

Appendix 1.1 Mission Statements of Academic Units

Mission Statements: College of Arts & Sciences

College Mission Statement

The College of Arts & Sciences encourages excellence in teaching through our academic programs in the arts, humanities, social sciences, mathematics, and physical sciences; engages in internationally renowned programs of research, scholarship, and creative activities; and supports application of knowledge through outreach to serve the changing needs of the state, the country, and the world. The College offers graduate and undergraduate programs of research, scholarship and artistic expression. These programs enable students to understand the intellectual and cultural heritages in the global community, the physical world, rapidly changing technologies, and social, economic, and political developments. The College promotes students' ethical development and capabilities through critical and independent thinking, reading, and communicating. The College fosters breadth through engagement with theoretical foundations and basic skills, and depth through the intellectual challenges explored via intensive study in a field of concentration. Student-faculty interaction is enhanced through independent and collaborative experiences to inspire life-long learning and civic engagement.

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Departmental Mission Statements:

African and African American Studies Program

URI and RIC have a joint major in African and African American Studies. The major in African American Studies is designed to help students meet the challenge of the globalism which has transformed economics and politics around the world. We begin with the objective of introducing students to the experience of Africans in the Diaspora (North American, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Africa); recognition of the contributions and conditions of survival are explored in courses which address language and speech, history, culture, politics and economics using interdisciplinary methods. The objective is to provide both a critical perspective and an expansion of existing methods and analysis.

Art and Art History

The Department of Art and Art History within the College of Arts and Sciences offers three undergraduate degrees (BA Art, BFA Art, and BA Art History) and provides General Education and required courses for other programs in the university. The department educates art and art history students in the understanding, production, and analysis of visual art and culture. We teach Art students to develop technical competence in a range of media, acquire appropriate verbal and literary proficiencies, foster professional attitudes and goals, and awaken their creative, conceptual and art historical consciousness. Art History students develop skills to analyze and interpret works of art as expressions and products of social, cultural and historic conditions, to conduct research, and to write and speak effectively about art and architecture. We prepare students for diverse career opportunities and challenges in the field and impart the knowledge, practical skills, and critical thinking necessary for study at higher levels as well as lifelong appreciation of the visual arts.

Department of Chemistry

The mission of the Department of Chemistry at the University of Rhode Island is to:

- Educate students, both undergraduate and graduate, in the chemical sciences, including chemistry majors and students from other fields that require chemistry;
- Provide service to the University and the Profession;
and
- Create and disseminate new knowledge created by research in chemistry and related areas with special emphasis on the energy, forensic, and materials sciences.

College Writing Program

The College Writing Program affirms and upholds the missions of both the University of Rhode Island and URI's College of Arts and Sciences. The College Writing Program endeavors to fulfill its function within those missions with the highest degree of

- rigor in the pursuit of teaching and scholarly excellence,
- responsible collaboration and appropriate interdisciplinary partnerships,
- outreach with the university and extramural communities,
- programmatic integrity.

Rhetoric's crucial role in the construction, maintenance, and on-going revision of public life has been recognized for centuries. As part of the Liberal Arts and General Education Core, rhetoric and composition can guide students in recognizing, valuing, and understanding difference as they work toward developing and expressing their own critical stances. As an academic discipline, rhetoric and composition guides undergraduate and graduate students in theorizing and disseminating the complexities of language use. As a set of public practices, rhetoric and composition can be an empowering component of the university's and college's outreach arm. The College Writing Program wholeheartedly strives to develop each of these aspects as appropriate to ever-changing university, disciplinary, and societal conditions.

Communication Studies

We prepare students to understand the dynamics and strategies of communication theory and practices so that they may adapt to the changing market place of ideas and careers, while receiving a broad-based liberal arts education. We are committed to the concept of a liberal arts education and we prepare students to think, write and speak critically and strategically. To that end we offer courses in areas such as public discourse and criticism, interpersonal communication, and oral interpretation of literature. New and exciting courses are being developed every year to address the changing dynamics of communication in a complex and challenging world.

Computer Science and Statistics

The mission of the computer science programs in the Department of Computer Science is to provide

students with in-depth education in the conceptual foundations of computer science, to develop in them the skills necessary to design and implement complex information processing systems, and to provide them the opportunity to understand and expand the connections and applications of computer science to other areas and disciplines. By combining with a strong education in mathematics, sciences, and the liberal arts and sciences, it prepares its students to be competent professionals and leaders in computer science practice, in applications to other disciplines, in research, and in the service to the many communities to which its students do and will belong.

Economics

The Department of Economics at the University of Rhode Island is an undergraduate learner-centered department. It is our mission to enable undergraduate students to understand and apply the tools of economics to enhance the decision and policy-making skills of members of society, from informed citizens and consumers to managers of business, government and public organizations. Further it is our mission to enable students to think critically about alternative views of economic issues. The faculty strives to accomplish this mission through sound teaching, learning, and research, and engaging in outreach activities that directly impact the lives of students and citizens in the state, nation, and international community. The department demonstrates its respect for the diversity of views that exist on economic issues and in economics teaching.

