Vision 2012: Transforming the Future of UVI

The University of the Virgin Islands has traveled an incredible journey since fall 2005, when the University began thinking collectively about UVI’s future.

“We are nearing the completion of Vision 2012,” said St. Croix Campus Executive Administrator Deborah C. Fontaine, Ph.D., who is leading UVI’s strategic planning process. “More than 400 people – including students, faculty and staff, and community partners – participated in discussions about where the University should be as an institution by 2012, our 50th anniversary.”

President LaVerne E. Ragster, Ph.D., presented the framework for Vision 2012 to the Board of Trustees at their November 2005 Retreat. “The Board came together, reflected on the previous strategic plan’s accomplishments and lessons learned, and endorsed UVI’s plans the future,” she said.

The Board expects to finalize details and commit to Vision 2012 at their March 2006 meeting. UVI will then finalize Vision 2012, and will distribute a publication about the strategic plan.

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There seems to be a strong consensus from the Board of Trustees, the University community, and the community-at-large in our effort to move UVI forward,” Dr. Ragster said.

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“One of the most successful outputs was the creation of UVI’s Community Engagement and Lifelong Learning (CELL) Center,” Dr. Ragster said. “The success of UVI-CELL has been extraordinary and has added value to the University.”

The activities the University has been involved with have strengthened UVI as a community, President Ragster said. “The lessons learned from the creation, enactment and completion of the plan have prepared us for the initiation of Vision 2012.”

VIUCEDD Assistant Director Miriam V. Osborne-Elliott said the current strategic planning process is probably the “most inclusive and widely communicated one the institution has undertaken in the last decade.”

St. Thomas Librarian Sharlene Harris said the process allowed many segments of the UVI community and the territory to have a say in the process. “We all own Vision 2012 because we participated in its creation, from its various stages to the final plan,” she said.

Selected accomplishments include:

• Raised $2 million for the Annual Fund in 2004 and 2005
• Awarded $17 million in grants and contracts
• Sold $19 million in bonds for physical plant improvements
• Established UVICELL and trained 1,500 students
• Increased collaborative teaching and research
• Established research and technology park on St. Croix
• Reorganized teacher education
• Began academic program rationalization
• Developed branding theme: Specializing in Futures

At a Glance: Vision 2012

President Ragster unveiled UVI’s new mission, vision and values at the Fall 2005 Convocation. For a copy of the poster distributed at convocation, call the Campus Executive Administrator Offices at 692-4000 on St. Croix and 693-1140 on St. Thomas.

Values

• Students first
• Learning & scholarship
• Excellence
• Teamwork
• Collegiality & shared governance
• Inclusiveness of ideas
• Principled leadership
• Supporting our community
• Effective use of technology
• Equitable reward system

Mission: The University of the Virgin Islands is a learner-centered institution dedicated to the success of its students and committed to enhancing the lives of the people of the U.S. Virgin Islands and the wider Caribbean through excellent teaching, innovative research, and responsive community service.

Vision: The University of the Virgin Islands will be an exceptional U.S. institution of higher education dedicated to student success, committed to excellence, and pledged to enhancing the social and economic transformation of the U.S. Virgin Islands.