

DRAFT 4/29/2016
Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences

The Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences (BCAS) is unique in the breadth, scope, and distinctiveness of its degree programs. These programs provide students with excellent liberal arts, pre-professional, and professional education at the undergraduate and graduate levels. The college is a catalyst for innovative teaching, experiential learning, interdisciplinary education, and exemplary scholarship.

College Strategic Capacities

BCAS has extensive capacity in four divisions: Fine Arts, Humanities, Social and Natural Sciences.

College-wide Strategic Directions for 2016/2017

1. Seek tenure-track faculty strategically to build upon existing strengths to create, enhance and expand distinctive degree programs, and increase enrollments.
2. Stabilize department/school leadership, and consider the sharing of chairs/directors with other units for administrative purposes, while maintaining the existing units' rules and procedures.
3. Develop distinctive pre-professional programs, especially a new pre-medical program linked to the College of Health Profession and NEOMED, and pre-law program linked with the UA School of Law.
4. Develop an ongoing strategic planning process with regular and extensive faculty input.
5. Establish a task force to encourage interdisciplinary teaching and research, including removing barriers to such endeavors, such as cross-listing of courses, joint appointments across units, and faculty load issues.
6. Encourage faculty to work closely with the EXL Center to create, enhance, and expand experiential learning opportunities within and across all academic programs in the college that are recorded on student transcripts.
7. Operationalize the academic mission of each unit with specific goals and resources necessary to achieving the goals; decentralize responsibility for achieving the goals to the unit level given available resources; and hold the units accountable for achieving the goals.
8. Create focused marketing, public relations and web-based programs to share faculty scholarship, teaching, and community activities to increase enrollments across the college.

BCAS Fine Arts Division*Strategic Capacities*

The **Myers School of Art** has engaged faculty committed to student successes within an accredited, fully-integrated undergraduate program.

The **School of Dance, Theatre, and Arts Administration** provides interdisciplinary, professional training and collaborations, with a focus on performance and business entrepreneurship.

The **School of Music** has a strong reputation for its fully accredited music education and music performance programs at the undergraduate and master's level.

The **School of Family and Consumer Sciences** offers experiential learning and interdisciplinary programs that address basic human needs which promote individual, family and community well-being

Fine Arts Division Strategic Directions for 2016/2017

1. Enhance dance program in partnership with the new National Center for Choreography and increase enrollments. Seek reinstatement of an undergraduate Theatre program, and grow enrollments.
2. Enhance the School of Music program by adding a position on music entrepreneurship to increase enrollments.
3. Enhance the School of Art programs by adding a position to modernize the art foundations courses and increase enrollments.
4. Explore collaboration between the School of Art and the social media center in the School of Communication, and increase enrollments in both schools.
5. Consider options for reorganizing and expanding the degree programs in Family and Consumer Science.
6. Develop focused markets and public relations efforts to publicize the performances, exhibitions, and programs across the Fine Arts Division.

BCAS Humanities Division*Strategic Capacities*

The **Anthropology Department** has a long-standing commitment to undergraduate research and experiential learning as core components of student training.

The **English Department** fosters digital literacy, analytical writing, and appreciation of multicultural literatures and link the coursework and practice of English to career opportunities. NEOMFA (Northeast Ohio Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing program) is the only consortium-based MFA in creative writing program in the Midwest.

The **Modern Languages Department** engages students in local and international experientially- based learning in order to develop their linguistic and cross-cultural competencies. It offers professional certificates and Spanish for health care professions.

The **Philosophy Department** offers distinctive interdisciplinary programs, including two degrees and six minors, plus providing training in ethics to professional and STEM programs.

