

National Network for Educational Renewal
Strategic Direction Action Plan
October 2016
(To be implemented beginning January, 2017)

In Summer 2016, 38 members from the National Network for Educational Renewal (NNER) participated in a two-day strategic planning work session to better define NNER's future strategic direction. The planning session included an in-depth analysis of NNER as it currently exists, including who is served by NNER, their requirements and expectations of NNER, current Network processes and activities, and Network measurement and feedback mechanisms. The analysis and resulting discussion guided the recommended next steps presented in this document, which provides measureable goals and actions that will be monitored and communicated broadly.

The NNER Strategic Direction Action Plan will continue the widely celebrated and highly regarded work of John Goodlad through a revitalized, enhanced mission, and it will be actualized through the recommended next steps determined by the Institute participants.

The Action Plan intentionally aligns with NNER Enabling Actions. Members of the Network assert that quality schooling for a democracy and quality preparation of educators can best be accomplished by sharing responsibility for the following enabling actions:

- I. Engaging university faculty in the arts and sciences, education, public schools, and community members as equal partners collectively responsible for the Agenda;
- II. Promoting and including partnership settings nationally and internationally that together represent urban, suburban, and rural communities, ethnically and socioeconomically diverse public school and university students, and a broad range of public and private teacher education institutions of varying sizes and missions;
- III. Inquiring into and conducting research pertinent to educational practices and the renewal of public schools and the education of educators;
- IV. Proposing and monitoring federal, state and local policy that supports the implementing the Agenda for Education in a Democracy; and
- V. Providing opportunities for professional and leadership development for participants in NNER settings.

NNER Vision and Four-Part Mission

The National Network for Educational Renewal (NNER) leads by example as it strives to improve simultaneously the quality of education for thoughtful participation in a democracy and the quality of the preparation of educators. The NNER works through partnerships among P-12 schools, institutions of higher education, and communities.

Members of the Network agree on a four-part mission to advance Education in Democracy, which is as follows:

- I. provide access to knowledge for all children (**equity and excellence**);
- II. educate the young for thoughtful participation in a social and political democracy (**enculturation**);
- III. base teaching on knowledge of the subjects taught, established principles of learning, and sensitivity to the unique potential of learners (**nurturing pedagogy**); and
- IV. take responsibility for improving the conditions for learning in P-12 schools, institutions of higher education and communities (**stewardship**).

STRATEGIC DIRECTION/ENABLING ACTION I:

Engaging university faculty in the arts and sciences, education, public schools, and community members as equal partners collectively responsible for the Agenda.

STRATEGIC GOAL: Develop well defined pathways that encourage and actively promote faculty and PK-12 partner collaboration and engagement in research.

ACTION PLAN:

Strategic Direction/Enabling Action I				
Activity	Responsible Person(s)	Deadline or Milestones	Resources Needed	Result
Develop clear vision for collective partners' engagement efforts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NNER Executive Board - 3 Tripartite Committees - EDSJ Standing committees - League of Democratic schools (LODS) 	Governing Council meeting at AACTE: February, 2018	Technology capabilities for planning and sharing information	All partners have vision statement and responsibilities to engage in collaborative research that continues the work of the NNER Agenda
Create a purposeful place for participation by Pre-K-12 partners	Tripartite Education Committee Chair, John Smith, A. Allan & Terry Wilson	Executive Board Meeting: December, 2017	Technology capabilities	Plan developed and approved by Governing Council/Exec. Board that details how to create a purposeful place for PreK-12 partners.
Engage A&S Faculty in educational collaborative research involving K-12 and higher education inquiry.	Tripartite A&S Committee Chair, James Tomlin	Executive Board Meeting: December, 2017	Technology capabilities	Plan developed for approval and implementation that details how A&S faculty will engage in collaborative research and with whom

Strategic Direction/Enabling Action I				
Activity	Responsible Person(s)	Deadline or Milestones	Resources Needed	Result
<p>Create new information technology services that are efficient & effective to open communication & transparent venues for dialogue and feedback.</p> <p>Create NNER Social Media Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exec. Chair(s) - Executive Board members (Ann Foster & Greg Bernhardt) - NNER Social Media Group 	<p>Executive Board meeting: December, 2017</p>	<p>Existing funds already approved for Board travel, budget will need to be set for supporting a more robust tech infrastructure going forward.</p>	<p>New website location with new technologies & capabilities to enhance communication to all sites.</p> <p>Utilize Social Media Group to determine creative ways of serving sites with technology.</p>

STRATEGIC DIRECTION/ENABLING ACTION II:

Promoting and including partnership settings that represent urban, suburban, tribal and rural communities, ethnically & economically diverse public school & university settings, and a broad range of public and private teacher education institutions.

