

University of Colorado Boulder

College of Arts & Sciences

Vision

The College of Arts & Sciences cultivates critical, creative, and compassionate thinkers.

Strategic Imperatives

Strategic Imperative 1: *Teach to inspire the intellectual dexterity, rigorous exploration, and compassion required to engage with our changing world.*

- Create Domains for Discovery (D4Ds): Thematic areas of study that include a team-taught foundation class and culminate in a discipline-transcending minor focused on contemporary and relevant topics such as Social Justice, Human and Environmental Sustainability, Arts & Creativity, Health & Bioethics, Energy & Society.
- Increase discipline-transcending opportunities to teach/learn through discovery/creative work by restructuring credit hour incentives, redesigning physical space, and supporting faculty and staff development.
- Foster risk-taking as a way to empower students, transform grade-driven learning, and ensure student relevance and ingenuity in the working world. Ideas include: revising the pass/fail system and culture, examining methods of assessment, encouraging broader exploration of subjects by students, and increasing applied and service learning opportunities.
- Increase integration of trans-disciplinary teaching, mentoring, and scholarship by providing time and support for tenure track and instructor faculty to engage in collaborative work with other academic departments/programs, updating tenure/promotion criteria for tenure track faculty, increasing options and compensation/promotion for instructors, and strengthening academic support structures including academic advising, teaching assistants, and academic coaching/tutoring.

Strategic Imperative 2: *Prioritize our research enterprise to define the frontiers of knowledge and solve important problems.*

- Offer on-campus sabbatical opportunities to individual researchers and collaborative groups at an A&S Academy of Discovery.
- Guarantee a minimum salary at time of promotion to Associate Professor of 90% of the AAU mean salary in field.
- Increase internal funding, including opportunities for high-risk, high-reward projects.
- Optimize use of faculty research & creative time by providing staff support, material needs, and limiting bureaucratic processes that consume intellectual capital and time.

Strategic Imperative 3: *Create a culture that welcomes all, inspires community, develops the individual, and engages the world.*

- Establish a central hub where College members and external groups gather intentionally to exchange ideas, work together, and socialize.
- Build a web of interactions between ALL members of the college community, and particularly between units, to promote affinity, collaboration, and responsibility to achieve our shared mission.
- Embed our intellectual and cultural values within our physical space to understand our rich history, embrace diverse perspectives, and think courageously to address regional and global issues.
- Engage in thoughtful, transparent decision making with agency spread out through multiple levels on campus.