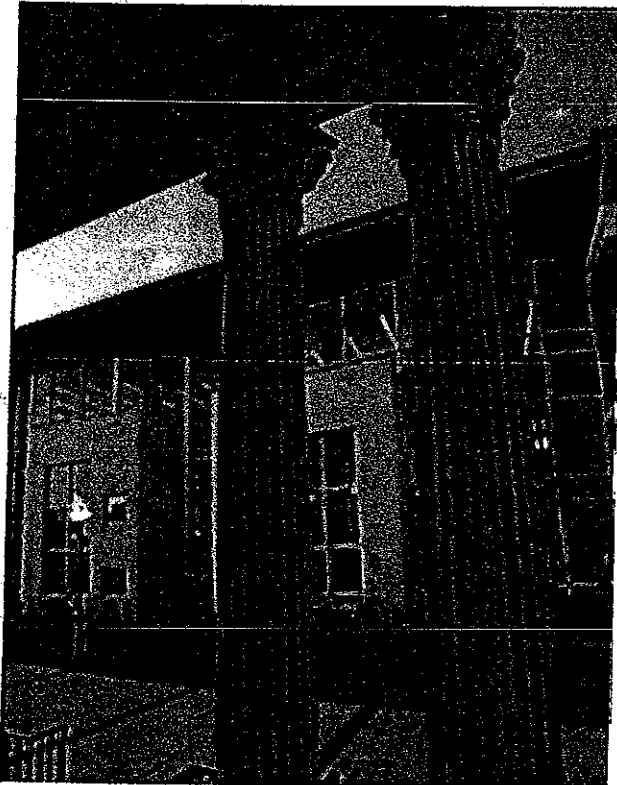


<http://www.gcsu.edu/planning/mission.htm>

Mission Statement

As Georgia's public liberal arts university, Georgia College offers undergraduate programs of study to talented and motivated students in a residential college setting. Georgia College also provides, at multiple locations, graduate and professional studies that support the needs of the region and create pathways to individual success and personal fulfillment. Its academically engaging, student-centered programs often take learning beyond the traditional classroom and develop the intellectual, professional, and civic skills and dispositions that enable graduates to thrive in an information-intensive and diverse global society. Through its teaching, research, and service, Georgia College enriches the lives of students and their local and global communities.

-Approved by the Board of Regents June 2011



CONNECTING WHAT MATTERS

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<http://www.gcsu.edu/planning/valuestatements.htm>

Value Statements

Georgia College is committed to providing...

An Expansive Undergraduate Educational Experience. Georgia College is committed to providing a residential liberal arts educational environment that invests in its students the extensive knowledge and strategic skills for them to thrive as productive citizens of a globally engaged democracy. Georgia College students experience multidiscipline intellectual encounters with both enduring and contemporary questions, intensive study in the major, and capstone experiences that integrate and apply learning.

Excellence in Graduate Education. Georgia College is committed to providing post-baccalaureate education that successfully prepares graduates for professional advancement, life-long intellectual pursuits, and informed participation in today's complex society. In graduate and professional studies the rigor, quality, and relevance of our programs intentionally bridge the gap between theory and practice.

Challenging, Innovative Teaching. Georgia College is committed to teaching excellence in and beyond the classroom. Using a balance of evidence-based, innovative teaching, high-impact pedagogies along with meaningful student-faculty interaction, Georgia College develops students equipped to clearly, critically, and creatively address societal challenges.

Opportunities for Community Engagement. Georgia College values collaboration with community partners to address mutually identified needs and to promote public well-being through teaching, learning, scholarship, and outreach. Community engagement advances Georgia College students' academic and civic learning. It also helps them become more informed citizen leaders ready to serve the public good, locally and globally.

Preparation for Leadership. Georgia College is committed to promoting "Reason, Respect, and Responsibility" by deepening students' individual, group, and community values through greater understanding of self, promotion of reasoned and respectful discourse, and the development of engaged citizenship. Georgia College prepares responsible leaders capable of affecting positive social change in a pluralistic world.

Approved by the Board of Regents, June 2011

<http://www.gcsu.edu/planning/strategicdirections.htm>

Strategic Directions 2011-2014

The Strategic Directions for Georgia College provide a framework for planning and goal setting, for assessing overall institutional health and progress, and for establishing resource priorities. The institutional planning process includes identifying Institutional Priorities, Action Steps, Indicators of Progress, and a Timeline for Achievement.

Strategic Direction One: Exemplary Undergraduate Learning Experience

Build excellence and distinction in the Georgia College undergraduate educational experience consistent with the university's educational values and its undergraduate public liberal arts mission.

Strategic Direction Two: Respected provider of Graduate Programs in the Middle Georgia Region

Strengthen the university's graduate mission, which is to deliver graduate programs responsive to regional workforce needs.

