

# MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS

## Our Public Affairs Mission

As a public, comprehensive university system with a mission in Public Affairs, Missouri State University's purpose is to develop educated persons while achieving five goals: democratizing society, incubating new ideas, imagining Missouri's future, making Missouri's future, and modeling ethical and effective behavior. The College of Arts and Letters is committed to fulfilling this mission through the practices of our academic disciplines and the efforts of our faculty, staff, and students.

Missouri State University's Public Affairs mission is enacted through a comprehensive focus on three broad themes: Community Engagement, Cultural Competence, and Ethical Leadership. These themes inform learning, scholarship, and service among the arts and letters disciplines and reflect the College's integral role in fulfilling the University's mission. We will hold one another accountable for modeling community engagement, cultural competence, and ethical leadership in our professional work and in our interactions with our colleagues, students, and communities.



### MISSION

*The College of Arts and Letters promotes learning, scholarship, and service to the broader community in all aspects of human communication — spoken, written, visual, musical, dramatic, and electronically mediated.*

### MISSION GOALS

#### **Advance knowledge and application**

Faculty, staff and students will advance knowledge in and application of their academic disciplines, including original scholarship and creative activity, applied scholarship and community engagement, and the scholarship of teaching and learning. We will make meaningful and original contributions to our disciplines and to the broader society.

#### **Foster academic achievement**

We intend that our students meet the highest standards of accomplishment in their respective disciplines and that they achieve their individual educational goals. We aim for our programs to be recognized within Missouri and nationally for their excellence.

#### **Sustain liberal arts education**

We will lead Missouri State University's commitment to providing students a liberal education, both as the basis for mastery of disciplinary and professional studies and as an orientation to reflective thought and lifelong learning.

#### **Provide access to creative and intellectual capital**

We will extend our resources beyond the traditional classroom and campus boundaries, providing educational access through distance education, innovative delivery formats, and direct outreach to communities. We also will bring unique opportunities for learning and ideas exchange to the campus and surrounding communities.

#### **Engage local and global diversity**

We will strive to create and sustain a diverse college environment while also providing faculty, staff, and students opportunities to broaden their own cultural experiences. Students will learn cultural competence as it pertains to the wide range of forms of diversity present in societies.

#### **Enrich cultural opportunities**

Through our own programs and through community collaborations and partnerships we will enrich the cultural life and quality of communication here in the region and across the state.

#### **Facilitate understanding and dialogue**

Through scholarship, creative activity, and teaching, we will explore and promote the ways in which studies in the arts and letters can facilitate understanding and dialogue among diverse groups and cultures.

### Operational Commitments

Allocation of resources must support the College's mission and goals. The following commitments guide our planning and resource decisions.

- **Recruit, retain, and reward highly qualified faculty, staff and administrators.**
- **Identify, recruit, and retain qualified and motivated students.**
- **Secure and maintain adequate program facilities.**
- **Provide necessary resources and assistance to guide students to degree completion.**
- **Provide adequate personnel and operating support to undergraduate and graduate programs.**
- **Assist programs, faculty, staff, and students in identifying and securing external support.**
- **Provide resources and infrastructure to support outreach and access of college resources to external constituencies.**

