2012-2017: GLOBAL MINDS FOR A DYNAMIC WORLD

A Strategic Plan for the College of Arts and Sciences

Leonidas G. Bachas, Dean
The College of Arts and Sciences has driven scholarship and learning at the University of Miami since its founding in 1926. Across diverse disciplines, we discover and advance knowledge, and integrate student development through a wide lens of social, historical, international, political, philosophical, scientific, and aesthetic perspectives.

The College touches every undergraduate and is the largest doctoral-granting unit in the University, imparting lifelong learning, intellectual growth, and the enduring values of the liberal arts. Our graduates learn to solve complex problems, communicate effectively, think creatively, and engage in global leadership.

Discovery fuels our educational mission. The College procures millions of dollars annually to fund important research in science, math, social science and humanities. With an abiding commitment to fostering intensive research, the College will remain at the vanguard of scholarship across disciplines. Major goals include:

**Recruiting and retaining the best faculty and students.**

**Addressing humanity’s most pressing issues.**

**Enriching the educational experience.**

**Pursuing community partnerships.**
FIVE AREAS OF FOCUS

1. **Scholarship, research and creative work.**

   We will pursue high-quality academic research to ensure long-term educational excellence. Goals include:
   
   - Improve the quality and quantity of research and scholarship in the College.
   - Increase collaborative interdisciplinary scholarship and research.

2. **Teaching, learning and assessment**

   We will educate the next generation of critical thinkers, innovators, creators, and entrepreneurs within a context of intellectual responsibility and international citizenship. Goals include:
   
   - Promote excellence in teaching and learning.
   - Emphasize and encourage an understanding of diverse cultural traditions, viewpoints and perspectives.
   - Enhance the undergraduate student learning experience.
3 Faculty development and governance

We are committed to shared governance, robust consultative processes, and a culture of openness. Goals include:

Strengthen the integration of our dual mission of scholarship and teaching.

Design support and resources for faculty to develop a career-long commitment to scholarship and research.

Recognize and reward faculty achievement.

Encourage wider participation by all tenured faculty members in the University’s system of academic governance.

4 Coral Gables and beyond

We will promote our mission to a wider world audience through engagement and an effective communication strategy. Goals include:

Build productive relationships with our internal and external constituencies with a particular focus on our alumni.

Increase our level of local and global engagement.

Create a more engaged and collaborative atmosphere on our campus.

5 Administration and facilities

We will maximize available resources through partnerships, and by increasing operational accountability and transparency. Goals include:

Increase the level of scholarly activities within the College.

Improve administrative support for departmental and program operations.

Recognize and support College staff.

Strengthen internal and external communication of the College.

Improve facilities and spaces.
MEASURING SUCCESS

The College will start measuring its progress through an initial set of parameters, which include:

**Undergraduate education**
- Quality of applicants
- Freshman retention rate
- Six-year graduation rate
- Prestigious awards

**Research and graduate education**
- External grant funding
- Fellowships and awards
- PhDs granted
- Post-doctoral fellows
- National Academy members

**Additional**
- Annual giving
- Major gifts
- Diversity