



Top Tier Planning Process

Hundreds of people at UNLV and in the communities that we serve contributed to the creation of the Top Tier plan. President Donald Snyder appointed a small Executive Committee of 12 faculty and community leaders to oversee the planning process. He also appointed a larger Initiative Committee of over 100 faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community leaders, who worked in eight subcommittees to develop the content of the Top Tier plan. In December 2014, our newest President, Dr. Len Jessup, became actively engaged in the process. Throughout the process, the Executive Committee and Initiative Committee received input from a much broader spectrum of faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community leaders through large meetings, focus groups, and input received online. The timeline below chronicles the key steps that occurred between September 2014 and May 2015, as the plan developed:

September 2014

- President Donald Snyder launched the Top Tier process at his State of the University address.
- A detailed white paper by our consultants, Academic Leadership Associates, articulated the benefits of a Top Tier university for the community, the challenges that UNLV faces in accomplishing this goal, and the questions to consider in developing the plan.
- The Executive Committee began the planning process in earnest.

October 2014

- The Initiative Committee met, and its eight subcommittees began the development of key content in the plan and hosted community outreach events in order to gather input from stakeholders.

November 2014

- The Executive Committee drafted a university-wide vision, mission, metrics, and goals for Top Tier status.
- The subcommittees drafted initial goals and metrics for specific aspects of the university's activities.
- The campus hosted a wide range of community outreach events to obtain broad input from hundreds of on- and off-campus stakeholders on the draft planning ideas.

December 2014 through February 2015

- Subcommittees further developed critical planning documents.
- Key UNLV leaders visited benchmark universities to examine the process by which they achieved Top Tier status.
- All of these inputs served as the key components for the first draft of the Top Tier plan.

March 2015

- The Executive Committee and Initiative Committee refined the Top Tier plan.
- Community engagement events gathered hundreds of people from across the campus and the broader community to comment on the draft planning materials.

April 2015

- A revised Top Tier plan reflected input from the meetings in March and was finalized on the basis of input from numerous internal and external stakeholders.
- President Len Jessup and other key UNLV leaders adopted the Top Tier plan.

May 2015

- The Top Tier planning documents have become available to everyone at <https://www.unlv.edu/toptier>.