Introduction

The UGA College of Education renews its strategic plan approximately every five years. During 2014, Dean Craig H. Kennedy appointed a representative strategic planning committee and named Associate Dean for Academic Programs, Laura Bierema, to chair it. The committee represented Dean’s Council on Diversity, faculty, Faculty Senate, COE Staff Resource Group (SRG), department heads, and staff. The committee solicited input widely and from multiple sources including focus groups with departments, a COE-wide survey, a climate survey, and open meetings for faculty, Faculty Senate, staff, and SRG to review the draft plan. Based on the input on the draft, the committee revised the plan and submitted it to the Dean in the summer of 2016. The Dean’s Cabinet refined the plan to arrive at the following vision, mission, and goals for the college.

Vision, Mission, and Goals for the Strategic Plan

Vision: To create a top public college of education contributing to a well-educated, healthy, and equitable society.

Mission: The mission of the College of Education at the University of Georgia is to enhance the well-being of society through scholarship, teaching, and outreach.

Strategic Plan Goals 2017-2021

1. Promote diversity, equity and inclusion for all people.
2. Increase high-impact research and extramural funding.
3. Recognize, improve, and expand the quality of instruction through research-based, innovative approaches to teaching and learning.
4. Improve the lives of people in Georgia and beyond.

Goal 1: Promote diversity, equity and inclusion for all people.

Objective 1.1: Develop and implement strategies to ensure a climate of respect and dignity within the college.

Objective 1.2: Integrate attention to diversity, equity and inclusion within the scholarship, teaching, and outreach activities of the college.
Goal 2: Increase high-impact research and extramural funding.

Objective 2.1: Strengthen research in the College of Education and increase the national, state, and regional visibility of scholarship conducted by members of the college.

Objective 2.2: Increase the national visibility of scholarship conducted by members of the college.

Objective 2.3: Increase doctoral student research engagement.

Goal 3: Recognize, improve, and expand the quality of instruction through research-based, innovative approaches to teaching and learning.

Objective 3.1: Provide innovative, contemporary degree programs.

Objective 3.2: Create a culture valuing and supporting scholarship in teaching.

Objective 3.3: Increase access to undergraduate and graduate programs through extended campus and online education.

Objective 3.4: Promote international experiences for faculty and students in education, research, and service learning.

Objective 3.5: Promote the participation of undergraduates in honors and other enrichment opportunities.

Goal 4: Improve the lives of people in Georgia and beyond.

Objective 4.1: Expand partnerships with external constituents.

Objective 4.2: Expand educational and professional development opportunities.

Process for Implementing and Evaluating Progress Toward Meeting Goals

This plan articulates COE priorities for the next five years. COE departments, faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to integrate the plan into their current and future pursuits of excellence and distinction as a flagship college of education. The Strategic Planning Committee developed detailed implementation recommendations for each objective with suggested actionable items, metrics, and parties responsible. The Dean’s Cabinet and Leadership Council will monitor these plans at least annually and share updates on progress with the COE community. Pursuing and achieving the COE’s goals is a responsibility of everyone in the college. This plan serves as our blueprint for focusing our efforts in the areas of research, teaching, outreach, and diversity, equity, and inclusion.