

Washington State University Vancouver
College of Liberal Arts Programs
Strategic Plan 2001-2006

Mission Statement

The College of Liberal Arts is a community of faculty, students, and staff sharing a commitment to provide students an education that integrates pre-professional and general curricula and fosters a reflective understanding of our world. The mission of the College of Liberal Arts (CLA) programs at Washington State University Vancouver (WSUV) is to provide balanced presentation of the basic areas of human endeavor. Programs are also devoted to improving our comprehension of the human condition through time and worldwide by means of social science research, artistic creativity, and humanistic inquiry.

The College of Liberal Arts embraces the goals of the campus, including providing students with abundant opportunities for general education as well as for specialization in a discipline or set of disciplines. Faculty guide students in developing intellectual curiosity, critical thinking skills, and communication proficiencies that they will need for lifelong learning, for making productive contributions to society, for meaningful and responsible investment in work, play, and citizenship, and for developing mature perspectives on their own roles in a complex multicultural society and the world beyond.

The College of Liberal Arts is dedicated to advancing the frontiers of human knowledge through a commitment to learning, curricular diversity, scholarship, sharing of expertise, and service. The liberal arts experience focuses on how to learn as well as what to learn and thus prepares our students for a future in which the only constant is change.

Goal 1: Deliver quality higher education opportunities for undergraduate students in Liberal Arts and other campus programs

Objective 1: Expand program options, with particular emphasis on multi-disciplinary partnerships.

Strategies: a. Review the curriculum, scheduling, and student needs on an on-going basis.

b. Develop and offer additional program options, including:

BA Electronic Media and Culture

BA Anthropology

c. Explore developing certificates and minors, including:

Drug and Alcohol Studies Certificate

Fine Arts Minor

d. Seek opportunities to develop coordination between WSUV and other institutions.

e. Explore options for making undergraduate majors available.

f. Identify and develop Centers for Excellence (see below)

Environmental Studies

Community Literacy

Health Policy

Objective 2: Increase opportunity for access and success in CLA and other programs of study

Strategies: a. Expand recruitment areas to community colleges in the Portland-Vancouver area
b. Explore diverse delivery options.
c. Provide plan of action and resources for increasing student graduation and retention rates across CLA programs
d. Develop outreach efforts and diversity activities for underrepresented populations.
e. Develop markers of student satisfaction and quality (such as survey instruments)
f. improve General Education delivery to address needs of CLA and non-CLA majors for the greatest synergy with existing programs.
g. monitor emphasis on critical thinking, inquiry, decision-making, and other skill sets

Objective 3: Achieve annual FTE increase in CLA programs

Strategies: a. Increase number of CLA course offerings
b. Expand recruitment efforts through building partnerships(see below)
c. Develop scholarship awards for CLA majors
d. Develop stable funding for CLA RA/TAs in Psychology, History, and Anthropology

Objective 4: Increase CLA faculty FTE, faculty support, and student involvement to maintain quality undergraduate education

Strategies: a. Increase faculty appointments in targeted areas
Psychology (2002)
EMC (2002)
English/Secondary Education (2003)
History (2003)
Fine Arts (2003) [or related to communication and culture]
b. Secure year-round funding for advising needs.
c. Document and provide resource support for students via club/honorary membership and sponsorship of activities

Objective 5: Increase diversity of students, faculty and staff; enhance the support for diversity issues inclusion in curriculum; engage the community in diversity learning opportunities.

Strategies: a. Develop public programs that address diverse community needs
b. Use faculty development and other resources to provide support for diversity projects in research, teaching, and service areas.

Goal 2: Deliver quality graduate education to place-bound students in SW Washington and Oregon

Strategies: a. Strengthen existing graduate opportunities in CLA and support other campus programs with curriculum.
b. Increase staff support for MPA
c. Seek accreditation for MPA
d. Develop stable funding for CLA RA/TAs in Psychology, History and Anthropology
e. Expand recruitment efforts through building partnerships in the community and across other institutional boundaries (ex. MA Public History with PSU).
f. Develop new graduate programs that serve community needs (MA History, Masters in Human Services)

Goal 3: Strengthen and expand institutional partnerships and community outreach

Objective 1: Expand opportunities for faculty research, service and teaching via cross-institutional collaboration

Strategies: a. Develop and deliver cross-institutional academic programs

Targeted areas: MA History and Public Affairs

b. Sustain and expand opportunities for graduate and undergraduate paid and unpaid internships

c. Create a Community Service Fair on MLK Day

d. Explore opportunities for developing non-academic program collaboration with regional agencies and CLA discipline-related institutions (Center for Columbia River History, Vancouver School District, Literacy Project, Old Town History Project, Washington Institute for Mental Illness Research and Training, Vancouver National Historic Reserve, etc.)

e. Target community needs and engage diverse communities in university projects.

Objective 2: Establish a culture of engagement

Strategies: a. Create an applied research center for contract research.

b. Support and reward faculty for engaged research.

c. Encourage research that makes contributions to communities without funding.

Goal 4: Build a World Class Environment for Research, Scholarship and the Arts

Objective 1: Recruit, develop, and support quality faculty researchers

Strategies: a. Increase diversity of faculty researchers

b. Address obstacles and issues in obtaining and using extramural funding

c. Enhance support for grants.

d. Facilitate involvement and provide support for undergraduate and graduate student involvement in research

Objective 2: Strategically develop Centers of Excellence

Strategies: a. Explore interdisciplinary degree programs

b. Nurture collaborative research and teaching

Objective 3: Build programs in the arts

Strategies: a. Create an artist in residence program

b. Expand performing arts capabilities and programs

c. Foster relationships with the public schools.