Pathways: Journey of Art & Sciences (over 18 months)

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Peterson Family Dean of Arts & Sciences
Where do we begin:

• **My Big Question:** How will we position ourselves to ensure the future success of the Arts and Sciences at WPI?

• **The 2 Big Questions:** What is the role of Arts and Sciences at WPI? What is the role of the Dean of Arts and Sciences at WPI?
Determining Who We Are & Where We are Going

VISION
To inspire members of the Arts and Sciences community to be creators, scholars, inventors, and responsible global citizens

MISSION
To bring together cross-disciplinary and diverse perspectives to promote discovery and communication, advance knowledge, and improve the human condition
Some Efforts to Support and Elevate the Impact of A&S in the WPI Ecosystem

Faculty Focus
- Faculty recruitment, development, mentoring & engagement
- Building the A&S graduate programs
- Strengthening the A&S research enterprise

Educate, Excite & Engage Students
- New academic programs
- Supporting A&S students
- A&S Advisory Councils
- Specific groups (SACNAS)
- Summer research fellowships
- Dean’s Fund for Graduate Students

Cross-Collaborations (Provost, Deans/VPR, Adm. MC)
- STEM Faculty Launch
- Social Justice Summit
- A&S Week
- Critical Conversations
- Cross-divisional initiatives
- Cross-cutting themes
- Joint PhD program-UMMS
- New Global Initiatives

Approximately 70% of Dean’s time is spent meeting and engaging with faculty and collaborating with A&S department and program leadership
Quick Highlights

• Faculty
  – 54% of WPI faculty and 59% of all UG credits
  – 52% of all WPI research funding

• Students
  – Undergraduate research awards, Dean’s graduate fund, student advisory councils

• Neuroscience Initiative
  – Julia Kasparian Fund for Neuroscience Research, Music & the Brain, MS program

• Community
  – A&S Week, Critical Conversations

• Diversity
  – SACNAS, Social Justice Summit, STEM Faculty Launch
  – Several A&S programs have more women than WPI average (BBT, CBC, Math, BCB, Data Science)
In Brief: Role of the A&S Dean

- Develop and implement cohesive strategic vision (external and internal) for the arts & sciences
- Support budget priorities and help ensure fiscal responsibility
- Communicate, support, and inspire faculty, students and staff to advance our academic mission
- Foster new disciplinary and transdisciplinary activities and opportunities (cross divisions; academic entities etc.)
- Work internally and externally to enhance the success of Arts & Sciences at WPI as an integrated organism to achieve our goals: 1) Global Polytechnic, 2) Significant impact on the world
This Is “Us”

AS Faculty, Students & Staff

Advisory Councils (3)

A&S Dept. Heads & Programs Leaders

Dean’s Office

Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Thanks

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of CREATIVITY & DISCOVERY
ARTS & SCIENCES AT WPI

Worcester Polytechnic Institute