

## STRATEGIC PLAN 2017

### MISSION

The College of Humanities & Social Sciences (H&SS) is the dynamic center of the University. For undergraduates from throughout the University as well as its own majors, H&SS's courses develop the communication and critical thinking skills students will need for success in college and in life. H&SS also strives, through a diversity of disciplines and approaches, to help students understand who they are and who they want to become, to develop a critical understanding of their own society and cultural traditions, and to gain a greater appreciation of other societies and cultures. At the heart of a university education, these skills and perspectives prepare students to be better citizens of and leaders in our state, nation, and world. Our faculty's scholarship and creative activities address the same key issues as the College's teaching and thereby help Louisiana and the world address immediate needs and better understand age-old questions. H&SS's graduate programs involve our students in these quests but also prepare them for productive professional careers.

### VALUES

- An intellectual culture in which faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates actively participate
- Excellence in teaching, research, and creative activities
- A range of disciplines and approaches—from the physical sciences to the literary arts
- A land grant institution's commitment to democratic education and military instruction
- Louisiana's distinctive cultural heritage and its ties to the Caribbean and the Atlantic world
- Respect for every student and faculty and staff member
- Diversity, in all its manifestations
- Interdisciplinary teaching and research, not only among departments in our College but with other colleges
- Academic freedom within a climate that respects a breadth of scholarly perspectives and approaches
- Civic engagement

### GOALS

#### **Discovery**

Raise the national and international visibility of the departments within the College by increasing the impact and importance of our scholarship.

- I. Expand the scholarly activities of the faculty
  - a. Hire and support exceptional scholars and staff
  - b. Provide additional support to faculty who receive Manship summer grants who submit a grant in the year following receipt of Manship support.
  - c. Provide revenue sharing opportunities for departmental investments

- II. Expand the Scholarly activities of graduate students
  - a. Increase graduate stipend of incoming students to \$16,000
  - b. Support fellowships
  - c. Maintain graduate student travel
  
- III. Expand the scholarly activities of undergraduate students
  - a. Expand ASPIRE
  - b. Expand awareness of undergraduate research opportunities

### **Learning**

Teach courses for all of LSU's students that foster analytical and communication skills and provide them with a better understanding of their own culture and society as well as an appreciation for other societies and cultures. Provide a rigorous and coherent program for majors in our various departments and disciplines.

- I. Recruit strong undergraduate students
  - a. Develop recruiting videos for web
  - b. Develop marketing campaign for the College that links to employment
  - c. Effectively integrate faculty into the process
  - d. Engage two-year institutions more effectively
  - e. Strengthen connections to Spellman/Morehouse/Clark Atlanta & other HBCUs
  - f. Support the Global Connections Residential College
  - g. Develop strong internship programs
  - h. Strengthen 3+3 program
  
- II. Recruit strong graduate students
  - a. Support the scholarly activities of the faculty
  - b. Work with Chairs and Graduate Directors to support recruitment
  - c. Leverage the online application system
  - d. Increase graduate stipends to \$16,000
  - e. Maintain graduate student travel
  - f. Support Pre-Doctoral Scholars Institute
  
- III. Retain undergraduate students
  - a. Strengthen advising and support programs
  - b. Develop need-based scholarship opportunities
  - c. Develop peer-to-peer videos
  - d. Expand social media for the College
  - e. Reduce purges working with IT, Bursar, Registrar
  - f. Create a more effective orientation experience for students
  - g. Support the Global Connections Residential College
  - h. Expand the internship/externship experience
  - i. Expand study abroad opportunities
  - j. Develop strong undergraduate pre-law advising
  - k. Work with H&SS Faculty Senate to strengthen classroom experience

- IV. Retain graduate students
  - a. Support the scholarly activities of the faculty
  - b. Develop strong mentoring programs
  - c. Review appeals to address persistent structural issues
- V. Retain strong faculty
  - a. Support regular raises
  - b. Hire and support exceptional scholars
  - c. Secure support for fellowships and professorships
- VI. Interdisciplinary Programs
  - a. Support strong interdisciplinary programs
  - b. Facilitate an intercollegiate film program
- VII. Facilitate online learning
  - a. Evaluate the potential of online degrees
  - b. Develop online options of critical courses

### **Diversity**

Foster a climate in which diverse people, cultures and ideas are integrated into the intellectual and professional work of our College.

- I. Support diverse hires in the College
  - a. Preserve resources to support opportunity hires
  - b. Search committees will work with the Office of Diversity to ensure best practices
- II. Increase the students from underrepresented groups
  - a. Invest in undergraduate recruiting for underrepresented groups
    - i. Build relationships with high schools serving underrepresented populations
    - ii. Establish merit and need-based scholarships
    - iii. Increase support programming for students
  - b. The College will invest in graduate recruiting for underrepresented groups
    - i. Expand relationships with Spellman/Morehouse/Clark Atlanta
    - ii. Support the Pre-Doctoral Scholars Institute
- III. Increase the retention rates of students from underrepresented groups
  - a. Coordinate with the Office of Diversity to ensure best practices for retention of undergraduate students
  - b. Coordinate with the Office of Diversity to ensure best practices for retention of graduate students

### **Engagement**

Prepare our students to be active participants in our democratic society as well as leaders in their communities. Apply our scholarship to issues in our community and world.

- I. Increase the connection to the marketplace
  - a. Expand internships
  - b. Revise curricula
- II. Communicate our value
- III. Build relationships with alumni, businesses and foundations
- IV. Increase philanthropic support in line with College priorities