2025 - 2030

OUR VISION

To be a catalyst for building and advancing a world-renowned graduate education culture and enterprise in directions consistent with the evolving role of graduate education in the 21st century.

OUR MISSION

To create a graduate education culture that leads to the development of innovative graduate programs and to high quality academic and professional preparedness of a highly skilled workforce that meets the demands of an evolving economy. To partner with local, state, regional, and international communities in building a graduate curriculum and graduate student experience that serves the needs of individuals, families, and society; and support research that confronts some of the world's most pressing problems. To be a strong voice for graduate students and faculty.



OUR CORE VALUES



CONNECTION



LEARNER -
FOCUSED



IMPACT



PEOPLE -
CENTERED



COURAGE



STEWARDSHIP

CONNECTION

We are stronger together — we are cultivating trust and building relationships to connect the K-State graduate community with the local, state, national, and international communities

LEARNER - FOCUSED

We welcome and support all who seek to learn and grow through advanced education by providing a holistic graduate student experience

IMPACT

We listen, adapt, and challenge the status quo - we are listening to our constituents, we learn from ours, and lead change to increase the value of graduate education and enhance the experiences for graduate students and faculty

PEOPLE - CENTERED

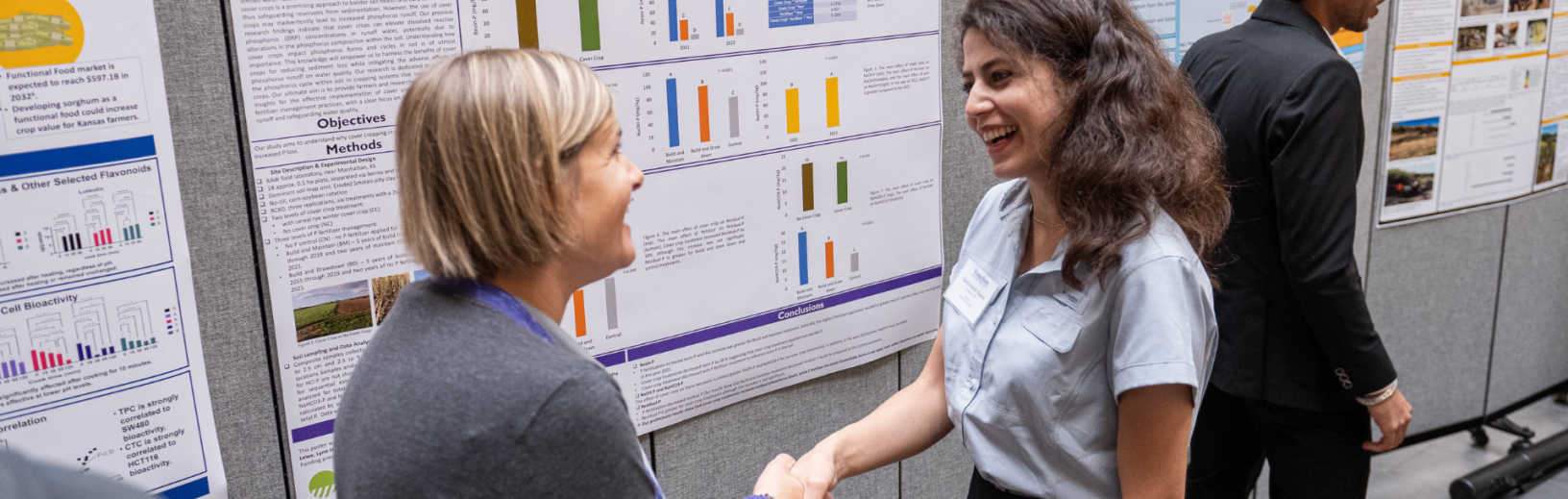
We are everything because of our people - we value each member of the graduate community and we recognize their contributions to advancing excellence in graduate education

COURAGE

We lead with bold conviction - we assess our graduate constituents' needs and take bold actions to address them in innovative ways

STEWARDSHIP

We are committed to building a strong foundation for graduate education by working collaboratively to align resources and use them efficiently



STRATEGY 1: Be a catalyst for graduate education

GOALS

Create a graduate education culture and environment that supports the recruitment and retention of graduate student

Build a strong data informed decision making graduate education culture to enable change

Ensure that K-State's graduate program portfolio reflects contemporary needs and interests

STRATEGIES

Improve the graduate admission process and practices though building a strong data informed decision making process.

Develop and implement graduate student retention strategies to increase completion rates across the scope of graduate education.

Employ a stronger integration of certificate and microcredential processes into the existing graduate admission process.

Enable the Strategic Enrollment Management team and academic units to create targeted graduate recruitment strategies.

Engage data and benchmarking practices to update policies to support recruitment and retention strategies.

Increase development, scope, function, and awareness of graduate student data to ensure positive change within graduate education and our graduate education culture.

Implement a graduate program review process focused on program adaption, sustainability and innovation.

Provide leadership and support for interdisciplinary academic programming.

Engage the Graduate School Advisory Council in conversations and strategic thinking.



STRATEGY 2: Create a strong Graduate Student Success and Life Cycle experience for all graduate students

GOALS

Continuously assess the graduate student needs and identify solutions to addressing them

Revise and implement ongoing surveys with both current and graduating students to regularly identify and address students' needs. Partner with DASSA, K-State Foundation, and academic units to holistically address needs of all graduate students.

Work with the external community to develop partnerships to support community building.

Ensure that graduate assistants receive competitive graduate assistantships

Ensure that we have minimum stipend level for all graduate assistantships. Partner with Central Administration to ensure stipends remain a part of regular budget discussions.

Collaborate with the K-State Foundation and external community partners to raise funds and identify potential revenue streams to maintain competitiveness.

Maximize preparedness of graduate students for an everchanging job market

Ensure availability and access to professional development opportunities and career preparedness. Foster opportunities and build partnerships that ensure learners engage with industry to develop career-readiness skills.

Leverage internal and external partnerships to provide professional development opportunities to ensure preparedness for an evolving job market.

Celebrate and support graduate student RSCAD contributions

Provide research support for students from all academic fields. Enhance recognition of importance of RSCAD activities and celebrate successes.

Increase visibility of student research on campus through amplification of 3-minute Thesis, K-Grad, and our upcoming K-State Research Day.



STRATEGY 3: **Develop an evolving organizational framework that supports adaptations and innovation in graduate education**

GOALS

Ensure that Graduate Faculty are empowered to produce positive change

Continual improvement of policies, procedures, and practices that directly impact graduate students

Provide faculty with a comprehensive toolkit to develop successful faculty-graduate student experiences

STRATEGIES

Continue to grow the impact of Graduate Council on graduate education policies, procedures, and practices.

Create a culture of benchmarking of policies and continuous revision of policies and processes.

Leverage the program review processes to highlight areas of innovative change in response to a rapidly changing higher education marketplace.

Streamline new and revised program and course approval processes

Continuously assess, improve and streamline administrative processes

Create a culture of student success through updating technology, refining catalogs and websites, increase frequency of training, and increased communication with all graduate stakeholders

Create strong mentoring processes for graduate students

Create a strong graduate faculty support system

Provide a strong framework for success in mentoring and increased collaboration with internal partners.