

# WPI: On the Rise

First Faculty Meeting  
September 8, 2016  
President Laurie Leshin



# WPI

# Good Stuff



- ✓ Strategic Plan released and underway – good progress and more to do
- ✓ Financially on solid ground – new investments focused on Strategic Plan initiatives
- ✓ Already raised ~\$15M in philanthropy directly towards Strategic Plan goals. Endowment tops \$450M for first time.
- ✓ Gordon Prize win and celebration
- ✓ Foisie IS & Messenger Hall going full speed ahead
- ✓ Research expenditures almost \$30M – best ever!
- ✓ Many fabulous new staff and faculty members (welcome!!)
- ✓ New Board of Trustees Chairman – Jack Mollen
- ✓ Class of 2020 is the BEST (and most diverse!) CLASS EVER!

# Challenges/Opportunities

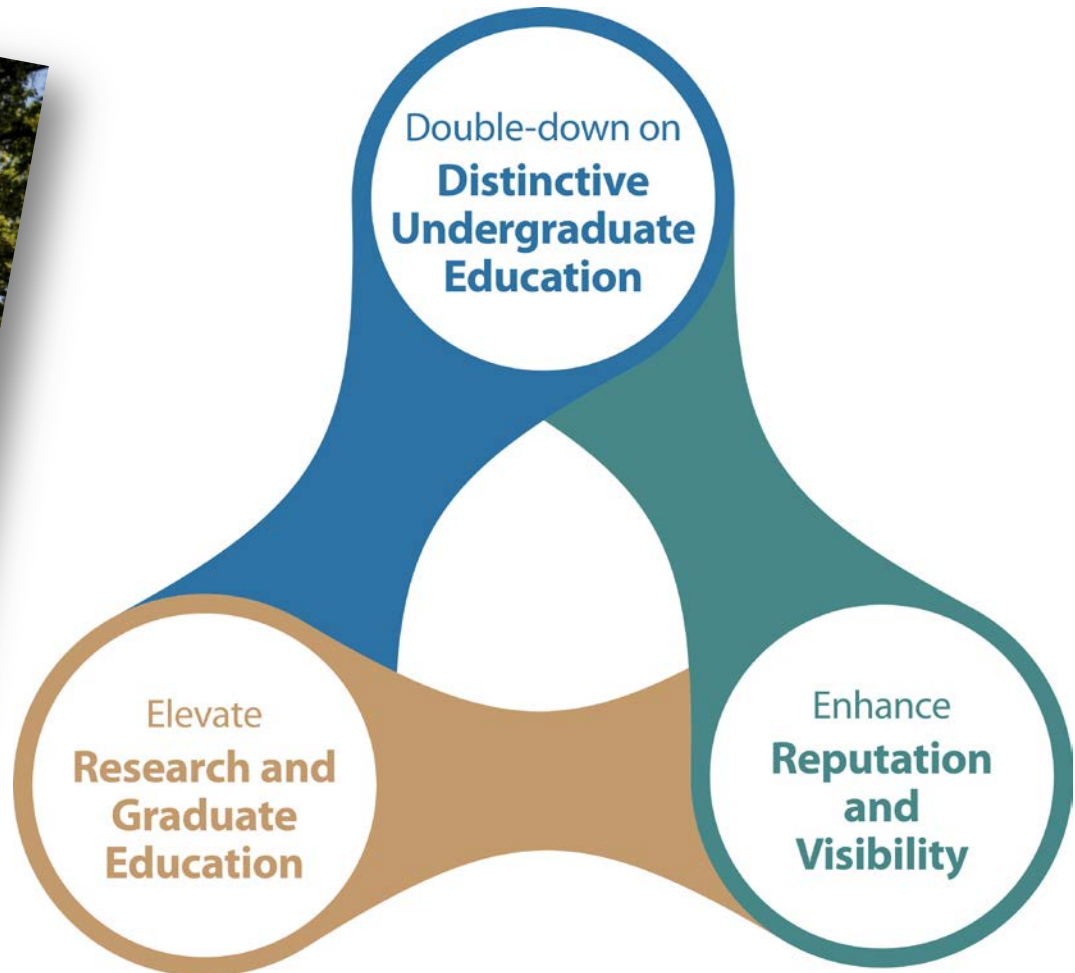
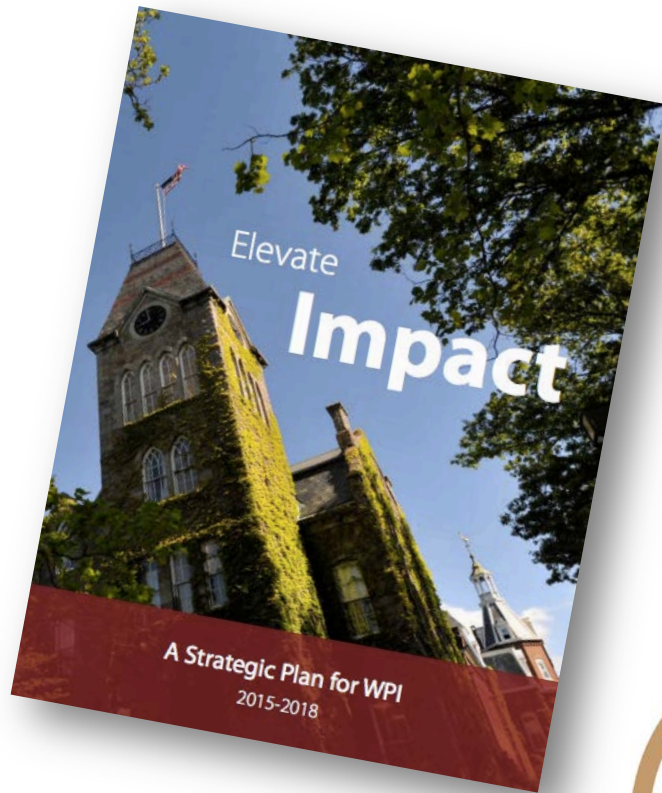
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- ✓ Keep focus on our commitments and opportunities of Strategic Plan goals and initiatives
- ✓ Manage effectively in current environment – legal challenges, safety, reputation, regulations (FLSA), cybersecurity, working with the city (PILOT)
- ✓ Space to manage our growth in size, stature and reputation
- ✓ Advance Worcester through economic development activities and innovation/entrepreneurship
- ✓ Leverage perspectives of new campus leaders, faculty, staff, students to make us stronger
- ✓ Continued focus on making WPI a diverse and inclusive community where all can thrive



# Elevate Impact: A Strategic Plan for WPI



# Our Accomplishments—Wow!



## ➤ Undergraduate Education

- ✓ Record # Co-op opportunities available—more than 600!
- ✓ Most off-campus IQPs EVER—almost 850!
- ✓ WPI designated Grand Challenge Scholar Campus by National Academy

## ➤ Research & Grad Education

- ✓ Research expenditures \$29.7M; several large Center grants submitted
- ✓ First two grad courses converted to Personalized Online (POE) format-50 enrolled
- ✓ Launched PhD Leadership program— 75 PhD candidates participated

## ➤ Reputation & Visibility

- ✓ Alden Trust Challenge successfully completed -- \$12M raised
- ✓ Foisie Innovation Studio & Messenger Hall groundbreaking
- ✓ WPI received 2<sup>nd</sup> Kern Foundation Grant to expand I&E work (\$1.78M over 3 years)
- ✓ CPBL—more than 40 Univs impacted so far—24 attended 2<sup>nd</sup> summer institute
- ✓ First 3 International Alumni Chapters launched; Email for life for alums

# What to Watch for This Year

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- Launch of WPI's **Research Solutions Institute**
- First round of **faculty cluster hiring** aligned with research themes
- New engineering track in the Institute for **Project-Based Learning**
- Series of **co-op focused events** to increase participation
- Launch of an **e-portfolio** option for students
- **>100 additional slots and 4 new/expanded centers** for off-campus projects
- Launch of the Center for **Graduate Student Professional Development**
- **25 Grand Challenge Scholars** recognized at Commencement
- 2 additional **personalized online courses** launch
- Announcement of an **exciting partnership** with Tsinghua Univ
- And MORE!!

# Get Involved

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- Input from >1000 people created this plan – it's ours
- To date over 200 WPI faculty, staff and students have been involved in launching the plan, and we're just going into our first full acad year of implementation
- **This week:** Status and plans for all 9 initiatives on posters at Faculty Reception and Town Hall – talk to initiative leads, share your ideas, get engaged
- **Coming soon:** Department-level faculty discussions with Kristin Tichenor, Bruce Bursten, Michelle Jones-Johnson and your Dept Head





WPI