



New College of Florida

The Honors College

2024 - 2029 Business/Strategic Plan Presentation

September 18, 2024

The Value of a Liberal Arts Education

Liberal arts education has its roots in classical antiquity and the European middle ages, but it reached its greatest flourishing in the United States. It is an education for a free people, a self-governing and independent people. True liberal education develops not just minds but also character. We expect New College students to succeed in the marketplace and to contribute to the development of the nation's economy. But successful education cannot be reduced solely to dollars or metrics. We seek to produce graduates who have thought deeply about the big questions and as a result are exemplary parents, citizens, neighbors, and leaders.



16 Successes in 16 Months

300+ Freshmen and transfer students matriculated in 2023 and 2024, representing consecutive years of record new-student enrollment

40+ New faculty members hired in Fall 2024

Established the Presidential Scholar in Residence position, which has attracted academic standouts like **Stanley Fish**, **Bruce Gilley**, and **Joseph Loconte** to Sarasota

Initiated Logos/Techne core curriculum to enhance our classical liberal arts focus

Launched the nation's only master's degree program in Marine Mammal Science

Debuted the **Socratic Stage Dialogue Series**, promoting civil discourse

12 Sports teams launched and accepted for an NAIA membership



16 Successes in 16 Months

Reduced deferred maintenance by **75%** and added **\$10M** in campus enhancements

60% increase in NCF Foundation funding and **54% increase** in 1st time donors

9 Acre donation secured from Manatee County to accommodate future growth

Secured new food service vendor to improve the quality and variety of dining options for students

First in the nation to abolish DEI Office and discontinue the Gender Studies program

Executed articulation agreements with **14 Florida state colleges** driving transfer enrollment

Increased enrollment of Black and Hispanic students with a traditional merit-based admissions process, without affirmative action or diversity mandates.

Increased student retention by **11% year over year**

New College topped all liberal arts colleges for “Best Value” in The Princeton Review and was the best public liberal arts college in Washington Monthly’s 2023 and 2024 rankings.



The Seven Fundamental Aspirations of New College

New College has established seven fundamental aspirations – and a resulting overall aspiration – that together underpins its goal of being a preeminent small liberal arts college.

- Aspiration #1: Attract Students with Broad Intellectual Curiosity
- Aspiration #2: Encourage “Civil Discourse”
- Aspiration #3: Strengthen Core Liberal Arts Curriculum
- Aspiration #4: Establish High Participation Sports and Cultural Programs
- Aspiration #5: Create Vibrant Student Life, Top-Tier Housing and Infrastructure
- Aspiration #6: Recruit Faculty with a Dedication to Teaching and Mentoring Students
- Aspiration #7: Ensure Financial Soundness



Action Plans for the New College Strategy

New College has developed a six-point action plan for joining the top tier of small liberal arts colleges.

- **The Action Plan.** New College has linked its seven fundamental aspirations to the six-point action plan – most with clear quantitative growth targets and a timetable – to achieve a level of significant advancement over the next four years and continued excellence over the next 10 years.
- **Six-Action Plan.** The New College action plan comprehensively covers how the college intends to grow its students, faculty, facilities, academic programs and its intellectual environment; these include:
 - **1. Attract Students with Broad Intellectual Curiosity**
 - **2. Encourage “Civil Discourse”**
 - **3. Develop Core Liberal Arts Curriculum**
 - **4. Establish High Participation Sports and Cultural Programs**
 - **5. Create Vibrant Student Life, Top-Tier Housing and Infrastructure**
 - **6. Recruit Faculty with High Interest in Teaching and Mentoring Students**
- **Quantitative Integration of the Action Plan.** The facets of the action plan are interlinked quantitatively so that, for example, the growth in enrollment drives the increase in faculty, housing, sports participation, financial results, and many other factors.

Dramatic Total Enrollment Growth

