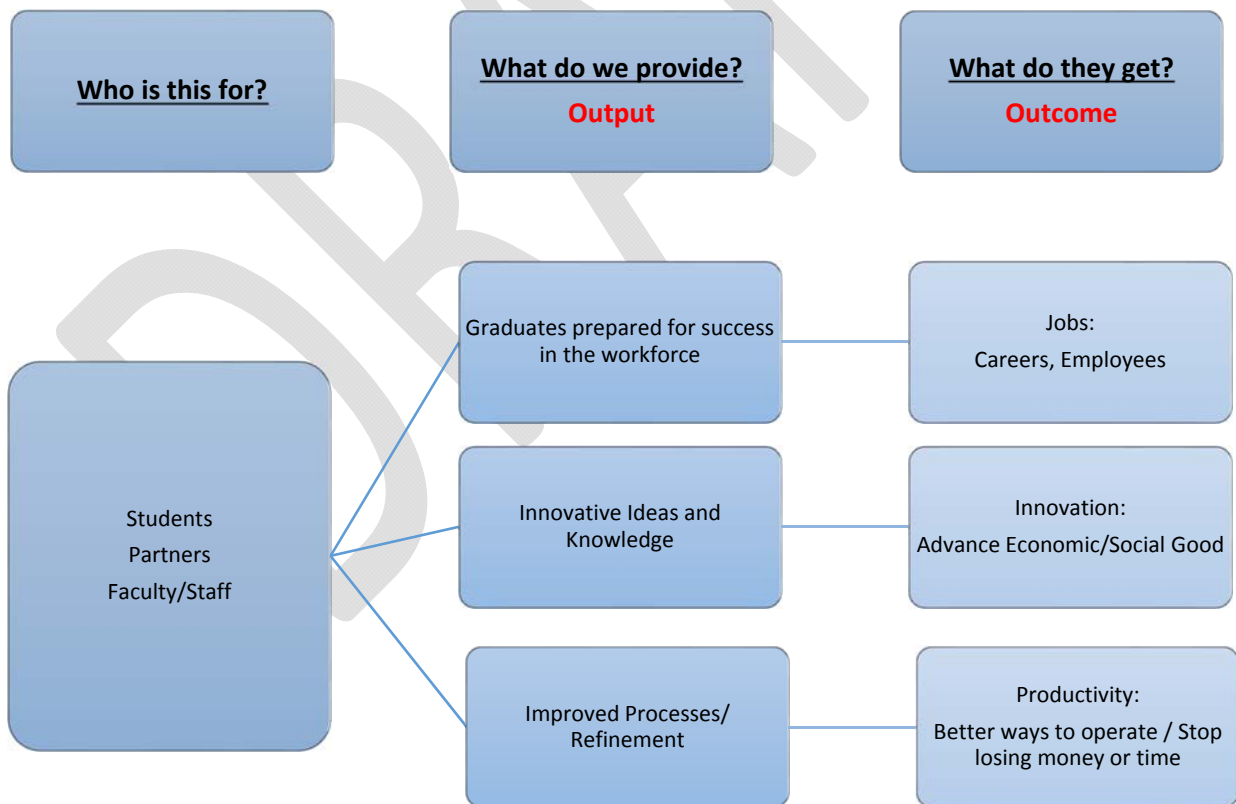


UOIT'S STRATEGIC PLAN

The Strategic Plan is an “outward-facing” document (i.e., for people not at UOIT) of “inward-facing” reflection (i.e., of the UOIT community) that declares the **big ideas** that underpin our future. A necessary feature of delivering such a message is clearly stating the big actions *we all promise to pursue* to make our declaration a reality. Therefore, when reading the plan, *our members* should see how their actions support our outward-facing message; every reader should be reminded of the three big ideas found on the back of our business cards: CHALLENGE, INNOVATE, CONNECT.

We have three top issues facing UOIT: 1) recruitment, 2) research productivity, and 3) retention. The Strategic Plan is structured in service of those issues using the **big ideas**. Success will require UOIT members to work together as a team to address these issues that will make the institution sustainable.

For the Strategic Plan to be effective, we must resist trying to “be all things to all people” and instead look to specifically speak to our *most important external partners*. We must identify to whom we are speaking and what **they** want to hear from us. This is demonstrated in the graphic below.



Each unit is developing a plan that identifies the actions they will take to *support the **outcomes*** represented in the Strategic Plan. It will detail how members of the unit will contribute to the larger university mission.

2017-2022 STRATEGIC PLAN: Challenge, Innovate, Connect

The University of Ontario Institute of Technology is Canada's emerging leader in career-ready education and collaborative research that produces new and useful ideas. A fast-growing university with ambitious expansion plans, we are committed to social, scientific and economic innovations that create a better Canada and a better world. With this plan our university aims to be recognized globally as a change-maker and leader in technology-driven research and scholarship. Our reputation is built upon our strengths and will advance through a sharpened focus on *three key goals*:

CHALLENGE: We will produce and inspire future leaders who have real-world skillsets.

Why this matters: A pioneering spirit led to UOIT's foundation. That spirit calls each of us to **adapt** and **grow** through the personal, professional, and academic challenges we face. Our university is a place for learners to test themselves and improve their performance – we also strive to be a place that inspires this ability in others. We all contribute to developing leaders from diverse backgrounds who emerge ready to make an impact today and to make real-world advancements tomorrow. We commit to **thinking big and breaking new ground**.

To do this, we will:

- Offer a greater variety of **lifelong learning** through career-focused professional development options, because education enhances marketability and career progression.
- Amplify our **research reputation** through entrepreneurial scholarship, because ideas are our main export to the world.
- Provide developmental opportunities that help every individual stand out, because becoming **better people** and learning from each other form the cornerstones of retaining the best among us.

INNOVATE: We will create new approaches, partnerships, and solutions to improve society.

Why this matters: Our faculty and student researchers contribute to cultural, economic and scientific changes worldwide through **scholarship and discovery**. Together, we make a difference by answering the big questions that face society at multiple levels such as issues with sustainability and the impact of technology on our world. In collaboration with our partners, we provide **inspirational and imaginative solutions** that benefit our local and global communities. We commit to growing our **culture of discovery**.

To do this, we will:

- Double the number of courses that mix technology and face-to-face education to make learner-centered environments, because **transformative learning** builds problem-solving capacity.
- Challenge the status quo through our interdisciplinary approach to knowledge development and increase our **research activity**, because our job is to convert ideas into actions.
- Simplify and refine our university processes, because doing **better work** frees up time, increases productivity, and improves our daily lives.

CONNECT: We will build lasting relationships to make UOIT a remarkable place for work and study.

Why this matters: Beyond basic learning interactions, the university experience is all about the connections with the places and the people. UOIT is a place where lasting relationships are formed among people with different **approaches to thinking, doing and leading**. Our culture thrives on **good ideas and collegial exchanges** with educational organizations, businesses, and our community; together, we work to improve this university, the Durham and Northumberland Regions, and the world. We commit to inspiring everyone to do their best work in ***a place where they belong***.

To do this we will:

- Offer practical **hands-on learning** experiences, like co-ops, internships, research practicums, international exchanges, and entrepreneurial opportunities to *every student*, because experiential learning , develops the skills that employers want.
- Build **research partnerships** that fortify our university's key strengths, because our national and international collaborations open doors to new ideas and initiatives both locally and globally.
- Unite our community by increasing opportunities to meet, make friends, and form **better relationships**, because every interaction is an opportunity to make a difference.