

FY26 FUNDING

Igniting Opportunity Strategic Plan Funding

August 21, 2026



Requesting Strategy Working Group	Project Name	Awarded Funding	Amount Unspent
Foster increased research productivity	Consultation Research Doctorates	\$50,000	\$0
Connect curriculum to careers and outcomes	FY26-Career Outcomes Labor Market Software	\$20,000	\$0
Increase equitable access	Increase Equitable Access - Year 1	\$40,783	\$14,358
Promote experiential learning	Promote Experiential Learning	\$85,000	\$6,908
Develop a SEM plan	CollegeVine AI Recruitment/ Retention	\$100,000	\$5,500
Achieve meaningful gains in student and employee satisfaction	Survey Tool Funding	\$27,500	\$1,087
Implement the University Advancement strategic plan & Increase alumni engagement	Custom Seating at the Smart Advancement Center	\$25,000	\$0
Promote proactive student support	Proactive Student Support	\$23,000	\$6,786
Amp up fans and spirit	Athletics Away Game Watch Parties	\$15,000	\$15,000
Refresh the brand	Refresh the Brand - Phase I	\$113,000	\$0
Totals		\$499,283	\$49,638

NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Established a proposed interdisciplinary PhD model, with one new program going through the approval process and on target to identify several additional PhD programs in 2026-2027
- Successfully completed phase I of the branding refresh contract
- Successfully procured and implemented several new student recruitment and retention tools
- Provided expanded experiential learning opportunities for hundreds of students (over 520)
- Successfully launched several major large-scale surveys across the institution
- Made meaningful strides towards expanding quality online program offerings

CHALLENGES

- Timelines
- Procurement process

FY 27 FUNDING

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OVERVIEW OF FUNDING REQUESTS & AWARDS

- Funding requests:
 - \$802,983
 - 17 requests from 10 working groups
- Funding awards to date:
 - \$436,525
 - 7 projects across 5 working groups
- Working with Goal 2 on possible funding

AWARDED PROJECTS TO DATE

Request Title	Requesting Strategy Working Group	Amount Funded
AI optimization tool supporting QM Standards and online course development	Increase equitable access	\$41,525
Lightcast Embark Survey Software	Connect curriculum to careers and outcomes	\$20,000
Expansion of AI Use in Student Recruitment	Develop a SEM plan	\$100,000
Winter Week of Welcome support	Increase participation in campus events and organizations	\$10,000
Carnegie Phase Two - Brand research and strategy	Refresh the brand	\$150,000
Support website implementation of the refreshed brand	Refresh the brand	\$100,000
Support the external brand launch through visible campus and community updates	Refresh the brand	\$15,000

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION