



**Idaho State**  
UNIVERSITY

# Polytechnic Initiative

## Implementation Plan

**September 11, 2018**

Prepared by the Polytechnic Initiative Steering Committee

## Table of Contents

<b>1. Introduction .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1.1 Introduction to the Polytechnic Initiative .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1.2 Objectives of the strategic planning process .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1.3 Methodology .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. Organizational Profile .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2.1 Vision .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2.2 Mission .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3. Plan .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3.1 Goal: Implement and Align Academic Programs.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3.2 Goal: Develop New Educational Opportunities .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3.3 Goal: Establish Strong Community Partnerships .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3.4 Goal: Create an Investment Plan to Grow the Polytechnic Program beyond 2021.....</b>	<b>6</b>

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Introduction to the Polytechnic Initiative

In Fall 2017, upon receiving approval and funding from the Idaho Legislature for a Polytechnic initiative, a Steering Committee was formed to create the framework for implementation of the new educational organization on the Idaho State University (ISU)- Idaho Falls Campus. The Polytechnic Initiative Steering Committee consisted of ISU staff and College Deans, as well as stakeholders from other regional universities, the College of Eastern Idaho, Idaho National Lab representatives, and state agencies. The group met multiple times over a nine-month period to create the products needed to support the ISU leadership's vision.

## 1.2 Objectives of the strategic planning process

The objectives of the implementation planning process were to:

- Build an organizational framework
- Create a five-year plan
- Develop a new vision and mission
- Identify programs
- Create synergy between ISU and its stakeholders

## 1.3 Methodology

The steering committee transformed real and perceived weaknesses into opportunities that translate into achievable but challenging goals and objectives by identifying the Initiative's core competencies and capabilities. The new vision addresses the delivery of a superior product while shaping the program's future at ISU and within the communities it serves, while the mission focuses on the development of the Initiative itself. This living document is the first one of many steps to come to that support the Polytechnic Initiative leadership's ability to achieve their desired results to create positive educational change at ISU and in Idaho's Upper Snake River Valley communities.

# 2. Organizational Profile

## 2.1 Vision

Become a multi-institutional polytechnic center that customizes the academic process to prepare inter-disciplinary, transformational leaders for a global, knowledge-based economy

## 2.2 Mission

An interdisciplinary community of scholars who transform and develop degree programs that prepare students to tackle critical problems in energy, technology, and the environment

## 3. Plan

### 3.1 Goal: Implement and Align Academic Programs

**Objective:** Implement five programs that establish the foundation of the Polytechnic Institute and support community workforce requirements

**Actions:**

1. By Fall 2019
  - a. Nuclear Engineering
  - b. Incorporate into Polytechnic Initiative:
    - i. GIS (Televised classes and Adjuncts)
    - ii. Mechanical Engineering (Anish Sabastion)
2. By Fall 2020
  - a. Cyber-Security/Informatics
  - b. Electrical Engineering
3. By Fall 2022, create up to three minors in: Business, Public Policy, Communications/Technical Writing, and/or Psychology with Human Factors emphasis
4. The Polytechnic Initiative will establish and begin implementation of a hiring plan to support the implementation of five programs at the Idaho Falls Campus by Fall 2018 and associated minors by Fall 2020
  - a. By Fall 2018
    - 1) Hire two nuclear engineer faculty
    - 2) Hire a marketing coordinator to support the Idaho Falls campus and the Polytechnic Initiative
    - 3) Adjust the duties of the student advisors to include recruiting responsibilities

- b. By Fall 2019,
  - 1) Identify and hire GIS Adjunct Professors with Polytechnic Initiative funding
  - 2) Transfer ½ of the Mechanical Engineering faculty member from ME funding to the Polytech Initiative fund site (The other half is INL Ed contract funding)
  - 3) Conduct searches for three cyber-security/informatics faculty (Computer Science/Informatics) and two Electrical Engineering faculty
    - i. Explore INL Ed contract funding for match
    - ii. Identify INL adjuncts to contribute to EE
- c. Fall 2020, Expect that hiring of 1-2 EE and 2-3 CS/Informatics faculty members in Idaho Falls complete, if not continue searches.
- d. Fall 2021, hire at least three faculty positions to support minors in Business, Public Policy, Communications/Technical Writing, or Psychology with Human Factors emphasis (may require additional funding)

### **3.2 Goal: Develop New Educational Opportunities**

**Objective:** By 2021, ISU will create a modular set of programs that supports student achievement by earning certificates and degrees that focus in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) and social science fields of study

1. Build industry certifications as integral parts of the program
2. Partner with ISU colleges to create programs that support student degree accomplishment in both a major and a minor

### **3.3 Goal: Establish Strong Community Partnerships**

**Objective:** By 2019, ISU will establish mutual and beneficial internal and external partnerships that support program implementation to increase ISU's effectiveness in the Upper Snake River Valley.

**Actions:**

1. ISU coordinates with College of Eastern Idaho and Brigham Young University-Idaho to support follow-on student recruitment into Polytechnic Initiative
2. ISU establishes partnerships with University of Idaho to identify programs for incorporation into the Polytechnic Initiative
3. ISU works with industry and government agencies to identify future workforce opportunities and requirements in Idaho Falls and adjacent communities

**3.4 Goal:** Create an Investment Plan to Grow the Polytechnic Program beyond 2021

**Objective:** By 2021, ISU will develop and implement an investment plan for strategic resource (financial, human, & facilities) allocation to support current and emerging programs

**Actions:**

The Polytechnic Initiative will increase the enrollment at the ISU-Idaho Falls campus by 400 students by 2022, through the creation of a comprehensive and resourced marketing and recruiting master plan, which includes an allocated budget.