English

We endeavor to offer our students a set of life-long skills and practices linked to a knowledge base of literary and non-literary texts ranging from antiquity to the present day, and including English, North American, African, Caribbean and other works (both literary and filmic) in English as well as many influential works translated into English. The skills, practices and knowledges we offer our students include:

- * Reading, asking productive questions of, and developing interpretive strategies for analyzing complex literary and non-literary texts;
- * Writing in a lucid prose style with the ability to convey complex ideas about the cultural productions they engage with;
- * Discovering one's own critical and creative "voice" and developing that voice in written and oral expression;
- * Conducting extended research using both traditional and web-based research tools, and transforming the results of this research into original written compositions on literary and cultural topics;
- * Understanding and articulating how literary and film texts are located in complex historical, cultural, ideological, and geopolitical contexts;
- * Developing a general familiarity with the history of English, North American, African, Caribbean, post-colonial and other literary traditions, with an understanding of the range of genres, traditions, and innovations that have developed over time and across national boundaries;
- * Discovering a tradition, genre, or period which is of special interest to the student and developing a deeper more complex knowledge of that sub-area of exploration;
- * Developing a familiarity and a critical engagement with the range of theoretical and philosophical traditions that have come to inform literary and cultural studies;
- * Refining their creative writing talents if they so desire with an eye towards publication opportunities.

In keeping with URI's mission as a research institution, we foster active research and other professional activity among our faculty with the understanding that research, writing, publishing and participation in conferences enhances rather than diminishes teaching. We also promote an intellectual community for

students, full-time faculty, TAs, and part-time instructors through our ongoing Events and Readings series, which include regularly scheduled public appearances by visiting scholars, creative writers, and our own faculty, students and instructors. We offer opportunities for students to practice their skills and talents in extra-curricular experiential contexts such as our URI in England Program, our Internship Program, and our critical and creative writing contests. Overall, we endeavor to ensure that whatever their professional or creative goals, students majoring in English will be provided with the expertise to become active interpreters, rather than passive observers, of the world around them.

Film Media

The cross-disciplinary Program in Film Media is founded on several principles and convictions: that the critical, historical, and aesthetic study and the artistic making of film media are complementary skills and knowledge; that these are necessary to understand the inter-cultural and global theories and practices of the moving image, the modes of visual literacy, and the complexities of production, distribution, and reception; and finally that these skills and knowledge prepare students to participate in diverse cultures increasingly shaped and mediated by film media.

The Program's primary mission is to provide undergraduate students with excellent teaching of the critical, analytical, and artistic skills and knowledge necessary to grasp film media as a discrete but continuously evolving discipline with interdisciplinary methodologies, scholarly and pedagogical practices, as well as an art form engaged with multiple genres (fictive, non-fictive, avant-garde), technologies and forms of production. Production courses are taught under the supervision of professional filmmakers. Critical, historical, aesthetic and theory courses and internships serve the mission of the College of Arts and Sciences by developing skills and knowledge that students can bring to a number of professions within and outside film media industries, to graduate study in filmmaking and studies or to other disciplines and area studies. Because the Program is coordinated interdepartmentally with broad interdisciplinary perspectives, students develop proficiency in oral presentations, critical reading of texts and the "cinetext" from the silent to the digital era, writing that is critical, expressive, or analytical, budgeting and grant writing, computer skills and visual design, and a range of editing skills (sound, light, camera, mis-en-scene). Internships allow the resources of the University and the larger community (state, region, world) to come together synergistically, economically, and aesthetically.

Graduate School of Library and Information Studies

In support of the University of Rhode Island's mission, the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies exercises leadership in the global information age through research, service, and the preparation of knowledgeable and ethical professionals who can serve the library and information needs of a diverse society.

In fulfillment of its mission, the School supports the following six goals:

* Goal 1 (Planning and Evaluation): To support the School's vision, values, and mission through a strong planning and evaluation structure that includes regular input from students, graduates, practitioners, and other stakeholders.

* Goal 2 (Academic Program): Provide a foundation of knowledge that enables graduates to meet the School's stated educational outcomes, preparing students for leadership roles and information services by offering a high quality academic program.

* Goal 3 (Faculty): To provide a dedicated, talented, and diverse faculty who contribute to the profession, the academic community, and society through teaching, research, and service.

* Goal 4 (Students): To attract and retain highly motivated and academically qualified students from a wide variety of backgrounds who will become dedicated library and information professionals.

* Goal 5 (Culture and Environment): To foster a culture that encourages mutual respect and collaboration in learning, research, and service; and to create an environment that values contributions to the profession and society.

* Goal 6 (Service and Outreach): To serve in local, regional, national, and international academic and professional communities and to cultivate mutually supportive relationships, especially within the New England region.

