Mission
To promote excellence in undergraduate education at UVM by offering a residential learning environment that attracts academically talented students and leads them towards superior educational outcomes.

Vision
To become a model for a public university Honors College by employing research-supported practices that enhance student learning; building a residential community that emphasizes academic learning, vigor, breadth, responsibility and diversity; developing undergraduate scholars whose accomplishments and contributions gain national recognition and result in prestigious placements; and serving as an incubator of academic practices that can have university-wide transformative effect.

1 Recruit, enroll and retain diverse, talented students seeking the benefits of an engaged residential learning community that prepares them for a lifetime of achievement.

Initiatives
a. Communicate strengths, goals and outcomes of the Honors College more effectively
b. Involve recent alumni in recruitment process, perhaps through an alumni affinity program.
c. Continue to develop programs to sustain success in recruiting ethnically diverse, first-generation and geographically diverse students
d. Seek financial support for students
e. Employ faculty-in-residence, peer leaders and residential staff to enhance retention efforts
f. Continue programs to support students who may be at risk for attrition
g. Enhance advising (from multiple sources), including for experiential learning and career preparation
h. Partner with colleges and schools to reduce attrition during the thesis process and to create clear pathways through highly structured majors
i. Aim for a student body size that has maximum impact consistent with delivering a quality honors education

2 Develop and enhance the comprehensive honors academic experience

Initiatives
a. Clarify learning goals for students by year, including thesis
b. Translate student learning research and best practices into workable initiatives for adoption by the Honors College and the University
c. Broaden experiential learning opportunities (undergraduate research, service learning, study abroad, career preparation) and increase student engagement in them
d. Develop strategies to support students in the thesis development process, particularly in the junior year, and assess quality and oversight of theses
e. Expand diversity courses and assess their effectiveness
f. Expand faculty development initiatives
g. Deepen nationally competitive fellowships and scholarship support and success

3 Involve alumni, parents, students and the campus community in the Honors College to create affinity and investment in it.

Initiatives
a. Enhance newsletter and employ social media strategies
b. Develop Homecoming alumni career panels
c. Engage alumni in mentoring and on campus
d. Develop a comprehensive contact plan for donors and potential donors
e. Seek funds that build essential programs and support students and faculty members
f. Seek naming gift for the Honors College
g. Develop annual appeal
h. Consider forming an external board of advisors
i. Continue faculty seminar program
j. Forge closer connections with other colleges/schools

4 Create operations infrastructure to maintain program quality, effectiveness and flexibility to address emerging needs and opportunities

Initiatives
a. Encourage staff to seek professional development and academic advancement
b. Assess operational efficiency and effectiveness of staff roles
c. Seek staffing, housing, teaching resources to support Honors College expansion
d. Revise collegiate MOU's as needs change
e. Streamline paper-based processes and seek IT resources to enable use of best practices for online presence
f. Plan for transition to incentive-based budgeting
g. Employ measures of goal achievement to gauge adherence to plan and guide changes