

College of Arts and Sciences Unit Plan 1990 - 1993

VISION STATEMENT

The College of Arts and Sciences cherishes creativity, inquiry, and understanding as among the greatest values in human experience. It thus is dedicated to the questioning, creation, and transmission of knowledge; to the provision of undergraduate and graduate educational programs which are responsive to the need for an enlightened and productive citizenry; and to the provision of programs and services which enhance the quality of life of the people it serves. These goals compel a commitment to creativity and inquiry free of bias and based upon the principles of objective scholarship. They require a responsibility to promote and convey those elements of the liberal arts and sciences which must be essential components of the scholarly goals of all units of the University. The College seeks richness through diversity of its programs and strength through erudition. Scholarly activity is recognized as a necessary condition for effective teaching at the university level. Faculty are expected to be teaching at the university level; they are expected to be caring, effective classroom instructors and productive scholars and, where appropriate, professional service providers to the community at large. The College is dedicated to the creation of an environment of intellectual activity and excitement which supports faculty scholarship and inspires students to pursue lifelong learning.

During the planning period, the College will focus on enhancing undergraduate education; expanding its graduate programs especially at the doctoral level; increasing its creative, scholarly, and publishing activities; managing its resources effectively; evaluating its organization; and developing additional sources of non-state support for its programs and activities.

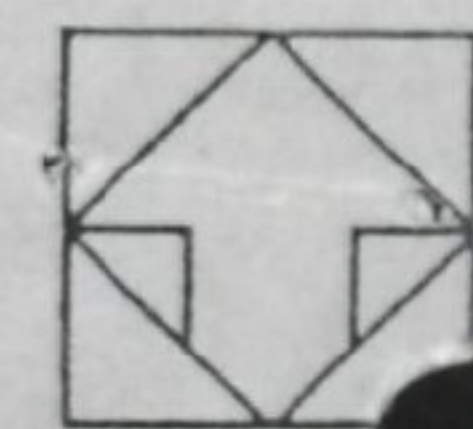
ELEMENTS OF DISTINCTION

- ◆ A diverse faculty including scholars of national and international reputation in such areas as humanities and fine arts, social science, and natural science
- ◆ Particular strength in coastal and marine studies, rhetoric and composition, medical biophysics, and maritime history
- ◆ International programs, including successful programs of study abroad, which provide both faculty and students with a multicultural perspective
- ◆ Significant contributions to public school education through specialized program tracks, academic concentrations, centers, and institutes
- ◆ Sponsored scholarly publications of distinction, including Children's Folklore Review, Tar River Poetry, and Victorians Institute Journal
- ◆ Unique laboratories, such as the Accelerator Laboratory, the Central Environmental Laboratory, the Hybridoma Laboratory, the Human Performance Laboratory, and the Biomechanics Laboratory; centers, such as the Science Math Education Center, which is shared with the School of Education; institutes, such as the Institute for Cultural and Historical Research and the Science Institute for the Disabled; archives, such as the Folklore Archive; and programs, such as those in Gerontology and in Maritime History and Underwater Research

PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

1. *Achieve distinction in undergraduate education*

- a. Develop curricula which emphasize writing, critical thinking, reading, mathematical skills, and the ethical dimension of decision-making in all courses, particularly those in general education, where such emphases are pedagogically sound
- b. Integrate information technology into the structure of all courses where such emphasis is appropriate



Strategies for Distinction

c. Incorporate an international perspective in those courses where such emphasis is pedagogically sound, and take the steps necessary to make foreign language study an essential component of all undergraduate programs

d. Orient programs and advising in such a way as to increase the proportion of graduates interested in and qualified for entry into graduate programs

e. Seek accreditation for undergraduate programs, such as journalism and urban and regional planning, where such sanctions would clearly enhance program quality and reputation

2. Strengthen the commitment to excellence in teaching

a. Revise unit codes, where necessary, to emphasize the importance of teaching effectiveness for renewal, tenure, promotion, and the allocation of annual merit pay increments

b. Require multiple, valid assessment of teaching effectiveness in a manner appropriate to each discipline within the College

c. Work closely with the General College to simplify and strengthen advising procedures

d. Establish a system of effective guidance for junior faculty during the probationary period

e. Establish a program for ensuring the quality of instruction provided by teaching and laboratory assistants

f. Facilitate collaborative instruction and research that will make it feasible for faculty to have shared responsibility for instruction in women's studies, medieval and renaissance studies, and other interdisciplinary programs

3. Develop a university culture based on respect for individual rights and human diversity

a. Increase admission and retention of minority, nontraditional, and foreign students admitted to the University

b. Increase opportunities for and recognition of student and faculty exchanges with foreign universities and participation in programs of study abroad

c. Improve cultural and gender diversity by increasing the number of women and minority faculty and administrators

d. Address cultural and gender diversity in curricula where it is appropriate

e. Create a program of instruction in English as a second language to make it possible to recruit an increasing number of international students