History

The Department of History at the University of Rhode Island provides academic learning for undergraduates, history majors, and MA graduate students. Centered in the "Humanities" in the College of Arts and Sciences, the department's teaching of history emphasizes the full range of human experience in different societies, time periods and cultures. Students develop skills in critical reading, writing, and research, and the department works closely with the School of Education in creating future teachers for the State of Rhode Island and throughout the nation. The faculty of the History department is actively engaged in fundamental research, publication and outreach to the public schools, the general public, and to state, national and international organizations.

Journalism

The study and practice of journalism require the acquisition and application of a broad base of knowledge, so Journalism majors at the University of Rhode Island pursue a professional course of study that is strongly grounded in the liberal arts. Along with General Education and Elective courses from other disciplines, the major requires students to explore the concepts and practices of contemporary American journalism. Within a social, historical, legal and ethical context, students acquire skills in gathering and synthesizing factual information and communicating it clearly to a variety of mass audiences. Journalism course work -- through individual and collaborative assignments -- focuses on reporting, writing, editing and producing the news for publication or broadcast. In addition, students who minor in journalism can focus on public relations or media issues, as well as print or broadcasting. And through its course offerings, the Department of Journalism provides non-majors a forum for studying the role of journalism and the mass media in society.

Mathematics

The interlocking aims of the Mathematics Department are to provide high quality, forward-looking instruction in mathematics for all students, at all levels; to encourage and develop the mathematical skills and talents of those undergraduates with a special intellectual and professional interest in mathematics; to train, at the graduate level, a corps of accomplished mathematical teacher/researchers; to advance the field of mathematics in our focused research areas; and to serve as a principal resource in mathematics for the University community.

Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures

The Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures is committed to the teaching of modern and classical languages, literatures, and cultures as an indispensable part of the University's mission. Its unique mission is to advance foreign language proficiency and cross-cultural competency in times of growing internationalization and to make increasing contact between cultures a daily reality for its students, thus expanding their multi-cultural and global awareness. The Department promotes the internationalization of the URI curriculum through course work, study abroad and internships. It is central to the University's General Education program, to its diversity mission, and to the fulfillment of the University's role as a center of humanistic inquiry.

The Department offers undergraduate majors in five fields, Classical Studies, French, German, Italian, and Spanish, an MA in Spanish, and courses in Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew, Japanese, Linguistics, Modern Greek, Portuguese and Russian. With other departments it participates in the Comparative Literature Studies, Film and Media Studies, Latin American Studies and Linguistics programs. The department is also partnered with the Colleges of Business Administration, Engineering and Pharmacy and the Department of Textile Merchandising in offering dual degree programs.

Music

The Department of Music is a comprehensive professional department functioning within the broad University of Rhode Island framework. It is committed to offering (a) professional degrees in music at both the undergraduate and graduate levels (Bachelor of Music in Composition, Performance, and Music Education, and Master of Music in Performance and Music Education), (b) an undergraduate liberal-arts degree (Bachelor of Arts with specializations in jazz studies, music, and music history and literature), (c) three double-major programs (music and communication studies, elementary education, or psychology), two double-degree programs (music and computer science or business administration), (d) minors in music (jazz studies, music, music performance, and individual), and (e) courses that can be taken by the general university student including those in the University's General Education Program.

The Department of Music's graduate program is a comprehensive professional program committed to leadership in teaching, research/creative achievement and service at the local, state, regional and national levels. The program seeks talented graduate students from diverse musical, cultural, economic and ethnic backgrounds to form collaborations for learning, teaching and musicianship in a community of mutual respect. After completing the program, our graduate students will be recognized by their commitment to excellence and their performance as professionals.

One of the basic tenets of the graduate program in music is that for quality graduate education to thrive, research and creative achievement must coexist with and enhance the process of classroom, studio and other teaching. Faculty members, comprised of outstanding performers, scholars, conductors, composers, and administrators, serve as professional role models and are dedicated to teaching as well as research and/or creative endeavors.

Overall, through its diverse offerings, the multifaceted musical endeavors of its students and faculty, and its extensive concert, recital, and guest-artist programs, the Department of Music is committed to serving and furthering the cultural life of the University. The Department of Music, furthermore, shares in the values of the University as a whole to provide "strong undergraduate programs to promote students' ethical development and capabilities as critical and independent thinkers" (and artists), and to

foster graduate programs that “provide rigorous advanced study and research opportunities for personal and professional development.” (University of Rhode Island Mission Statement) The Department also acts as a cultural center for the community, the state, and the region. In addition, the Department provides opportunities for the general university student and members of the Rhode Island community to participate in its performing organizations. It further provides service by sharing the professional knowledge and expertise of its members with the University, the state of Rhode Island, the New England region, and on a national and international basis.

Philosophy

The mission of the Department of Philosophy at the University of Rhode Island is (1) to provide undergraduate majors with a superb education in Philosophy that will provide a solid basis for post-graduate study or professional life; (2) to make a significant contribution to the university's General Education program; (3) to foster interdepartmental and intercollegiate collaboration by engaging in interdisciplinary teaching and research projects; and (4) to encourage outreach by faculty to the extramural community as public intellectuals.

