



University of Cyprus
Faculty of Engineering

Faculty of Engineering

Shaping our Strategic Plan
2026-2030

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Dean's Invitation: Shaping our Strategic Plan



Dear colleagues, students, alumni and friends of the Faculty of Engineering,

As we open a new chapter in our Faculty's life, I invite you to join us in shaping our shared future — the Faculty of Engineering Strategic Plan 2026–2030.

Our Faculty is more than the sum of its parts. Beyond its four Departments, our Faculty encompasses three Research Centers, four Inter-departmental Programs, and two Centers of Excellence in Research and Innovation. While the Centers of Excellence operate as distinct entities from the School, their close physical and academic integration — with many of their members originating from our Departments — strengthens the Faculty's role as a hub of innovation and interdisciplinary collaboration. Each Department & Research Center has defined its own strategic direction. What we now aim to create together is the Faculty-wide vision — a shared vision that connects, amplifies and elevates these visions and plans.

This process builds directly on the University's Strategic Plan, positioning the Faculty as the optimal ecosystem and scale to advance interdisciplinary research, empowering technology transfer, and strengthening partnerships with industry and society. Our new facilities are not only a milestone — they are an enabler. The challenge now is to activate what exists — to turn co-location into collaboration, and space into transformation.

In the next pages, you will find a starting draft of our Strategic Plan reflecting initial discussions at the School Council. We now open this process to the entire Faculty community. Your insights, ideas, and aspirations are essential; please do not hesitate to share them with us. The dialogue will culminate in the General Assembly of the Faculty of Engineering which will take place on 3 December 2025.

At this point, I wish to warmly acknowledge the valuable contribution of our Vice Dean, Prof. Panayiota Pyla as well as of the administrative team led by Ms Ioustini Pilidi, which has been essential in launching this collective effort.

With my warmest regards,

Professor Marina Neophytou
Dean of the Faculty of Engineering
University of Cyprus

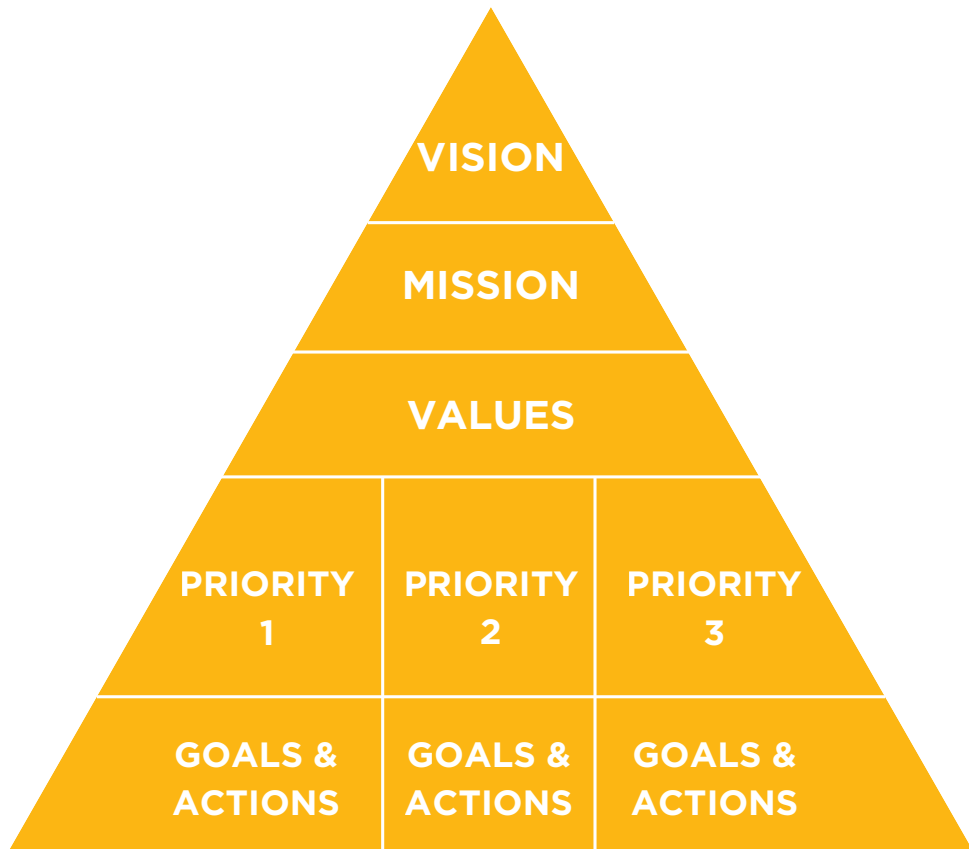
<p>22 years of studies</p> <p>25 years since establishment</p>	<p>4 Departments</p> <p>3 Research Centres</p> <p>2 Research Centres of Excellence</p> <p>70+ Research Laboratories</p>	<p>26 Programs of Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 Bachelors • 13 Masters* • 7 PhD <p>*4 Inter-departmental and strongly interdisciplinary</p>
<p>65 Faculty members</p> <p>20+ Administrative staff</p>	<p>1100+ students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 970+ Undergraduate Students • 140+ Postgraduate Students (master) • 80+ Postgraduate Students (PhD) 	<p>4000+ Alumni</p>
<p>300+ Researchers</p>	<p>16 ERC projects</p>	<p>MoUs with organizations</p>
<p>€15+ Million per year in External Research Funding from Competitive Research Calls</p>	<p>€170+ Million Total External Research Funding from Competitive Research Calls</p> <p>Over 50% of UCY external attracted research funding and patents</p>	<p>1st Engineering School in Cyprus based on all international rankings ARWU 2024, THE2025, QS2024, EngiRank2024</p> <p>48th Best Engineering School among all Schools of Engineering and Technology in Europe EngiRank2024</p>

