

Where Are We Going? *A Vision For Southern*

President Joe Bertolino

These are exciting times for Southern Connecticut State University.

The University is raising its profile and redefining itself. By doing so, the University is positioning itself to become the regional higher education institution of choice for students and community partners.

We will dedicate ourselves to students, providing the mentoring and guidance to complement exemplary teaching and research, and ensure that a Southern degree is an attainable goal. **The success of our students is our success!**

We will become the Social Justice University of the State of Connecticut.

Southern can take this vital step by drawing on the talents of our community, forming strong coalitions with on- and off-campus partners, and focusing on both access and excellence.

We will form closer ties with our feeder community colleges, providing a smoother transition for transfer students and better preparation before they come to Southern.

We will collaborate with area school systems to help close the achievement gap and we will work to diversify our revenue sources.

We will develop new enterprise centers for professional studies and continuing education, and reinvigorate our graduate programs to meet the needs of the economy and the schedules of today's working professionals.

We will find new opportunities and initiatives to grow and support our faculty and student scholarship and creative activities.

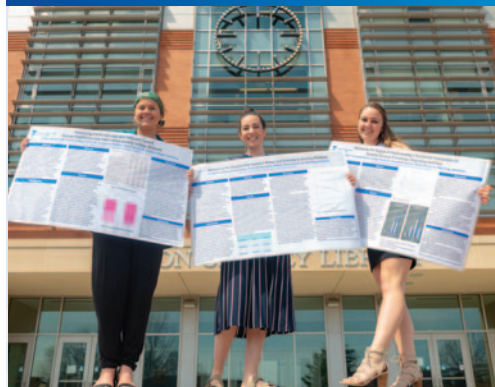
We will regain the foothold as the CSCU's largest and highest quality school of graduate studies.

And, we will expand Southern's reach as a regional university, increasing our presence both physically and visibly in the Greater New Haven region and throughout the southern part of the state.

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KEY PRIORITIES FOR 2019-20

ENROLLMENT

- Retain current students.
- Focus on the recruitment of transfer students, non-traditional students, and graduate students.

STUDENT SUCCESS

Transfer Students

- Smooth pathways to transfer to Southern.
- Improve ways that transfer students are integrated into the Southern community.

Greater Flexibility in Curriculum and Scheduling

- Take an honest and in-depth look at our curriculum to ensure we are meeting the needs of students.

Financial Challenges

- Help students overcome financial challenges.
- Help students navigate the financial aid and scholarship application process.
- Enhance overall financial literacy.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

- Identify and address systemic barriers to equity, access, and success for all members of our community.

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT (\$\$)

- Raise more funds from private and corporate donors.

When planning, strategizing and exercising our day to day responsibilities, we must ask ourselves, "How does this serve students? How does this help us overcome the new demographics, the challenge of free community college, and the competition from private institutions?"



**Southern Connecticut
State University**