4. Expand doctoral programs

a. Seek permission to plan new PhD programs, including American history with a track in maritime history, coastal resources management, English: rhetoric and composition, and medical biophysics

b. Seek approval to establish new master's degree programs in economics and international studies

c. Seek permission to plan new master's degree programs, such as French, mathematics: statistical computing, and Spanish

d. Develop additional new master's and doctoral programs which are consistent with the academic strength of the University

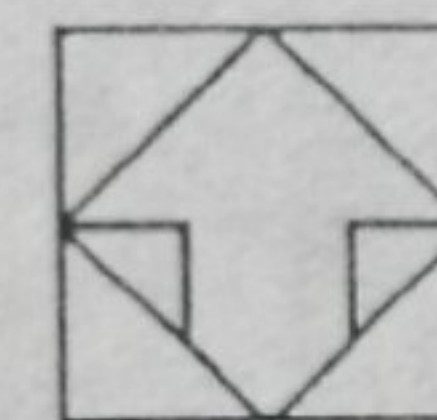
e. Seek accreditation of master's programs in library science, medical physics, public administration, school psychology, and other programs where such sanctions would clearly enhance program quality and reputation

f. Review MA program in political science to determine whether student needs and demands can better be met in an expanded master of public administration

5. Strengthen the commitment to research, scholarship, and creative activity

a. Revise unit codes, where necessary, to emphasize the importance of research and creative activity for renewal, tenure, promotion, and allocation of annual merit pay increments

b. Increase the availability of released time for research



c. Develop proposals for additional endowed chairs to take advantage of the availability of State funds for this purpose

d. Develop systems for allocating College faculty, staff, facilities, and budgets in accordance with expected research productivity

e. Increase faculty summer research

f. Develop mechanisms for collaborative research by faculty and students within and among disciplines

6. *Improve teacher education and stimulate improvement in public schooling*

a. Promote liberal arts and science concentrations to teacher education students

b. Encourage College faculty to serve as resources to regional public schools and to participate in teacher training workshops

c. Offer more evening, Saturday, and summer courses specific to the needs of teachers, particularly to those working to acquire advanced degrees

7. *Recruit and support academically proficient and talented students*

a. Work with the University College to encourage the further development of programs for nontraditional students whereby they can obtain a degree by attending evening and Saturday classes

b. Develop strategies for the recruitment of high quality students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels

8. *Promote the University effectively to external publics*

a. Work closely with the internal and external news media to publicize the accomplishments of faculty and students in teaching, research, and service

b. Publicize colloquia and other activities of visiting scholars

c. Support the goals in Pitt County's Focus 2007 strategic plan, particularly those relating to education and culture

9. *Develop and use expanded information resources*

a. Provide computer workstations to those faculty members who can demonstrate the greatest potential benefits from this resource

b. Increase computer access for staff and students

c. Encourage the acquisition of additional library research resources in areas of greatest need

d. Acquaint faculty with the possibilities of satellite uplinks for research collaboration and distance education

10. *Provide effective stewardship of the University*

a. Implement a formal system of College governance appropriate to its status as a unit

b. Evaluate the effectiveness of the organizational structure of the College to ensure balanced and appropriate representation of all areas

c. Undertake a College-wide review to rank programs and priorities

d. Provide a clearly-defined process for budget planning and implementation in the College

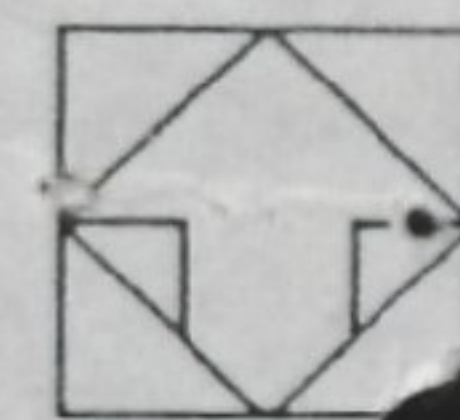
e. Evaluate the benefits and costs of organizational changes for the College, including but not limited to:
-- separation of health, physical education, recreation & safety as a separate school within Academic Affairs
-- separation of the planning program as a separate department within the College

f. Establish and maintain standards in teaching, research, and service which serve as models for the University

g. Implement valid assessment of the effectiveness of administrators

h. Implement policies for the appropriate use of fixed-term faculty

i. Develop an enrollment management plan which projects enrollment levels in General College courses and allocates faculty, staff, and facilities accordingly



Strategies for Distinction

- j. Improve the quality of routine interactions between faculty, staff, students, and external publics
- k. Dramatically increase non-state support for College programs and activities
- l. Expand programs for assessing student performance