

Academic Distinction Framework

Overall goal

Advance high-impact priorities that change market position by building ethical AI capacity, expanding experiential learning, and redesigning the curriculum to foster long-term distinction.

Green = Prioritized for the next 12-18 months

1) Build Capacity for Ethical AI

Objective: Establish DePaul as a leader in ethical, mission-centered AI education through faculty training, platform adoption, and curricular integration.

Key initiatives

- **Scale AI training:** Expand Center for Teaching & Learning generative AI training modules via D2L for faculty and students, with targeted support for high-DFW courses.
- **Adopt Academic AI Platform:** Execute a soft rollout of Boodlebox AI, followed by full implementation and integration into the D2L environment.
- **AI Engagement Grants:** Launch internal grant categories to fund faculty/student pilots and seed external opportunities
- **Intelligences Framework:** Develop an "Intelligences Framework" in the core curriculum where students engage with AI as part of a broader, ethics-driven study of human, creative, and technical intelligence.

Primary owners: Provost/Academic Affairs + Center for Teaching and Learning + IS + Faculty Council + Provost's Advisory Committee on Artificial Intelligence (ACAI)

Core KPIs: Faculty and student AI training completion rates, AI platform adoption across courses, grade improvements in high-DFW courses, and external grants seeded by AI Engagement Grant pilots.

2) Expand Experiential Learning

Objective: Pilot co-op pathways in select programs and strengthen multi-modal experiential learning models suited to each college or program context.

Key initiatives

- **Pilot Co-op Pathways:** Benchmark peer models, identify feasible pilots in select programs, starting with Hospitality (e.g., Driehaus, CDM, Communication, CSH), and secure paid employer partners.
- **Strengthen Experiential Learning:** Inventory existing models across colleges to identify and recommend scalable expansion pathways

- **Remove Access Barriers:** Clarify and address student barriers to participating in experiential and co-op programs.

Primary owners: Career Services + Deans/Colleges + Industry Partnerships

Core KPIs: Number of paid co-op placements in pilot programs, employer partners secured, student retention and enrollment yield in pilot programs, entry-level salary outcomes, student and employer satisfaction rates

3) Develop Programs of National Distinction

The subcommittee will develop this strategy following exploration and execution of 1 and 2.

4) Redesign the Core Curriculum

The subcommittee will develop this strategy following exploration and execution of 1 and 2.

5) Explore a Three-Year Bachelor's Degree

The subcommittee will develop this strategy following exploration and execution of 1 and 2.