Humanities Division Strategic Directions for 2016/2017

1. Add a non-stem faculty advisor in the humanities as part of the transition the BSMD program to a broader pre-medicine program focused on “inter-professional care” in cooperation with the College of Health Professions and NEOMED.
2. Expand the pre-law program by developing 3+3 degrees in the humanities and an interdisciplinary bachelor of law degree.
3. Expand modern languages programs into the community, building on the Spanish for medical professions initiative.
4. Enhance the writing program in English, with a focus on digital technology in publishing and professional writing, and increase enrollments.
5. Develop a three-year interdisciplinary BA in humanities in collaboration with the History Department and Honors College.

BCAS Social Science Division

Strategic Capacities

The **School of Communication** prepares students for careers in new media, radio, TV, print, public relations, and strategic and organizational communication through engaging course work, service learning, and internships.

Criminal Justice Studies provides experiential learning and interdisciplinary education in criminal justice technology and intelligence.

The **Economics Department** stresses hands-on applications to train students in economic theory and data analytic skills required to investigate real world economic problems.

The **History Department** houses internationally-recognized faculty specializing in historical issues affecting global interactions today.

The **Political Science Department** houses the Bliss Institute of Applied Politics where students learn hands-on skills needed to manage campaigns, run for office, or work in politics.

The **Psychology Department** has an I/O program based on a long history of high-quality scholarship and success in training/mentoring future I/O psychologists.

The **Public Administration and Urban Studies** Department (PAUS) provides a highly regarded Masters of Public Administration with an emphasis on urban government

The **Sociology Department** offers the only joint Sociology doctoral program in the country (with KSU), as well as a strong, experiential, criminology-focused undergraduate program.

Social Science Division Strategic Directions for 2016/2017

1. Complete and launch the interdisciplinary criminology and criminal justice BA degrees involving Sociology, Political Science and Criminal Justice Studies.
2. Enhance the pre-law program by developing 3+3 degree between History and other social science departments and the School of Law; develop an interdisciplinary BA in law degree.
3. Develop a new professional masters' degree in IO Psychology and increase enrollments.
4. Develop 4+1 graduate degrees within and among social science departments to prepare students for jobs in public service, non-profit areas, and industry.
5. Explore collaboration between the graphic design program in the School of Art and the social media center in the School of Communication and increase enrollment in both schools.

6. Develop a three-year interdisciplinary BA degree in humanities in collaboration with the humanities departments, History department and the Honors College.

BCAS Natural Science Division

Strategic Capacities

The **Biology Department** is known for its high-demand Integrated Bioscience program and the Biomimicry Innovation and Research Center.

The **Chemistry Department** is ranked in the top 15% of programs nationally in terms of degrees awarded by the American Chemical Society.

The **Computer Science Department** has highly ranked programs that are in great demand by students and employers.

The **Geosciences Department** immerses students in collaborative, inquiry-based learning through field and laboratory experiences.

The **Mathematics Department** is widely recognized for having externally funded faculty who lead interdisciplinary studies in a broad variety of fields and equips undergraduate and graduate students with skills that drive the regional economy.

The **Physics Department** has high student placement rates and quality research in optics, condensed matter, and materials physics.

The **Statistics Department** offers degrees that are consistently in very high demand, including a thriving program in actuarial science, and provides students with experiential learning through the Center for Statistical Consulting.

Natural Science Division Strategic Directions for 2017/2017

1. Transition the BSMD program to a broader pre-medicine program focused on “inter-professional care” in cooperation with the College of Health Professions and NEOMED.
2. Add expertise in the area of infectious diseases and biochemistry to support the pre-medicine program and to increase enrollment in the BS in Biology and Biochemistry.
3. Foster collaboration between the new Center for Data Science and Information Technology and the departments of Math, Statistics and Computer Science by utilizing the expertise that currently exists and seeking additional expertise in appropriate areas.
4. Enhance the Geoscience program with expertise in environmental geoscience to increase enrollment in the BS and MS degrees.
5. Enhance the Physics program with emphasis in Material Physics to increase enrollment.

6. Add critical expertise in Interdisciplinary Applied Mathematics to support external funding efforts in the Natural Sciences. Expand externally funded research in the natural sciences, especially in Chemistry, Biology, and Geosciences.