Physics

The Department of Physics has two major responsibilities that are dependent on each other. The first is teaching physics to the university's students, both majors in our various undergraduate and graduate programs, and those with other majors that find physics underlies much of their own fields. The second is to carry out an active, well respected research program. This is necessary both for required training of our students, and for fulfilling an important function for the state.

Political Science

The Political Science Department faculty are dedicated to promoting personal and professional development in the area of Political Science and to preparing our students to both enter the professional world and to pursue advanced studies at the graduate level.

Psychology

Our Mission is...

- to generate knowledge of basic psychological processes and contextual influences on psychological and physical functioning,
- to apply knowledge to promote health and welfare in a pluralistic society by enhancing the functioning of individuals and social systems,
- to translate knowledge into science-based programs, policies, and professional practices responsive to societal needs, and
- to transmit knowledge through educational programs that inform individual development, provide understanding of human behavior, and prepare scientist-practitioners to become future leaders and innovators.

Sociology and Anthropology

The mission of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at URI is to develop the ability of undergraduate students to understand and think critically and imaginatively about society, culture, and

social issues. These skills are necessary for informed citizenship and meaningful careers. We seek to foster an appreciation for social and intellectual diversity, an awareness of social inequality, and a commitment to social justice in a global framework through sound teaching, relevant research, and outreach to the local, state, national, and international community.

Theatre

The URI Theatre program provides a conservatory experience within a pre-professional liberal arts setting. The distinguished faculty, guest artists and staff place an equal emphasis on the theoretical and practical understanding of theatre. Artistically vibrant, relevant and rooted in collaboration, our unique production program enriches all students and serves the educational and cultural needs of the university and the greater community

Women's Studies

The discipline of women's studies has a vision of a world free from sexism. By necessity, freedom from sexism must include a commitment to freedom from national chauvinism; class, ethnic, racial, and heterosexual bias; economic exploitation; religious persecution; ageism; and ableism. Women's studies seeks to identify, understand, and challenge ideologies and institutions and knowingly or unknowingly oppress and exploit some of the advantage of others, or deny fundamental human rights. Thus, women's studies envisions a world in which all persons can develop their fullest potential.

Women's studies uses feminist and interdisciplinary methods to teach, conduct research, and expand existing bodies of knowledge. Critical thinking, the production of theory, and the assumption of community and global responsibility are integral to these methods. We are committed to deliberative processes that promote open expression and collaboration. Understanding the interrelationship between the personal and political, we support and promote feminist teaching and learning, research, scholarship, creative activity, and professional and community service.

Mission Statement: College of Business Administration

College Mission Statement

Our responsibility is to provide strong academic programs that instill excellence. We aim to (1) promote critical and independent thinking, (2) foster personal responsibility and (3) develop students whose performance and commitment mark them as leaders contributing to the business community and society. The College will serve as a center for business scholarship, creative research and outreach activities to the citizens and institutions of the State of Rhode Island as well as the regional, national and international communities.

Mission Statement: College of Continuing Education

College Mission Statement

1. To provide continuing education for adult students
2. To provide innovative higher education to traditional age students
3. To provide state-of-the art professional development programs

The three core areas form the foundation for the College's planning and strategy, its organizational structure and the allocation of available resources. They also provide support for the following objectives:

- A. Conducting research into urban affairs
- B. Creating community development policies and programs
- C. Establishing partnerships with 7-12 grade schools, state agencies and community organizations

VALUES

We respect the dignity of each individual, valuing the diversity among us. We demand from members of our community an uncompromising integrity and pride, which is evident in our commitment to serve citizens of the State of Rhode Island and the immediate region.

Mission Statements: College of Engineering

College Mission Statement

The College of Engineering is a diverse community of scholars, learners, and professional staff, working together and dedicated to the development and application of advanced technologies, for the betterment of the quality of life. We are creative problem-solvers, innovators, inventors, and entrepreneurs, applying our skills for the advancement of knowledge, service to our community, and the economic development of the State of Rhode Island and beyond. We prepare our graduates to be global leaders in a wide-range of engineering disciplines and to create new knowledge, products, and services.

Departmental Mission Statements:

Chemical Engineering

Our department will be recognized as the preferred choice for chemical engineering education within New England, as a leader in innovative fundamental and applied research, and as a catalyst for economic development.

Civil and Environmental Engineering

Consistent with the missions of the University of Rhode Island and The College of Engineering, the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering seeks to: prepare students to practice professionally

in the national and international marketplace in the field of Civil and Environmental Engineering through the provision of high quality undergraduate and graduate educational programs and research opportunities; provide an environment that encourages and supports faculty career development and professional/community service; actively promote diversity; and maintain a nationally recognized research program.

