

Xavier's Mission Priority Examen 2023-2024

An overview of the process

Superior General Fr. Arturo Sosa, S.J., has called all Jesuit universities in North America to engage in a Mission Priority Examen (MPE) process sometime within a five-year window of 2021-2026. Fr. Karl Kiser, S.J., the Provincial of the Midwest Province, has invited Xavier to participate this academic year. This Ignatian process of reflection includes a self-study report and a peer review team visit.

Xavier's MPE process coincided with the University strategic planning process with initiatives and goals outlined in fall 2022. Xavier's five identified MPE Priorities flow from the Plan, *Xavier 200: The Greater, The Better, The More 2023-2031*; they are:

1. The establishment, support, and execution of **the first Jesuit College of Osteopathic Medicine** will align with and boost the Jesuit Catholic mission of the University.
2. The re-constituted **Division of Mission and Ministry** will achieve its purpose to: enhance the animation of the University's Jesuit Catholic educational identity and activation of the four Universal Apostolic Preferences.
3. Feasible goals of the campus' Laudato Si 'Action Plan will be identified and advanced to fulfill Xavier's **commitment to being a *Laudato Si'* university**.
4. Develop and implement a model of **Ignatian vocational discernment** for second year students.
5. Actions and initiatives to advance on two **key performance indices** of institutional health for *Leadership in Mission and Identity* (i.e., student mission learning and faculty/staff mission professional development distinction) will be undertaken.

Dozens of faculty and staff contributed to the actual writing of Xavier's MPE Report which resulted from numerous interviews, group visioning meetings and planning sessions as part of the strategic planning process as well as MPE-specific dialogues, including input from the Board's Jesuit Mission and Identity Committee in May and September 2023. The ~40-page self-study report covers 7 areas:

<i>Leadership and public commitment to mission</i>	<i>An academic life</i>
<i>The pursuit of faith, justice, and reconciliation</i>	<i>Promoting an Ignatian campus culture</i>
<i>Service to the Catholic Church</i>	<i>Relationship to the Society of Jesus</i>
<i>Institutional integrity</i>	

and responds to two Xavier-specific questions from Provincial Fr. Karl Kiser, S.J.:

Why has Xavier been so successful with so many of its mission initiatives and why they seem accessible from the students up to the Board of Trustees?

[How do you] keep the spirit of the recently revised sustaining document we signed at your inauguration alive for a healthy engagement with the Province and within the University and its Jesuit Community.

Timeline

Fall 2022

The University strategic plan, *Xavier at 200: The Greater, The Better, The More*, is finalized following input from the campus community from Fall 2021-Summer 2022; see www.xavier.edu/200/process. MPE priorities identified.

Informed

began Nov. 2022 invitation from the Provincial

BOT Jesuit Mission and Identity Committee
Mission and Identity staff
Senior Leadership Counsel
Campus convocation, April 2023

Reflecting

Jan-May 2023

Mission and Identity staff	trustees
ABSN mission coordinators	early new Division meetings/CFJ
Cabinet (XUC)*	students
AFMIX participants	Ignatian Colleagues Program participants

*Reflection questions posed to the

Why has Xavier been so successful with so many of its mission initiatives and why they seem accessible from the students up to the Board of Trustees? All groups were asked this question
What is a mission strength in your area of responsibility/representation?
What is an opportunity for deepening the activation and animation of the Jesuit Catholic mission and identity in your area of responsibility/representation?
What is an opportunity for deepening the activation and animation of the Jesuit Catholic mission and identity elsewhere in the University?

Writing Phase

May – Sept 1, 2023

Pairs/trios drafted sections
Faculty and staff from: Office of Academic Affairs; Communication Art, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Eigel Center, Education, Human Resources, Mission and Ministry [Center for Faith and Justice, Center for Mission and Identity], Political Science, Student Integrity
Contributors and editors Frs. Jim McCann, S.J. and Ed Schmidt, S.J.

Reflecting on Draft 1

Aug- Sept 2023

Announced at Opening Convocation
Posting in *Xavier Today* – invitation for feedback and learnings
Mission and Ministry Retreat
Jesuit Community
Senior Leadership Counsel
University Marketing and Communications
Mission Coordinators
BOT's Jesuit Mission and Identity Committee
Gratitudes – Learnings – Hopes and Inspirations

Reflecting on Draft 2

late Sept 2023

Posting in *Xavier Today* – invitation for feedback and learnings
Thorny issues we should be asking ourselves as a next step"

Final Document

Oct 2023