

As we embark on a new academic year, it's an ideal time to reflect on our achievements and set goals for our future. University College continues to be recognized as a top-tier adult education provider, as we offer access to the University of Denver through continuing education and professional development. Our programs remain competitive and are recognized by U.S. News & World Report, including a top 10 ranking for bachelor's programs with small class sizes. We've hired new faculty in the past few months and welcome Dr. Bobbie Kite as our new Academic Director and Associate Professor for the Healthcare Leadership program.

I'm also pleased to report that University College achieved 90% of its strategic plan for 2013-2016, including strides in strengthening our curriculum, offering professional development opportunities, and creating a more engaging classroom experience—whether that classroom is online, on campus, or a hybrid of both. A few highlights from the progress made with our 2013-2016 strategic plan:

- Developed a framework for faculty to engage, challenge, and energize our students
- Adopted a campus-wide learning management system, Canvas
- Converted most degrees to Master of Arts and Master of Science
- Developed research courses specific to fields of study
- Established the Center for Professional Development (more at [du.edu/professional](http://du.edu/professional))

These accomplishments embolden us as we are currently in the midst of crafting our strategic plan for 2017-2020. This is an exciting process that helps set the strategic vision for the college and determines where we aim to be in three years. Be on the lookout for a new alumni magazine from University College, launching in fall, to stay up-to-date on our strategic plan and news.

In the meantime, I encourage you to engage with us! Find an alumni event near you, whether it's a fun evening out for a sporting event or a professional development opportunity, there are several DU alumni events happening this year. Plus, I ask that you nominate yourself or a fellow alum for the 2017 Alumni Achievement Awards (<http://ucollege.du.edu/alumniaward2017>), to be presented at our annual holiday party in December.

Sincerely,



Michael McGuire, Dean  
@DUUcoldean on Twitter

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