

AYSPS STRATEGIC PLAN

Approved – AYSPS Faculty Meeting 08/14/2017

Vision

- Changing the World: One Student at a Time, One Idea at a Time.

Mission

- The Andrew Young School of Policy Studies (AYSPS) strengthens communities across the globe through policy research, scholarship, public engagement, and the development of leaders.

We Value

- Excellence in teaching.
- Critical thinking.
- Leadership and public engagement.
- Research and innovation.
- Diversity in all its forms.
- Collaboration.
- Global engagement.

GOAL 1: Provide an innovative, rigorous, and distinctive academic experience that prepares students to be productive, ethical, and engaged citizens and leaders.

- 1.1. Develop and deliver undergraduate-level academic programs that graduate students on time and prepare them to be knowledgeable change agents.
 - 1.1.1. Develop courses and programs that prepare students to demonstrate competency in ethical practice, critical thinking, and appreciation for public service values.
 - 1.1.2. Relate curriculum to employment through experiential learning, research, and extra-curricular opportunities that emphasize economic and social justice.
 - 1.1.3. Integrate counseling on pathways and careers with academic advisement.
- 1.2. Develop and deliver graduate-level academic programs that prepare individuals to solve pressing social problems and address high-demand skills and professions.
 - 1.2.1. Increase financial and academic support to graduate students to promote timely completion of their degrees and prominent placements in their fields.
 - 1.2.2. Enhance coursework and research opportunities to prepare graduates with discipline-specific competencies and skills required for productive careers in today's job market.

- 1.2.3. Leverage state and local partnerships to support students.
- 1.2.4. Monitor programs and be able to quickly adapt to changes in demand.
- 1.3. Develop, deliver, and monitor accessible executive training that addresses demand for professional competencies in the nonprofit and public sectors.
- 1.4. Increase the number of students pursuing and earning prestigious scholarships, fellowships, grants, and distinctions in their disciplines.
- 1.5. Support and reward excellence in teaching and academic support.
 - 1.5.1. Pioneer innovative pedagogical methods and serve as a model for instruction and advisement within the University.
 - 1.5.2. Create a system that measures, develops, and rewards excellence in teaching for faculty and instructors among all modes of instruction.
 - 1.5.3. Expand excellence in teaching in non-traditional instruction.
 - 1.5.4. Provide staff with development opportunities to enable them to support instruction and the student success mission.

GOAL 2: Provide the research infrastructure, support, and incentives to develop and sustain innovative and evidence-based research that will have national and international impact.

- 2.1. Facilitate and incentivize collaborative and interdisciplinary projects throughout AYSPS, the University, and outside institutions.
 - 2.1.1. Expand the international scope of our center and departmental research efforts.
 - 2.1.2. Leverage the Urban Studies Institute to elevate the AYSPS urban-focused research.
 - 2.1.3. Create space to foster a culture of collaboration and research throughout the AYSPS built environment.
- 2.2. Create a college-wide research and outreach focus using large-scale databases and experimental/behavioral techniques for evidence-based policy development and evaluation.
 - 2.2.1. Become the repository for data supporting evidence-based policy research in Georgia and the Southeast.
 - 2.2.2. Partner with other institutions to share data locally, nationally, and globally.
 - 2.2.3. Develop support for data visualization techniques.
 - 2.2.4. Develop college-wide research infrastructure and support for intensive use of big data across departments, centers, 2CI clusters, and Next Generation programs.
- 2.3. Improve the quality and quantity of impactful scholarly research through major academic publications.

- 2.3.1. Incentivize and reward inter/multidisciplinary scholarly publications and research.
- 2.4. Continue to increase the level and diversity of externally funded research grants, contracts and philanthropic contributions.
 - 2.4.1. Develop a mentor arrangement between faculty with grantsmanship success and faculty/senior research associates to develop expertise in interdisciplinary grant writing and grant management.
 - 2.4.2. Hone an incentive mechanism to encourage grantsmanship that is consistent with the goals of AYSPS.
 - 2.4.3. Expand grant development support in AYSPS with a focus on identifying a diverse pool of funding.
 - 2.4.4. Increase the number of postdocs in AYSPS.
- 2.5. Expand, recognize, and reward engagement of AYSPS researchers with policymakers and practitioners.
 - 2.5.1. Enhance the visibility of technical assistance activities.
 - 2.5.2. Recognize and leverage AYSPS engagement with policymakers to promote evidence-based decision-making.
 - 2.5.3. Recognize and incentivize the translational, nonpartisan, fact-based and impactful research and analysis published in policy-oriented outlets by faculty, staff, and students.
- 2.6. Provide professional development opportunities for and entrepreneurial innovation of staff and encourage and reward staff for such engagement in research support, grant development, and grant execution.

GOAL 3: Raise the visibility of AYSPS and engagement with key stakeholders.

- 3.1: Execute and evaluate a public relations and marketing communications plan that promotes the School's unique identity, research, programs, and people.
 - 3.1.1: Promote schoolwide use of a clear, unified identity.
 - 3.1.2: Execute a strategic, comprehensive communications plan that identifies, informs, and cultivates key stakeholders, i.e., Georgia State University internal audiences, digital and traditional news outlets, funders, policymakers, potential students, alumni, friends of the school, etc.
 - 3.1.3: Encourage and promote deeper university, community and professional engagement among faculty and staff.
- 3.2: Broaden access to AYSPS research and increase global readership, downloads and citations by internally promoting the awareness and use of all scholarly digital databases available.
- 3.3: Expand and engage with our alumni network to support the strategic goals of the

AYSPS.

3.4: Expand activities and each unit's role in fund raising.