Planning Council Strategic Plan Priorities for FY25

1.1 Broaden access for underrepresented populations and increase academic success for all students through excellence in education.

Planning Council members repeatedly returned to the fundamental importance of a diverse student body, of an updated understanding of students' changing needs, and of mitigating success gaps across degree levels. The pandemic and social changes within the lifespan of this plan have impacted financial, social, wellness, and academic needs of students at all levels, and this requires us all to invest in practices that will correct the regression apparent in several of the metrics in this goal. The Council also repeatedly discussed the explicit inclusion of graduate student access and success measures, some of which are implicitly included now, and Council includes graduate students in our recommended prioritization of this goal. Planning Council members emphasize that student success across academic levels is critical to our University's success.

3.3. Foster a culture of collaboration, continuous improvement, and individual growth

Although this goal is a perennial priority from Planning Council, the justification for its importance evolves. Council recognizes with gratitude the substantial and ongoing work of University leaders to improve compensation, a primary driver for emphasizing this goal in the past, and we see that success emerging. The discussion this year centered more on collaboration, inclusion, and sustainability, three key themes captured not only in the metrics of Goal 3.3 but also in the University's <u>stated values</u>. Council members remind us that collaboration, inclusion, and sustainability foster student success as well as staff and faculty success.