

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The University of the Virgin Islands is at a pivotal moment in its history. As we build upon our strong foundation of academic excellence, research innovation, and community engagement, we embark on a strategic journey to elevate UVI to new heights of distinction.

Our new strategic plan, “**GRAND momentum: Charting A Course to Becoming A GRAND Destination University, Grounded in Excellence,**” reflects the hopes and aspirations of our students, employees, alumni, Board members, community and partners who have collectively shaped a vision for a stronger, more dynamic, and globally connected UVI. Our strategic plan is designed to:

- **Empower Students for Success**– Strengthen enrollment, retention, and career-readiness initiatives
- **Expand Research Leadership** – Enhance funding, partnerships, and applied research impact
- **Drive Workforce and Economic Development** – Align programs with regional and global industry needs and strengthen community impact
- **Optimize Institutional Excellence** – Financial sustainability, operational efficiency, employee excellence, and global recognition

This plan reflects our commitment to agility, innovation, and long-term sustainability. With clear milestones, continuous stakeholder engagement, and a data-driven approach, UVI is poised to lead the region in education, research, and societal impact. Through bold actions and strategic investments, UVI is on a path to becoming a world-class Destination University.

The world is watching. The time is now. This is our **GRAND Momentum.**





TRANSFORMATIONAL RETURN ON INVESTMENT: WHAT EXCITES US

UVI's strategic initiatives aim to produce a transformational return on investment, delivering sustainable value and impact for its stakeholders and the broader community. These anticipated outcomes include:

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND STUDENT SUCCESS

- A transformative students-first approach that supports academic success and enriches learning through opportunities to engage in research, service learning, travel abroad and other immersive experiences
- Increased enrollment through enhanced recruitment and program offerings
- Improved retention and graduation rates through comprehensive support systems
 - First year retention rate of 75% by Fall 2026
 - A six-year graduation rate of 35% by May 2027
- Enhanced career outcomes through innovative educational pathways
- Tutors engaged in “appreciative advising” and mentoring
- A holistic, well-rounded student experience and enhanced campus life for all students
- A culture of faculty excellence fostered by investing in ongoing professional development, innovative pedagogy, and research opportunities that directly enhance student outcomes

- Development of career-ready graduates with respect to technical and soft skills

RESEARCH LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATION

- Enhanced funding through competitive research grants and partnerships
- Improved capacity for addressing regional challenges through applied research
- Accelerated research output in high-impact areas
- Creation of new intellectual property and research partnerships
- Improved infrastructure to support students and faculty research
- Enhanced global distinction by producing transformative research outcomes that address pressing societal needs.
- Collaboration with community partners and local government to enhance ‘real world’ industry partnerships

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Strengthened regional workforce through world class executive education offerings for working professionals
- Increased economic impact through strategic partnerships, research commercialization and innovation

- Enhanced public health outcomes through medical education and health initiatives
- Transformative social mobility through expanded educational access and opportunities
- Academic reputation strengthened by introducing cutting-edge, interdisciplinary programs that meet the evolving workforce demands of global industries and the local community



INSTITUTIONAL EXCELLENCE

- Adopting Lean Six Sigma strategies to foster a culture of continuous improvement in operational efficiency and processes
- Enhanced financial sustainability through diverse funding and revenue streams
- Strengthened institutional capacity through strategic investments and modernized infrastructure and technology
- Increased philanthropic support and alumni engagement
- Robust partnership with the UVI Research & Technology Park to support research,

- entrepreneurship, and student internships
- Telling Our Story and value proposition better, ensuring UVI is no longer ‘the best kept secret’
- Improved UVI brand and image locally, regionally, and nationally
- Develop data approaches for measuring and improving student learning outcomes
- Increase participation in professional development opportunities to include workshops, conferences, and training.
- Develop an institutional discounting philosophy that incorporates best practices and maximizes dollars spent

