Strategic Plan 2017-2021

Goal 1: Materially Increase the Number of Graduates Prepared to Lead Cybersecurity Teams, Programs, and Efforts.

Primary methods to achieving Goal 1:

- Formally review and revise marketing and admissions planning, processes, techniques and standards.
- Invest in the required tools, events, and people, beginning with an admissions portal and expanded marketing and recruiting efforts.
- Expand our current processes of continuous improvement to include the assessment of correlation between admissions standards and student success, and acquire the longitudinal data necessary to determine strategic adjustments to those standards over time.

Benchmark: Set the conditions to achieve, by end of year 2021, at least 200 master's graduates and at least 800 certificate graduates annually who have successfully demonstrated the required learning outcomes and the technical and leadership skills expected of an STI graduate and necessary to fulfill our mission and vision.

Goal 2: Modify Academic Program Design & Delivery to Maximize Graduates with Leadership Capabilities

Primary methods to achieving Goal 2:

- Formally define and assess the balance and mix of technical, management, and leadership skills and learning outcomes of our various master's degrees and graduate certificates, as required to meet the full range of contemporary professional needs and as per our mission and vision.
- Review, and validate or revise, the effectiveness of existing and alternative major academic requirements and capstone exercises, to especially include systemic improvements to the research paper requirements, processes, and delivery in order to produce leaders with advanced cognition and awareness.
- Implementation of formal recurring graduate surveys to assess personal and professional outcomes and impact of STI education.

Benchmark: Formal curriculum review, to include degree and certificate program design, delivery methodology, and major requirements, completed during 2018 coincident with re-accreditation self-study and with resulting recommendations to be implemented during 2019 and assessed during 2020 and 2021.

Goal 3: Align Organizational Design and Processes to Optimize Support of the Student Experience

Primary methods to achieving Goal 3:

- Re-design existing databases and facilitate access to academic progress metrics in order to improve the efficiency of academic advising and the quality of staff engagement with students.
- Explore and invest in a student self-service portal.
- Create the platforms necessary for improved student engagement with peers, instructors, alumni, and mentors.
- Assess and improve the methods and requirements associated with obligatory live individual or group academic events in order to ensure sustainability in light of the growth intended in Goal 1.
- Create and sustain a routine student survey program for new, current, and graduated students in order to capture valuable constituent feedback.
- Enhance the frequency and depth of governance interactions, to include formalizing the frequency of the review of board structure and composition.
- Improve the frequency of faculty review.

Benchmarks: Develop the ability to quickly and accurately measure all metrics associated with the academic progress of any segment of the student population during 2017, and make key elements of that data available to the individual student during 2018. Achieve and maintain a student survey maximum satisfaction rating in excess of 90%.