This conceptual structure presents the framework guiding the development of the Faculty of Engineering’s draft Strategic Plan for 2026–2030. It articulates the rationale through which the Faculty aligns its vision, mission, and values with the strategic pillars and objectives that will shape its future direction.

As part of this process, a series of consultations has already been initiated and is ongoing with the Faculty community — in addition to the School Council, this includes undergraduate and postgraduate students, postdoctoral researchers, and directors of research centers — as well as with external partners and stakeholders.

These engagements aim to encourage the exchange of ideas, highlight key challenges, and identify opportunities that can enhance and strengthen our collective strategic planning. This draft Strategic Plan is currently open online for feedback from the broader Faculty community. The overall input will be carefully considered and incorporated into the subsequent version of the Strategic Plan.

The consultation process will culminate in the Faculty’s General Assembly, where — among other activities — dedicated time will be allocated for presenting, discussing, and refining the final directions of the Strategic Plan.



VISION

3

Our vision is to cultivate and become an ecosystem of excellence in engineering education and research that drives innovation, locally and globally, and strengthens the socio-economic fabric of Cyprus.

Our vision is to be a hub of knowledge creation and technology transfer, shaping a resilient, inclusive, and forward-thinking society.

MISSION

4

By integrating cutting-edge research with transformative education, we aim to empower future engineers, foster sustainable development, and establish impactful partnerships with industry, government, and society.

VALUES

5

1. Excellence
2. Innovation for Impact
3. Integrity and Responsibility
4. Sustainability and Resilience
5. Inclusiveness and Equity
6. Collaboration and Openness
7. Engagement and Societal Relevance

Strengths

- High-Quality Faculty and Research
- Interdisciplinary Potential
- Strategic Geographic Position
- Student Talent and Commitment
- State-of-the-art Facilities and Campus
- Potential for Technology Transfer
- High Quality of Study Programs with Strong Connection with Industry and Job Market

Weaknesses

- Administrative and Bureaucratic Constraints with Insufficient Digitalization of Processes
- Absence of a Vibrant and Inclusive Campus Environment, particularly affecting non-local and international students and staff
- Limited Industry Collaboration in Cyprus
- Brain Drain Risk
- Competitive Environment Affected by State Decisions
- Distant from rest of EU

Opportunities

- Regional Leadership in Engineering
- Cross-fertilization Hub for Research & Development in Industry and Society
- Internationalization and Diaspora Engagement
- European and Global Partnerships
- Promote Underrepresented Groups in Engineering
- Empowering our People
- Enhancing Study Programs with Industry and Research Integration

Threats

- Funding Pressures and Risks
- Autonomy Risk - Under Budgeting
- Competition from Larger or More Established Institutions
- Slow Adaptation to Contemporary Challenges in a Competitive Environment

Pillar 1: Research & Innovation – Connecting with People

From research excellence to societal relevance and global visibility.

Objectives

1. Establish the School as a regional hub for high-impact, interdisciplinary research, linking engineering with societal needs in the Eastern Mediterranean.
2. Foster a culture of “career researchers” — support faculty and young researchers in long-term, mission-driven trajectories, with mentorship, mobility, and grant-writing capacity-building.
3. Create structured pathways from research to end-user application, including innovation accelerators, industry demonstrators, and citizen-engagement labs.

Pillar 2: Inclusive and Internationalized Education – Identity

Educating engineers for a better world – with conscience, competence, and creativity

Objectives

1. Promote a distinctive School identity built on intellectual rigor, inclusiveness, and commitment to public good.
2. Redesign engineering curricula to emphasize interdisciplinarity and ethics, integrating sustainability, AI, human-centered design.
3. Attract and support underrepresented groups – women, students from disadvantaged backgrounds, and persons with disabilities – through targeted scholarships, mentoring, and inclusive infrastructure.
4. Expand dual-degree and exchange programmes with leading European and regional universities, leveraging the School's international reputation.

Pillar 3: Societal Impact - Conscience

Engineering with conscience — shaping Cyprus and the world we want to live in.

Objectives

1. Enhance the knowledge and technology transfer from research to society with relevance and impact.
2. Position the School as a voice of ethical and sustainable engineering in national and regional policy dialogue.
3. Enhance science communication and outreach, showcasing student and faculty work that improves everyday life and sustainability in Cyprus.