Electrical, Computer and Biomedical Engineering

Our mission is to be leaders in teaching, research, and service in the areas of electrical, computer, and biomedical engineering:

- To produce graduates who successfully practice engineering in the service of state and regional industries, government agencies, and national and international industries and who are capable of entering and succeeding in an advanced degree programs. To prepare our students for personal and professional success with awareness and commitment to their ethical and social responsibilities, both individually and in team environments.
- To have research programs that advance knowledge, help solve problems for government agencies and industry, and produce engineers with graduate degrees who are leaders in their field.
- To be of service to professional organizations by organizing conferences, editing journals, reviewing papers and acting in leadership positions. To provide industry with the engineering expertise needed for their success. To provide the information and analysis necessary for the success of government programs.

Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering

Consistent with the missions of the University of Rhode Island, and the College of Engineering, the department of Industrial and Systems Engineering seeks to:

1. Prepare students to practice professionally in the fields of industrial and manufacturing engineering through the provisions of high quality undergraduate and graduate educational programs
2. Provide an environment for satisfying faculty career development
3. Maintain a world renowned scholarly research program

Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics

Provide high quality undergraduate and graduate education that will prepare graduates for successful careers in mechanical engineering and related fields. Conduct high quality research that supports our educational goals, state and national needs, and advances the state of knowledge in our fields of study. Provide professional expertise, service and outreach to local and national industries and agencies.

Ocean Engineering

The missions of the department of Ocean Engineering are (1) to provide high quality, undergraduate and graduate degree programs that prepare our students for professional careers in ocean engineering in industry, academia, and government, (2) to develop and maintain internationally recognized research programs in selected areas of ocean engineering, (3) to actively serve the profession and the community in the areas of our expertise, and (4) to provide a challenging work and learning environment where

diversity, community, scholarship, professional development, and excellence are valued and rewarded. The primary mission of the undergraduate degree program is to prepare students for successful careers in ocean engineering, for advanced studies, and for lifelong learning. The program is designed to provide our students with a strong base in fundamental sciences, mathematics, and engineering; a broad base in ocean engineering; opportunities for the integration of theory, experimentation, and design; appreciation of ethical, social and environmental issues in the practice of the profession; and strong oral and written communication skills.

Mission Statements: College of the Environment and Life Sciences

College Mission Statement:

We strive for excellence in teaching, research, and service. We prepare our students with the skills, knowledge, and insight to address the challenges of today's world and support their development as lifelong learners. We foster collaboration among our undergraduate and graduate students, staff, and faculty in experiential learning and provide opportunities for students to apply their knowledge beyond the University. We address contemporary problems through innovative, relevant, and scholarly research. We extend our research-based knowledge through community engagement in the tradition of our Land Grant and Sea Grant heritage and are dedicated to outreach and service to our state, nation, and global community.

Adopted by the Executive Council of the College of the Environment and Life Sciences on November 16, 2006.

Departmental Mission Statements:

Biological Sciences

The Department of Biological Sciences, one of the core science departments in the College of the Environment & Life Sciences, is committed to the discovery and communication of knowledge in biology. As teachers, our goal is to develop, in undergraduate and graduate students, an understanding of life processes, methods of biological inquiry, and the relevance of biology to social, political, and environmental challenges. As research scientists, our goal is to contribute new information to basic biological theories and to the fundamental understanding of life processes.

Cell and Molecular Biology

The mission of the Department of Cell and Molecular Biology is (1) to ensure that the undergraduate, graduate and professional students at the University of Rhode Island receive strong educational programs integrating cell and molecular biology; (2) to conduct high quality research that will provide important new knowledge and applications in the area of cell and molecular biology and contribute to the economic enhancement and diversification of the state; and (3) serve as a conduit for the effective transmission of scientific knowledge to the general public. This mission will be accomplished by maintaining a high quality faculty engaged in dedicated teaching, innovative research and relevant outreach programs for the citizens of the state, region and nation.

Environmental and Natural Resource Economics

The mission of the Department of Environmental and Natural Resource Economics (ENRE) is to study and to help others learn about:

1. The social and institutional structures, policies and procedures for effective management and sustainable development of marine, coastal and terrestrial environments and ecosystems;
2. The sustainable development, management, use of natural resources and the markets in which they are exchanged;
3. The consequences of natural resource development, management, use and markets on society, quality of life, and the environment.

ENRE will emphasize environmental and natural resource issues and policies relevant to Rhode Island and Southern New England, and will address matters of national and global importance. ENRE will place a high value on scholarly research, graduate student training, experiential education and outreach. We will link with other environmental programs within the University in a multi-disciplinary effort when such interactions are warranted, and provide a framework through which our internationally known program can interact with other institutions nationally and globally.

Fisheries, Animal and Veterinary Science

The mission of the Department of Fisheries, Animal and Veterinary Science is to teach, conduct research, and offer extension service in the field of animal production. Production refers to the capture, culture, reproduction, management and health of animals in both natural and contrived environments. Animals include, but are not limited to, molluscan, crustacean, piscine, avian and mammalian species. Teaching is at both the undergraduate and graduate levels including physiology, pathology nutrition, genetics, endocrinology, aquaculture, and fisheries. Such a curriculum should ensure the development of technicians and scientists able to efficiently and responsibly produce many species of animals, and to protect them from environmental insult.

