

Update on Arts & Sciences Strategic Planning

David S. Brown (Chair of Committee)

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The Process and Committee

Last January, Dean Steve Leigh and Chair of the Arts & Sciences Council Rob Rupert began constituting a committee to draft a strategic plan for the College of Arts & Sciences. The committee first met on May 4th. Through the summer Brown met with individual members of the committee as well as with campus leadership to help define the A&S committee's relationship to the Academic Futures enterprise.

Member	Department
Jean Balch	MCDB (staff)
Lisa Barlow	Baker RAP
Maureen McNamara	Undergraduate Student
Anthony Kelly	Graduate Student
Kimberly Bowman	Development (staff)
Lori Peek	IBS and Sociology
Boswell Wing	Geological Sciences
Masano Yamashita	French and Italian
Laura Michaelis-Cummings	Linguistics
Markus Pflaum	Math
Terra McKinnish	Economics
Erika Randall	Theater and Dance
Barbara Demmig-Adams	EBIO
Roy Parker	Chemistry
Joanna Lambert	Anthropology
Nils Halverson	Astrophysics
David Brown	Political Science

Table 1: Arts & Sciences Strategic Planning Committee. This committee was created by the Arts & Sciences Council. Committee members were approved by the Arts & Sciences Executive Committee.

Progress

The committee held an all-day retreat on August 24. During the retreat, the committee heard from Provost Moore, Vice Provost and Associate Vice Chancellor Jeff Cox, and Dean Jim White. The committee also began the process of creating a vision statement. Since the retreat, the committee has held three meetings and plans to hold full meetings on a weekly basis through October.

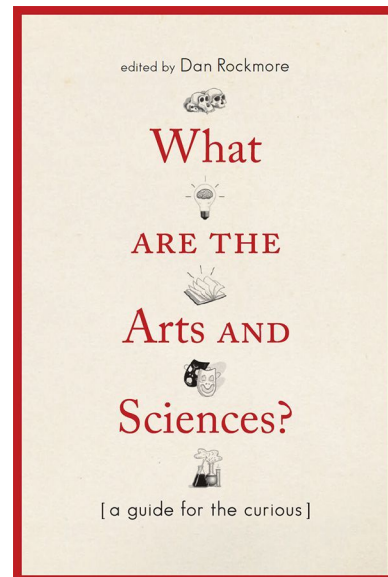


Figure 1: This should be required of all Arts & Sciences Faculty if not of all students

Below is a draft of a vision statement created on September 21st.

“The College of Arts & Sciences envisions a world filled with critical, creative, and compassionate thinkers.”

— Strategic Planning Committee

The words *creative* and *critical* signal to us our desire to make explicit the importance of both the arts and sciences. Scholarly work that is both art and science is more powerful, effective, and influential. How we organize our teaching and research in ways that combine to encourage and develop a true liberal arts education is central. *Compassion* reflects our focus on ways to shape the relationships between faculty, staff, and students, our sensitivity to those around us, and to fostering diversity in all dimensions.

Process

We are ahead of schedule. The committee is currently moving from the vision statement to articulating a mission statement which will list the concrete and measurable goals for the next 3-5 years. This exercise involves deciding how to impact our world as envisioned. Specifically, what activities can we undertake to develop critical, creative, and compassionate thinkers? Over the next few weeks, we'll start to develop specific goals we can use to achieve the broader vision. Once those goals are established, we will embark on exactly how we plan to achieve them. In November, the committee will begin to work in depth through subcommittees on specific actions (the nuts and bolts). By clearly articulating the vision and then the goals, it will become clear which action should be taken to achieve them.

Arts & Sciences with Academic Futures

The Arts & Sciences Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) and the Campus-wide Academic Futures Committee (AFC) will maintain communication through several means: 1) Members of each committee will be paired to exchange ideas and maintain lines of communication; 2) several joint meetings will be held with a subgroup from each committee. The goal is to develop a direct line of communication between the two committees.

The most important procedural aspect of the Arts & Sciences strategic planning enterprise is transparency. David Brown and Jeff Cox will be meeting with all college and campus units that request a meeting. As the SPC's work progresses, Brown will give regular updates to the C&D's meeting and to the ASC. In addition to the five townhalls already conducted campus-wide, meetings with students, staff, and faculty will be held in October and November both to keep the campus community aware of developments and to solicit feedback. A website will be constructed on the Arts & Sciences web page by month's end to report developments, upcoming meetings, and to solicit feedback. Faculty, staff, and students can also contact Brown at dsbrown@colorado.edu with any questions, comments, or concerns. Strategic planning is an open and dynamic process, any ideas or requests to engage with the process are welcomed and we are open to any ideas on how to share and learn with our college's community.