

Innovation & Strategic Leadership for the Current Environment

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Innovation & Strategic Leadership

Session Objectives

- Areas in need of innovation in higher education
- Key innovation needs of your institution
- Overcoming innovation challenges
- Leading innovation and risk
- Aligning innovation and strategy

What is Innovative Leadership?

“Innovative leadership is the ability to both think and influence others to create “new and better” ideas to move towards positive results”

George Couros

(<https://georgecouros.ca/blog/archives/5921>,
accessed August 4, 2022)

For colleges and universities...

“Your school is doing something different it has never done before”

Areas in Need of Innovation in Higher Education

- Civil Discourse
- Cost & Affordability
- Data & Technology
- Demographics & Enrollment
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice
- Federal & State Financial Aid
- Institutional Value & Branding
- International Student Access
- Learning Modalities
- Partnerships, Mergers & Acquisitions
- Political Divides
- Program Expansion & Renewal
- Restructuring
- Retention & Completion
- Shared Governance
- Sustainable Business Models

Live Polling

Get out your phones and let's share some ideas!

- Open a web browser (e.g., Chrome, Safari)
- Go to vevox.com
- Enter ID # **108-062-562**
- OR....scan this QR code with your phone's camera:

Areas in Need of Innovation in Higher Education

Using the areas in need of innovation list, which one or two are most pressing for your institution? Please select up to two options, then scroll to the end of the list and submit your response.

- Civil Discourse
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Areas in Need of Innovation in Higher Education Poll Results

Discuss your selections
at your table

Areas in Need of Innovation at Your Institutions

Poll Results

What are the Challenges Fostering Innovation in These Areas?

What are the challenges you and your institutions face in trying to innovate in these areas?

Type the one or two words that you feel are (or will be) your biggest challenges or obstacles when trying to foster innovation in these areas.

Innovation Challenges at Your Institution

Poll Results

Leading Innovation & Risk

- External Monitoring
- Cabinet & Board Engagement
- New Program Applications & Approval Processes
- Preliminary Grant Application Requests
- Innovation Competitions
- Innovation Incubators
- Strategic Initiative Fund Pools

Aligning Innovation with Institutional Strategy



Values, mission, vision, goals, priorities



Structure dedicated times for ideation & innovation



Reinforce through messaging, recognition, and/or rewards



It's as much about the culture as the results



Trying and failing is better than doing nothing



Key Takeaways

- ☐ Think of innovation as a mindset or dimension of your organizational culture
- ☐ Proactively establish and foster innovative thinking and action
- ☐ External conditions and internal processes are both sources for innovative ideas
- ☐ Innovation inevitably invokes failure

Questions and Sharing