Geosciences

The Geosphere, composed of the physical and chemical Earth, its atmosphere and its water, is the center of the global ecosystem. It is the ultimate source and repository for all resources, as well as the substrate for the Biosphere. The Geosciences, therefore, are highly multidisciplinary, drawing from and contributing to all sciences. Unique among all other sciences, however, the Geosciences provide a key historical dimension for understanding current problems and developing their solutions.

The Geosciences Mission is tripartite:

- To prepare undergraduate and graduate students to pursue rewarding careers and assume leadership roles in the Earth Sciences;
- To advance in a substantive and internationally recognized fashion our understanding of the origin of, and processes affecting, the co-evolution of the Geosphere and Biosphere;
- To serve as a resource for the people of the State of Rhode Island and elsewhere to help them understand their geological heritage, and wisely use and conserve the Earth resource.

The Department specializes in the study of active processes that continue to shape the earth and its resources. These processes, however, are best understood and interpreted through the powerful

historical lens of the geosciences. This focus – balancing current process-based research in a historically aware context – strategically places us in an optimal position to develop multidisciplinary solutions to regional and national issues involving sustainability, conservation, and restoration of the Geosphere.

Marine Affairs

The mission of the Department of Marine Affairs is to provide leadership in the management of marine and coastal environments through distinction in teaching, research, and outreach programs. The department's teaching mission is accomplished through degree programs at the Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral levels. Through their coursework, independent research and internships, students develop the research, communication, and leadership skills necessary to make important professional contributions in the sustainable management of ocean and coastal resources. Department faculty engage in research on a wide range of issues related to the central mission of sustainable and effective ocean and coastal management. The faculty demonstrates "real world" applications of a Marine Affairs education through involvement with government, business, professional groups, and non-governmental organizations.

Natural Resources Science

The overall mission of the Department of Natural Resources Science is to conduct the highest quality research, teaching and outreach activities that address the science and management of natural resources. In pursuit of this mission, the Department uses a truly multidisciplinary approach to educate its students and to solve complex environmental problems. Additionally, the Department strives to achieve national and international excellence and recognition within its two primary focus areas: Wildlife and Conservation Biology and Ecosystem Science and Management. Within these focus areas we:

- Educate students in fundamental principles and techniques necessary to maintain biodiversity and ecosystem integrity,
- Conduct high caliber research to foster environmental quality and the sustainability of natural resources,
- Convey this knowledge to our peers, decision-makers, and citizens, and
- Accomplish our mission by using an integrative, interdisciplinary, multi-scale approach to address critical environmental issues facing society

Our faculty and staff work from a shared vision of achieving national and international prominence through:

- Seamless integration of teaching, research, and outreach,
- Recognition of the values and unique benefits provided by a diverse student body, faculty, and staff (Commitment to Diversity),
- The effectiveness of our graduates in advancing knowledge and solving environmental problems, and
- The practical value of the research we do to enhance environmental quality and the sustainability of natural resources.

Nutrition and Food Sciences

The mission of the Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences is to provide quality education for students training to become professionals in nutrition, dietetics, and food science and for other students

seeking information in these areas for their fields of study or personal use. The Department conducts research in nutrition and food science and places emphasis on training graduate and undergraduate students. The Department serves as a resource for professionals, industry and, where appropriate, the general public in areas related to food and nutrition.

Plant Sciences

VISION

The faculty, staff and students of the Plant Sciences Department strive to excel in teaching, research and outreach in the sciences of horticulture, turfgrass management, entomology, and plant pathology. Our research targets sustainable landscapes and agriculture, and vector-borne diseases. Our outreach efforts address the needs of the citizens and green industries of Rhode Island.

MISSION

The Department of Plant Sciences at the University of Rhode Island works to improve the environmental, economic and social sustainability of landscaped, agricultural, and natural ecosystems, and the control of vector borne diseases by ...

- discovering and disseminating new knowledge in plant biology, turfgrass management, entomology, and plant pathology
- delivering compelling education and experiences
- developing and applying useful methods, applications and understanding

Mission Statement: Graduate School of Oceanography

Mission Statement:

The Graduate School of Oceanography (GSO) of The University of Rhode Island (URI) is dedicated to excellence in marine-related scientific research, education, and public service. Our goal is to be the premier academic marine research institution in the world. While the ultimate purpose of the research program is to make significant contributions to the understanding of global earth systems, the intent of the academic component is to educate marine scientists to conduct fundamental research to meet the needs of Rhode Island, the nation, and the world. The institution's public service responsibility is to be a resource for the state and its citizens on marine matters, as well as contributing to the needs of the nation and of developing countries.

