



From the **PRESIDENT**

May 13, 2024

Dear TCU Faculty and Staff,

Thank you for all you do to make Texas Christian University an incredible place to work and for the exponential impact you have on our students' lives and in our community. On May 11, a record number of faculty and staff joined us across three Commencement ceremonies to graduate our largest class yet of 2,529 students in the Class of 2024. This significant milestone in the lives of our students and University is a testament to the support and guidance provided by you, the faculty and staff of TCU. Thank you for living our values, believing in our mission and supporting our students' academic achievement and personal success.

Over the last few months, our community has enthusiastically embraced our journey to develop TCU's next strategic plan. I'm pleased to announce that, following our extensive engagement with stakeholders this spring and the strategic areas identified by the Board of Trustees, our next strategic plan will be formulated along four priority pillars: 1) Growth and Student Experience; 2) Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities; 3) Athletics; and 4) Community Engagement. We will have a busy and exciting summer as we dive into the survey results and begin to define aspirations on each of these pillars. **Please continue reading for important strategic planning updates:**

- **Chief University Strategy & Innovation Officer:** Please join us in welcoming Mr. Thomas "Tom" Wavering, who will join Texas Christian University as the inaugural Chief University Strategy & Innovation Officer (CUSIO) in July 2024. As a member of the President's Cabinet, Tom will partner in leading our strategic planning process and, more broadly, foster a culture of innovation and drive forward-thinking strategies across all levels of the University. Tom's visionary mindset and deep understanding of the national higher education landscape will propel TCU's reputation as a forward-thinking leader in academic excellence and innovation. He is a teacher, researcher, innovator and creative strategist who most recently served as the Founding Executive Director of the Tom Love

Innovation Hub at the University of Oklahoma. You can read more about Tom on the [TCU News website](#); there will be opportunities for all members of the TCU community to greet and welcome our new CUSIO in the coming months.

- **Core Strategy Team:** To help steer the strategic planning process and ensure that we incorporate perspectives from all campus stakeholders, we assembled a Core Strategy Team that has begun to convene on a regular basis. Dr. Emily Lund, Dr. Kevin Knight, Dr. John T. Harvey, Dean Amy Hardison Tully and Deputy Athletic Director Ryan Peck have been appointed as Co-Chairs, and Dr. Susan Weeks is our Core Strategy Team Project Manager. The team will work closely with members of the President's Cabinet and an advisory council of student, faculty, staff and alumni governance leaders to organize multiple workshops and listening sessions over the next couple of months.
- **Stakeholder Engagement & Survey:** We received more than 6,500 responses to our strategic planning survey, further validating how much our community cares about TCU and the overall strength of our organization. Survey data identified TCU's top three strengths: our physical campus, athletics and class size. We're also listening to what stakeholders said we need to work on: accessibility, strengthening our academic profile and growing our alumni network.
- **Workshops & Listening Sessions:** We are grateful to all who responded to the survey and have engaged in roundtables, idea-sharing and town halls this spring. We recognize that we need even more voices as we draft the strategic plan between now and November when we aim to present the draft to the Board. The Core Strategy Team has already begun to reach out to faculty, students, staff, alumni, employers, Trustees and the broader Fort Worth community to engage in workshops and listening sessions. We value your input and encourage you to continue engaging; all voices need to be a part of the story of our next decade.

The Chancellor and I couldn't be more excited about the work ahead of us now and in the fall. Envisioning the future of our beloved University is important work that is also a lot of fun. Thank you for all that you do to make TCU a world-class, values-centered University. The dedication of our faculty and staff continues to be the key to our success.

Go Frogs!

Daniel W. Pullin
President