STRATEGIC GOAL: Create purposeful and accessible spaces for schools and university partners of diverse settings to participate within and through partnership network structures.

ACTION PLAN:

Strategic Direction/Enabling Action II				
Activity	Responsible Person(s)	Deadline or Milestones	Resources Needed	Results

Strategic Direction/Enabling Action II				
Activity	Responsible Person(s)	Deadline or Milestones	Resources Needed	Results
Use new forms of technology for cross-setting communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – NNER Tripartite Chair, Vi Florez – Leadership 	Present first phase of implementation at Executive Board Meeting: December, 2017	New Funds for innovative technology capabilities beyond what NNER currently pays for website oversight	Efficient and effective technology to open communication and transparent processes to create venues for dialogue, training, etc.
Partner with in-service teacher organizations or facilitating for PK partners to attend professional meetings & conferences of like-minded national organizations in partnership with NNER settings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Tripartite Chair, Vi Florez – Exec. Board members 	February, 2018 Governing Council meeting - contacts made to partners and NNER role as partner	Dedicated members will be the main resource to carry messages	<p>Implement the committee’s newly developed action plan that will engage more community partners with NNER work.</p> <p>Review partnership structures for equal access to PK12 partners at conference and other forum space</p>
Engage Standing Committee on Equity & Inclusion & PK 12 partners to create plan that engages more participation.	Standing Committee on Equity & Inclusion Chair, Wayne Reed PK12 Partners, A. Allan & Teri Wilson	Present plan - October, 2017 – Annual Conference Exec Board Meeting & Governing Council	Technology efficient for communicating – chats, blogs, storing/sharing information	Action Plan – ready to engage others with NNER work
Increase diversity of membership – more A&S faculty and racial/ethnic members	Exec. Chairs, Exec. Board members, 3 tripartite committees and standing committee	Present new recruits to Exec. Board @ October, 2017 Meeting	Use of Technology to reach out to others	New list of recruits for Leadership & Exec. Board members to contact

STRATEGIC DIRECTION/ENABLING ACTION III:

Inquiring into and conducting research pertinent to educational practices and the renewal of public schools and the education of educators.

STRATEGIC GOAL: Measure NNER efforts through effective research and empirical data gathered by the sites to advance their work.

ACTION PLAN:

Strategic Direction/Enabling Action III				
Activity	Responsible Person(s)	Deadline or Milestones	Resources Needed	Result
Create an NNER research clearinghouse on website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Tripartite/Exec. Board Chair, Vi Florez – Exec. Chairs, Ann & Greg 	Governing Council & Board meeting: October, 2019	New technology capabilities	NNER Website - Resource to locate all NNER Research conducted over past 5 -10 years available to sites
Develop Plan to engage high education faculty and PK12 in collaborative action or community-based research (interdisciplinary)	Tripartite A&S Committee Chair, James Tomlin	Executive Board Meeting: December, 2018	Technology capabilities	Plan developed for approval and implementation. Create incentives/recognition/awards to incentivize collaboration among tripartite groups

Strategic Direction/Enabling Action III				
Activity	Responsible Person(s)	Deadline or Milestones	Resources Needed	Result
Offer annual Summer Symposium to promote NNER efforts & recruit new interests	Exec. Board, NNER members, & other invited guests	Plan 2017 summer Symposia to include A&S & PK12 partners	Allocate funding for travel	PK12 & A&S participation increased & annual evaluations of symposium analyzed for effectiveness
Implement Marketing strategies to disseminate NNER mission and renewal efforts	Exec. Board members: Jennie Rakestraw, Audrey Allen, & Jennifer Robinson	AACTE Governing Council/Exec Board meeting: February, 2018	Funds to implement strategies across sites and dissemination of information via printing – brochures, etc.	Printed material, website information, and marketing- related material available to all members
Utilize NNER tag line and clear mission to market and advance the work of NNER nationally	Executive Board Members	Governing Council meeting: February, 2017	Travel funds for on-site training as needed	Website information available, training webinars on NNER Agenda, Leadership training at sites. Utilization of Logo & collateral redesign/revitalization to ensure alignment with updated tools & approach for promoting NNER work

STRATEGIC DIRECTION/ENABLING ACTION IV:

Proposing and monitoring federal, state, and local policy that supports implementing the Agenda for Education in a Democracy.

STRATEGIC GOAL: Connect to a broader audience of politicians and policymakers and aim to drive the national conversation about education.