To achieve this goal will require modern facilities and instrumentation, a stimulating intellectual climate, an environment and infrastructure which encourages and rewards creative thinking in earth science, and a long-term strategy to guide growth and development. These attributes will in turn help attract the brightest and most imaginative faculty, students and staff. In the process of pursuing these goals, the intent is to be a source of pride and an economic asset to the University and to the State of Rhode Island. GSO strives to attain this preeminence without losing sight of humanistic values and aesthetic concerns.

Mission Statements: College of Human Science and Services

College Mission Statement:

We collaboratively create, disseminate, and apply knowledge to improve practice, interpret culture, inform policy, and develop economic, educational, health, material, and social resources for individuals, children, families, communities, business and industry.

Departmental Mission Statements:

Department of Communicative Disorders

The major mission of the Department of Communicative Disorders is to develop clinically competent speech-language pathologists and audiologists by providing master's and doctoral level students with a comprehensive curriculum and broad practical opportunities. In addition, the department provides undergraduate majors with an opportunity to achieve a Bachelor of Science degree and a sufficient background to become successful graduate students. Each department member is committed to research and service activities.

Department of Human Development and Family Studies

The mission of the Department of Human Development and Family Studies is to enhance diverse individual and family well-being through interdisciplinary, lifespan academic programs, research, service and outreach initiatives. Academic programs prepare students to function as leaders in educational, human service, and clinical settings. Integral to the mission is expansion of our leadership role in the discovery, evaluation, dissemination, and application of knowledge for the benefit of children and adults, families, and communities.

The essential components of the mission are:

- * understanding individual and family lifespan development and its implications in applied settings such as early childhood education programs, youth programs, colleges and universities, personal financial counseling, family therapy, senior centers and nursing homes;
- * understanding the cultural, economic, sociological and political forces that affect individuals and families;
- * embracing diversity and developing culturally competent faculty, staff, and students;
- * improving programs and services for children, adolescents, younger and older adults, college students, and families;
- * shaping public policy related to individuals and families through high quality teaching, research, service and outreach.

Department of Kinesiology

The Department of Kinesiology perceives its primary mission as providing undergraduate and graduate training programs in teacher education and the allied health sciences, conducting research, and delivering services throughout the state and community. Activities of the department focus on

improving both the quality of life and the ultimate work capacity of individuals through health and fitness promotion. The major goals of the department are:

1. Providing undergraduate and graduate professional preparation curricula in a variety of career areas within the broad field of health and physical education.
2. Providing a sound program for University students of all ages desiring to realize the health-related benefits of human movement, exercise, and fitness.
3. Providing leadership and service in health promotion, physical education, and sports on the state and national levels by conducting scientific research and scholarly writing, initiating innovative life-span programs, furnishing leadership in professional organizations, and providing consulting and resource services to the state and the University community.

Department of Physical Therapy

We are dedicated to graduating doctors of physical therapy competent in providing physical therapy to a variety of patient/client populations in Rhode Island and nationwide; who value the need for and use of evidence in practice and ; who are committed to professional development through life long learning; and are active contributors to their communities. The Program aspires to advance the theory and practice of PT and provide service to the University, State, and nation. The Program works to promote the profession, interacting communities and related disciplines.

School of Education

The mission of the University of Rhode Island's School of Education is to prepare future professionals to be exemplary practitioners and scholars. To achieve this mission, faculty seek to generate, use, and disseminate knowledge about teaching, learning, and human development and strive to establish and maintain partnerships for the purpose of addressing and resolving critical educational problems that impede and impact the learning of children and youth.

Department of Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design

The mission of the Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design (TMD) Department in the College of Human Science and Services at the University of Rhode Island is to create and extend knowledge about the production, distribution, and consumption of textile, apparel, and related products both in Rhode Island and the northeastern United States, and beyond to the global community. Undergraduate and master's-level graduate students prepare for careers as professionals in business, industry, education, government and cultural institutions. The Department's efforts are aligned with the regional textile and apparel industry: (1) specialized textile manufacturing, particularly quality control, dyeing and finishing, (2) production and marketing of textile, apparel, and interior furnishings products, (3) design of apparel and interiors, and (4) the interpretation and conservation of historic textiles and costume.

The mission is achieved by offering a curriculum that includes general education and opportunities for experiential learning to complement the major courses. The mission depends on a faculty current in their sub-disciplines and active in research. To augment both research and instruction, TMD maintains a textile gallery, a historic textile and costume collection, and laboratories for textile science, textile conservation, and apparel studies.

Mission Statement: College of Nursing

College Mission Statement

The College of Nursing is committed to excellence in nursing education, clinical practice, nursing research, and community service. The College prepares nursing students to be effective clinicians and leaders who will work to improve the health and health care of the people of Rhode Island and beyond, and contribute to the nursing profession through professional, scholarly, legal, and political activities.

The Baccalaureate Program prepares individuals to assume the role of professional nurses who can practice in a variety of health care settings. The master's program prepares nurses to assume leadership roles as advanced practice nurses, educators, and administrators. The doctoral program prepares nursing scholars and researchers who can contribute to the advancement of nursing knowledge and improvement of clinical practice.

