

October 3, 2023

Dear GTU Community:

As the fall term is settling into a comfortable cadence, GTU's Executive Leadership Team and I are pleased to share several updates on implementation of GTU's 5-Year Strategic Vision ("GTU 2.0"), which will reach its halfway point this December.

We've included a summary of progress below. In addition, all are welcome to join us for a Town Hall to ask questions or discuss any aspect of GTU 2.0 on **Tuesday**, **October 31**st **from 10-11 am PT via Zoom**. A link to the Zoom room can be <u>found here</u>, or you can visit GTU's <u>Events page</u> for details.

• Strategic Planning and Institutional Assessment

As mentioned above, this fall, the GTU is approaching the halfway point in implementing our 5-Year Strategic Vision. With that in mind, the Executive Leadership Team is taking stock of our progress thus far—reflecting on progress, "lessons learned," and any pivots needed since the plan was first launched in July 2021.

To that end, the plan has been updated to reflect milestones met and changes made since that time. This updated version is available on the dedicated web page for GTU 2.0, here. As always, thoughts, questions, or comments are welcome by using the submission form found at the link above, or at the next Town Hall.

In addition, as we look toward GTU 2.0's remaining 30 months and beyond, GTU's Board of Trustees has formed a Select Committee on Long-Range Planning comprised of representatives from across GTU's constituencies, including trustees, faculty, staff, and students. The Select Committee will be cochaired by Dean Jennifer Davidson, Arthur Holder, and Heidi Hadsell, a GTU trustee and the former long-standing president of Hartford International University for Religion and Peace. An announcement about the Select Committee and its work can be found on GTU's website, here.

Lastly, the WASC Senior College and University Commission will be undertaking its accreditation visit on campus at the GTU over the coming days, from October 3-6. We look forward to welcoming the visiting team this week and sharing highlights from their report as it becomes available.

Hewlett Building and Library

We are delighted to share that alterations to the Hewlett Building have been completed, and that we have now officially welcomed <u>UC Berkeley's Goldman School of Public Policy</u> (GSPP) as co-residents of 2400 Ridge Road, with whom we are thrilled to be deepening our partnership.

<u>Our community will come together</u> to commemorate this remarkable milestone with a special celebration on **Saturday**, **October 14**th, **from 1-4 PM.** All members of GTU's extended community are welcome, including friends and families, and we hope you will be able to join us for an afternoon of camaraderie and joy.

• GTUx

GTUx continues to keep pace with its goals, <u>attracting 12,0000+ registered users</u> globally, continuously forging new partnerships with mission-aligned organizations, and having been named a finalist for two industry awards.

Additionally, in June, the Association of Theological Schools selected GTUx as one of the recipients for its "Moving Forward in Mission" grant, providing funding of \$25,000 over one year to develop a first-of-its-kind, multi-modal educational experience called *Designing Your Spiritual Life*. More details can be found here.

The latest releases and updates can always be accessed by visiting GTUx at gtu.edu/x

The updates above will also be made available on the web pages for the Office of the President, here, and the Board of Trustees, here, for easy future reference by all community members. A dedicated web page with information about GTU 2.0 initiatives and a web form to provide anonymous feedback is available on the GTU website, here.

With peace and blessings, Uriah