



Strategic Plan

Vision

Our vision is to be locally, regionally, nationally and globally recognized for impactful research, scholarship, creative inquiry and civic engagement. We are a leader in experiential learning through our Co-op program, community-based learning courses, and undergraduate and graduate research opportunities.

Mission

The College of Arts and Sciences aims to identify and address the grand challenges of our world through our research, teaching and community outreach. The College's dedicated, engaged faculty and staff train and educate new leaders to provide vision and direction in an ever-changing world. Through our emphasis on experiential learning, community engagement and hands-on research experiences, students learn to identify and solve societal challenges. Educated in modes of inquiry ranging from historical to scientific, from theoretical to data-driven, students are prepared to participate in local, regional and global communities in thoughtful, meaningful ways.

Core Beliefs and Values

Solving Society's Greatest Challenges

Our faculty, staff and students are committed to solving society's greatest challenges. We draw on our significant disciplinary and interdisciplinary expertise in the creation of actionable research and experiential learning that lead to social change at the local, national and international levels. Collectively, we tackle issues that affect many people, aiming to support the goals and priorities of diverse communities.

The 3Cs: Creativity, Critical Thinking and Communication

The College of Arts and Sciences emphasizes the importance of creativity, the cultivation of analytical, critical reasoning, and the development of clear, effective communication. Arts and Sciences faculty and courses foster skills that are necessary to all disciplines.

Interdisciplinary Discovery and Learning

We complement our deep disciplinary expertise with interdisciplinary scholarship, experiential learning and an exciting, challenging and diverse curriculum. Such an approach helps address societal challenges and promotes the connections between and among the College, industry, civic society and government.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

We value an inclusive, varied community of students, staff and faculty. The College of Arts and Sciences has a proud history of leading initiatives that seek to promote diversity, equity and inclusion. We are committed to addressing and alleviating systemic bias within all institutions, and we invite all members of the College community to join us in these efforts.

Accountability and Transparency

We model the social values of accountability and transparency to drive our stewardship of resources and the development and execution of policies and procedures that foster the collective action and good of the College.

Goals and Priorities

Increase Awareness and Reputation of the College

Founded in 1990, Arts and Sciences is a relatively new college at Drexel. We have made exciting advancements in building our disciplinary departments, interdisciplinary programs, and centers into units of excellence. As we keep pressing forward, we will sharpen our identity as a College, and continue to highlight the College's prestige, both within the University and externally with broader publics. We will investigate perceptions of the College, ascertain our market position (internally within the College

and the University, and externally), identify gaps between perceived and desired positions, and develop strategies to address them.

Increase Financial and Institutional Development and Stability

Financial and institutional sustainability provides the foundation needed for excellence, innovation and success. We will develop a systematic plan for financial and institutional development and stability that includes strategies for increasing revenue, improving facilities, and developing and retaining leadership through policies and practices that increase transparency, trust and equity. We aim to increase our retention of high-quality staff and faculty by developing institutional processes that reward excellence and create a culture of equity and meaningful work. We will increase engagement with key constituencies, including alumni, donors, parents and co-op partners, to build stronger connections between the College and our broader community of scholars.

Support Research and Creative Activities

Our College is a research powerhouse. Arts and Sciences faculty and students produce a variety of compelling research and creative output, including peer-reviewed articles, monographs, poetry and fiction, that have significant societal impact at local, national and global levels. We are routinely in the top three of Drexel's colleges and schools in sponsored research activity. Investing in the human and technical resources needed to support such robust activity is a top priority.

Increase Innovation in Curriculum

We aim to create an innovative, flexible curriculum that is responsive to and anticipates the needs of students in an ever-changing world. Increasing co-op opportunities (both nationally and internationally), global partnerships, and interdisciplinary certificates and degrees will be central to this goal. Investing in tutoring and academic advising will need to accompany innovations in curriculum. By highlighting our innovative, engaged curriculum, we will deepen student learning and increase recruitment and retention, especially for lower-enrolled undergraduate programs.

Invest in Graduate Programs

Graduate programs are crucial to advancing robust research agendas and educating the next generation of scholars, leaders and doers. To build on our faculty's strengths as engaged researchers, teachers and mentors, we aim to invest in MA/MS and PhD

programs, create new market-driven master's degrees, create transdisciplinary graduate degrees, and advocate for (i) more competitive tuition pricing to increase enrollment and retention and (ii) more competitive stipends and better research space for PhD students to promote recruitment.

Support Diversity, Equity and Inclusion [DEI] Across Curriculum, Recruitment, Retention and Governance

The College of Arts and Sciences embraces a broad-based definition of DEI that includes a range of underrepresented populations and aims to address DEI issues at all levels, from students to staff to faculty and from individuals to institutional practices. We will continue to support the mentoring and advising programs that we initiated as well as pursue inclusive hiring processes. We will develop policies and practices that increase the diversity of our community and build a more equitable, inclusive environment.