The faculty is committed to promoting students' ethical development, critical thinking, responsible practice, an attitude of scholarship, and motivation for life-long learning. Students are sought from diverse cultural economic and ethnic backgrounds. Close student-faculty interaction is fostered and students are viewed as partners in the educative process. Interdisciplinary partnerships and research involving faculty, students, and clinicians from within and outside the University are strongly encouraged.

The faculty is proactive in both shaping and responding to changing health care needs and changing nursing roles within society through collaboration with health care and government agencies, professional organizations, and other educational institutions. The College strives for excellence in accomplishing its mission through cooperative governance and ongoing evaluation.

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Mission Statements: College of Pharmacy

College Mission Statement

The mission of the College of Pharmacy is to educate Doctor of Pharmacy degree students in the pharmaceutical sciences and in patient care, to train Masters and Doctoral degree students in pharmaceutical and biomedical research, and to provide service in these disciplines at state, national and international levels..

Departmental Mission Statements

Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences

The mission of the Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences is to educate Doctor of Pharmacy degree students in the pharmaceutical sciences, to train Masters and Doctoral degree students in pharmaceutical and biomedical research, and to provide service in these disciplines at state, national and international levels.

Goals

Academics

- Educate professional degree students in Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences (PharmD., BS Nursing, BS Pharmaceutical Engineering)
- Educate and train professional and graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows to lead in the advancement of scientific discovery in the biomedical and pharmaceutical sciences toward a greater understanding of human health
- Innovate in the development and delivery of pharmaceutical education.
- Provide experiential learning sites that broaden professional degree students' knowledge base
- Pursue and develop novel resources for the recruitment and support of a diverse student and faculty body

Research

- Recruit and retain dedicated, expert, and productive faculty to educate, train, and inspire all students, and to generate new knowledge for the advancement of human health
- Mentor junior faculty in the pursuit of excellence in research
- Establish and maintain state-of-the-art research facilities to improve the competitiveness of faculty research programs
- Develop a nationally competitive extramurally funded research program
- Encourage collaborative research between faculty in the biomedical, pharmaceutical and clinical sciences

Service

- Foster a strong sense of community, caring and respect between all students, faculty and staff in the Department
- Encourage all faculty and students to play an active role in local and national pharmaceutical and biomedical organizations
- Provide service to the broader scientific community at national and international levels

Department of Pharmacy Practice

The Department of Pharmacy Practice is committed to excellence in teaching, scholarship, and service. Through innovative teaching methods, the Department provides the skills necessary to foster critical thinking and the optimal use of medications, while promoting professionalism. The graduate program trains students to conduct and advance health systems research. The faculty and graduate students initiate and collaborate in research focusing on the improvement of patient care and public health while incorporating current research findings into daily practice. The Department provides leadership and service to the University, the community, and healthcare professionals through the provision of patient care, educational activities, and participation in professional and governmental organizations.

The Mission focuses on 3 areas:

Education

The Department of Pharmacy Practice is responsible for the education of pharmacy students in the acquisition, integration and application of new pharmacotherapeutic knowledge to the care of all

patients. The educational mission is accomplished through teaching pharmacotherapeutics and traditional practice skills to pharmacy students in the classroom, as well as through the provision of early and advanced practice experiences, also known as the "capstone" experiences, at both established and innovative practice sites. The Department is committed to the use of innovative technology to advance the educational mission and to the development of elective tracks that provide graduates with state-of-the-art knowledge and experiences. The development of skills emphasizing professionalism and personal responsibility, life-long learning, communication, critical thinking and decision making are the primary focus of the educational programs of the department. The mentoring of pharmacy students to reach their full potential as competent and caring pharmacists, educated and ethical citizens, and future leaders respected both in their profession and community is the core tenet of the department.

The Department of Pharmacy Practice supports pharmacy residencies and fellowships to provide pharmacists with opportunities to advance their competency as practitioners, educators and scholars to the benefit of the citizens of Rhode Island and beyond.

Scholarship

The Department of Pharmacy Practice is responsible to the profession and society for generating, disseminating and applying research that advances patient care, the profession of pharmacy and the education of pharmacy students. The research mission is accomplished through scholarship that generates new knowledge on pharmacotherapy and health promotion, develops new practice models and includes the scholarship of teaching. The Department is committed to creating an environment that supports and respects diverse programs of scholarship and encourages the highest quality of research by all faculty, fellows, residents and students.

Service

The Department of Pharmacy Practice is responsible for providing leadership in the promotion of rational and effective pharmacotherapy that advances the quality of healthcare in Rhode Island, as well as regionally and nationally. The Department also serves the College and University through leadership and participation in activities of the entire academic community. The service mission is accomplished through activities ranging from direct patient care, education of other health professionals, and development of innovative practice models to leadership on boards of trustees of health systems, and University and legislative committees, as well as through other professional, healthcare and governmental organizations.