

UCA 2035 AT A GLANCE

UCA 2035 came together through a yearlong effort built on listening, analysis and honest reflection about where the university stands and where it needs to move. Shaped by a year of candid conversations across campus and in the community, the plan unfolded in four phases, each building on the previous one and grounded in what our community said matters most.

MISSION AND COMMITMENTS

Mission

The University of Central Arkansas brings teaching, discovery, and community partnership together to educate students, expand access to opportunity, and serve the public. Through learning, scholarship, creative activity, and applied experience, we advance readiness for meaningful work, civic contribution, and lifelong growth.

Commitments

Student Opportunity and Momentum: Students and learning remain at the center of the UCA experience, with expanded access and clear pathways that support progress, deepen knowledge, and advance readiness for meaningful work, leadership, and lifelong growth.

Partnership and Engagement: Partnerships with communities, industries, and public institutions connect learning and innovation, strengthening economic opportunity, cultural vitality, and civic life.

Discovery with Impact: Research, creative activity, and inquiry are integral to the UCA experience, advancing knowledge while contributing to solutions that address the needs of communities and professions.

Foundations for the Future: People, systems, infrastructure, and resources are aligned to sustain excellence in learning, discovery, and partnership while enabling UCA to adapt and thrive over time.

OUR DIRECTION FOR THE DECADE AHEAD

The strategic imperatives that follow define UCA's priorities for the decade ahead, focusing the university on what matters most while allowing the work beneath them to adapt as conditions change.

1

Centering Student Success

We put students first by pairing excellent teaching with a connected, caring, and academically strong environment where every learner can thrive.

2

Arkansas Campus of Innovation

We bring people, disciplines, and ideas together to turn collaboration, creativity, and applied learning into solutions that strengthen Arkansas and serve the public good.

3

Discovery in Action

We make discovery central to the UCA experience, using research, creative activity, and real-world problem-solving to strengthen learning and deliver meaningful impact.

4

Future-Ready Foundations

We invest in the people, culture, systems, and infrastructure that enable our community to excel — today and for decades ahead.

WITH THANKS TO OUR CAMPUS COMMUNITY

This strategic plan exists because people showed up consistently, thoughtfully, and with a willingness to wrestle with hard questions about UCA's future. Thousands of voices shaped this work through conversations, feedback, and shared problem-solving across campus. In addition, a set of formally organized teams committed hundreds of hours to turning aspiration into direction and ideas into action. Their work helped ensure this plan is not just ambitious, but grounded, credible, and ready to guide UCA through the decade ahead.

Stephen Addison
Jennifer Bell
Tim Bisping
Kurt Boniecki
Terri Canino
Kevin Carter
Mike Casey
Shawn Charlton
Debbie Dailey
Victoria Dunlap
Taine Duncan
Julia Winden Fey
Bridget Fortenberry
Adam Frank
Lesley Graybeal

Amber Hall
Michael Hargis
Amy Hawkins
Sherita Kern
Mary Lackie
Laci Lyons
Paul Mayhew
Kylie McGraw
Michael Mills
Bryttani Montgomery
Arijit Mukherjee
Stephen O'Connell
Kelly Owens
Nancy Reese
Tim Roach

Stephanie Rose
Trevor Seifert
Brent Shires
Joan Shofner
Will Slaton
Patricia Smith
Tom Snyder
Colin Stanton
Donna Stephens
Kevin Thomas
Phoenix Vu
Angela Webster
Amy Whitehead
Tom Williams
Robin Williamson