ACTION PLAN:

Strategic Direction/Enabling Action IV
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Activity	Responsible Person(s)	Deadline or Milestones	Resources Needed	Result
Create pathway for members to become involved with other national organizations that address education policy issues	Exec. Board Members and led by Nick Michelli	Roadmap with specifics on how to become involved presented to Governing Council: February, 2018	Use of Technology/doctoral students in Colleges of Education and A&S	Clear pathway on how to become involved with policy work – posted on Website to promote involvement
Develop Task Force of faculty & PK 12 partners to attend national meetings, report, & communicate via website on policy issues	Chair, Task Force & Members & NNER Leadership	On-going work – reporting out at each Governing Council meeting	Use of Technology; utilize doctoral/Master students to assist with tasks related to policy issues	Upload information on NNER Website that provides information to all – use social media as needed
Join AACTE Board members & PK 12 partners to the Visit - On the Hill – June, 2017 – to promote national profile	Exec. Board members and NNER Leadership and/or other designated members	June, 2017	Travel funds to be requested	Posting of information on Website to advertise for all members to view
Create work groups at each site to educate & share information on policy issues relevant to settings and partners	Setting directors working with local community, schools, and college/university	Sharing of information at NNER Annual Conference – October, 2017 (Missouri) and Directors uploading information on NNER Website	Technology costs	Display documented events on Website - results at each site with work groups. Conduct webinars that continue the education process on policy issues

STRATEGIC DIRECTION/ENABLING ACTION V:

Provide opportunities for professional and leadership development for participants in NNER settings.

STRATEGIC GOAL: Develop meaningful opportunities for wider audience to participate in professional and leadership development.

ACTION PLAN:

Strategic Action/Enabling Action V				
Activity	Responsible Person(s)	Deadline or Milestones	Resources Needed	Result
Create mechanism for NNER sites to offer training to PK12 partners, site partners, and faculty on their role in the partnership	NNER Exec. Directors, Chair, & other members willing to assist	Offer 2-3 each year to NNER Sites	Travel funds as needed if conducted on site	Documented information on Webinars, workshops, seminars, etc. offered
Offer leadership & stewardship workshops virtually or in person at NNER sites	Exec. Board and Leadership	Share plans December, 2018 Board meeting	Funds for sites to offer leadership training or/and develop modules or webinars to share with others	Modules /Webinars available to all sites

Strategic Action/Enabling Action V				
Activity	Responsible Person(s)	Deadline or Milestones	Resources Needed	Result
<p>Develop training sessions via technology on the mission, benefits, values of NNER to tripartite partners.</p> <p>Roll-out plan for educating NNER membership on interactive elements added to network.</p>	Leadership, Site directors, NNER members	Exec. Board offers first training session in spring, 2018	Dedication of members to develop and deliver training sessions	<p>Available sessions via Website capabilities for webinars - access to all.</p> <p>Offered to participants attending 2018 Summer Symposia.</p>
<p>Create & utilize materials to articulate vision, benefits with college/university students. Develop pre-service workshops with paths to leadership within NNER</p>	Leadership and site directors	Share new materials with Leadership & Governing Council members at Summer Institute	Printing costs – utilize technology when possible, but materials need to be printed for dissemination at national meetings	Printed materials for dissemination

STRATEGIC DIRECTION/ENABLING ACTION V:

Provide opportunities for professional and leadership development for participants in NNER settings.

STRATEGIC GOAL: Embrace consistent marketing, organization, structure, and technology to support effective communication.

ACTION PLAN:

Strategic Direction				
Activity	Responsible Person(s)	Deadline or Milestones	Resources Needed	Result
Resign social media presence (to include website) in order to become a responsive, interactive, efficient, & effective communication vehicle for NNER	Exec Leadership team and UNM team – Smith Fredrick & staff supporting efforts	December, 2017 – Board meeting – update and plan	Funds to renovate Website to ensure appropriate venues and capabilities to move Agenda forward	New Website with innovative ways of improving communication, training, and feedback to/from sites
Develop a cohesive & workable marketing & implementation plan over the next 3 years aligned with NNER goals, objectives, and organizational rebranding priorities.	NNER Leadership and Exec. Board members – Site directors assisting with implementation at each site	December, 2017 Exec. Board meeting – approval for planning to begin with completion date, December, 2020.	Secure marketing consultant to facilitate rebranding. Use technology to promote dialogue and strategies - allocate funds to support efforts	Display marketing plan & strategies on Website – visible to all. Site directors & tripartite chairs share work at sites pertaining to marketing.
Invest in marketing by including costs for marketing in the NNER budget annually, which will help with upkeep & management	Leadership, Exec. Board, Governing Council, Site Directors, and League of Democratic schools (LODS)	Share budget and plan at December Board meeting in Missouri	Funds designated for marketing investment to be included in annual budget.	More informed public & NNER members - Website detailed with information on NNER mission, core values