Strategic Direction Three: Acclaimed Academic Programs/Distinctive Colleges & Departments

Enhance the academic reputation of Georgia College based on recognition of exemplary academic programs and the distinctive qualities and achievements of its academic colleges and units.

Strategic Direction Four: Strong Partner for Creating a Better Community and State

Strengthen community and regional ties through programs, partnerships, research, and service that enhances economic, educational, and cultural opportunities

Strategic Direction Five: Talented, mission-invested faculty and staff

Recruit and support highly qualified faculty and staff who are invested in the university's mission, its students, and its commitments to reason, respect, and responsibility.

Strategic Direction Six: Effective Fiscal and Operational Performance

Continue to seek operational performance improvement and effective fiscal strategies, including the diversification of funding support.

The Strategic Directions for Georgia College provide a framework for planning and goal setting, for assessing overall institutional health and progress, and for establishing resource priorities.

Strategic Direction One

Exemplary Undergraduate Learning Experience

Build excellence and distinction in the Georgia College undergraduate educational experience consistent with the university's educational values and its undergraduate public liberal arts mission.

Institutional Priorities:

Attract an academically well-prepared and diverse student population

Implement strategies that support student achievement through improved retention and degree completion

Enhance institutional reputation as a student-focused university through academic support programs (advising, tutoring, mentoring, residential learning), policies, services, and behaviors that promote student welfare

Support practices and pedagogies that enhance student engagement and learning in the classroom

Promote opportunities to enhance classroom learning through undergraduate research, internships, fieldwork, civic engagement, service learning, study abroad and similar "learning beyond the classroom" activities

Address campus climate challenges related to student diversity

Strategic Direction Two

Respected provider of Graduate Programs in the Middle Georgia Region

Strengthen the university's graduate mission, which is to deliver graduate programs responsive to regional workforce needs.

Institutional Priorities:

Provide appropriate student and instructional support for graduate programs

Continue to develop effective graduate program delivery methods

Improve tracking and documentation of graduate student placement and contributions

Develop new graduate degree and post-baccalaureate certificate programs to meet state needs, with a focus on program growth in the Macon and Warner Robins region

Develop international partnerships to enhance and expand graduate educational opportunities

Create and implement a strategic marketing plan for graduate programs

Strategic Direction Three

Acclaimed Academic Programs/Distinctive Colleges & Departments

Enhance the academic reputation of Georgia College based on recognition of exemplary academic programs and the distinctive qualities and achievements of its academic colleges and units.

Institutional Priorities:

Support the use of appropriate assessment and evaluative data on student-learning to improve academic programs

Support impactful and distinctive pedagogies that enhance teaching and learning and help programs to stand out as exemplary

Improve tracking and documentation of the placement and contributions of Georgia College graduates

Feature special achievements of students and unique/distinctive learning opportunities as part of academic program/department/college informational and promotional materials

Feature distinctive accomplishments of faculty as part of academic program/department/college information material

Expand academic reputation through selective enhancement and promotion of programs with potential for national recognition

Strategic Direction Four

Strong Partner for Creating a Better Community and State

Strengthen community and regional ties through programs, partnerships, research, and service that enhances economic, educational, and cultural opportunities

Institutional Priorities:

Expand continuing education opportunities

Partner with community organizations to secure funding support for shared initiatives and programs

Leverage external funding to support applied scholarship that addresses community and regional challenges

Enhance civic engagement and volunteer service as central to the Georgia College community

Develop programming for the renovated Campus Theatre, Sallie Ellis Davis House, and institutional gallery spaces that encourages community interaction

Develop strategies to enhance the success of Early College

Build broader awareness and recognition of Georgia College contributions to its communities and state

Strategic Direction Five

Talented, mission-invested faculty and staff

Recruit and retain highly qualified faculty and staff who are invested in the university's mission, its students, and its commitments to reason, respect, and responsibility.

Institutional Priorities:

Continue to address market competitive faculty salary challenges

Create opportunities for high-performing staff employees to advance in rank

Improve faculty and staff evaluation processes to better control subjectivity and to reflect contributions in all areas of employee work, including university service

Ensure that staff members are provided with appropriate training and professional development opportunities (including management training for supervisors)

Continue to provide faculty with professional development opportunities, research support, and opportunities to improve teaching and learning effectiveness

Expand opportunities to celebrate faculty and staff achievements and to build community

Strategic Direction Six

Effective Fiscal and Operational Performance

Continue to seek operational performance improvement and effective fiscal strategies, including the diversification of funding support.

Institutional Priorities:

Enhance fundraising capacity, particularly at the college level

Implement strategies to stimulate grant writing and the development of contract revenue

Encourage and support viable and mission appropriate revenue generating initiatives and programs

Create campus sustainability plan focused on energy conservation

Support process improvements that reduce costs, save time, and improve outcomes

Align institutional support areas for maximum effectiveness and efficiency

Address space needs through appropriate review and planning processes



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