As we turn our attention to the future, our community must answer two interconnected questions: what do we want Duke to look like ten years from now, or a hundred years from now? And what steps will we need to take to get there? President Price has developed a strategic framework that seeks to answer these questions — a framework focused on five core areas: empowering people, transforming education, building community, forging partnerships and engaging our network.

1. Duke will empower the brightest and boldest thinkers to solve the world’s most pressing challenges. We recognize that the discoveries and advances that will improve lives begin with attracting the very best people – and most importantly, the best faculty. As we look ahead to Duke’s future, it is our human infrastructure that is our true value proposition.

2. Duke will transform teaching and discovery for the 21st century. We’re going to better fuse our research and educational missions, to create innovative, team-based teaching strategies, to take advantage of new technological opportunities, and to build a robust and responsive learning community that includes everyone.

3. Duke will build a renewed campus community that promotes growth among our students, faculty, staff, and visitors. We will invest in improved residential experiences for students; build on the reputation of Duke Athletics and our recent initiatives in the arts; redevelop Central Campus; and improve well-being for all community members. This will be a healthier, more vibrant and more inclusive environment for all of us – faculty, students, and staff – who call Duke home.

4. Duke will forge purposeful partnerships with our neighbors in the region. We will find new ways to use our educational and research resources to deepen and strengthen our relationships across the Carolinas, with particular focus on Durham. Through these partnerships, we can advance not just economic development but also community health, housing, and public education. And we will benefit from richer partnerships in the Triangle’s thriving research ecosystem, building a new research commercialization strategy and offering innovative learning opportunities for our students.

5. Duke will engage a global network of alumni and friends. We will invest in developing next-generation engagement platforms to extend and deepen all aspects of university life, creating a robust, global, continually evolving human-development cooperative. We will offer our alumni new opportunities for continuing education; but we should also see them as a deep reservoir of talent, drive and experience that we can draw upon to advance our educational, research, and service missions.

These investments do not represent a redirection of our history or our mission. Quite the opposite: taken together, they will renew the Duke we have always been and drive us forward to the Duke we are destined to become.