



HOWARD
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College of Arts and Sciences

Strategic Planning 2020-2025 Update

MARCH 10, 2020

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

CHAIRS' ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING



Outline

- **Dean Patterson's Vision**
 - Taskforce Membership
 - Charge to the COAS Strategic Planning Taskforce
- **COAS Strategic Planning Process**
 - Increasing awareness
 - Stakeholder Survey – online
 - Public Group Meetings: 2 Town Hall Meetings, 1 Listening Post Meeting
 - Private Group Meetings: 2 Focus Group Meetings
 - New Mission and Vision – DRAFT
 - Themes Developed from the Feedback
 - Emerging Centers of Excellence
- **Modernization of the Academy**
 - Academic Excellence
 - Experiential Learning
- **Board of Visitors**
- **Conclusion and Discussion**



COAS Strategic Planning Taskforce

Facilitator: Kimberly Jeffries-Leonard

COAS Faculty:

HUMANITIES	NATURAL SCIENCES	SOCIAL SCIENCES
Rachel Watson Assistant Professor <i>English</i>	Dinari Harris Assistant Professor <i>Chemistry</i>	Amy Yeboah Assistant Professor <i>Afro-American Studies</i>
Kola Abimbola Associate Professor <i>Philosophy</i>	Janelle Burke Associate Professor <i>Biology</i>	Terri Adams Associate Professor <i>Sociology and Criminology</i>
Mercedes Tibbits Professor <i>World Languages and Culture</i>	Quinton Williams (Taskforce Chair) Professor <i>Physics and Astronomy</i>	Nikki Taylor Professor <i>History</i>

COAS Staff:

Tanisha Eaton

Benita King

Traci Wyatt

COAS Students:

Autumn McNeill

Nyjohn Washington



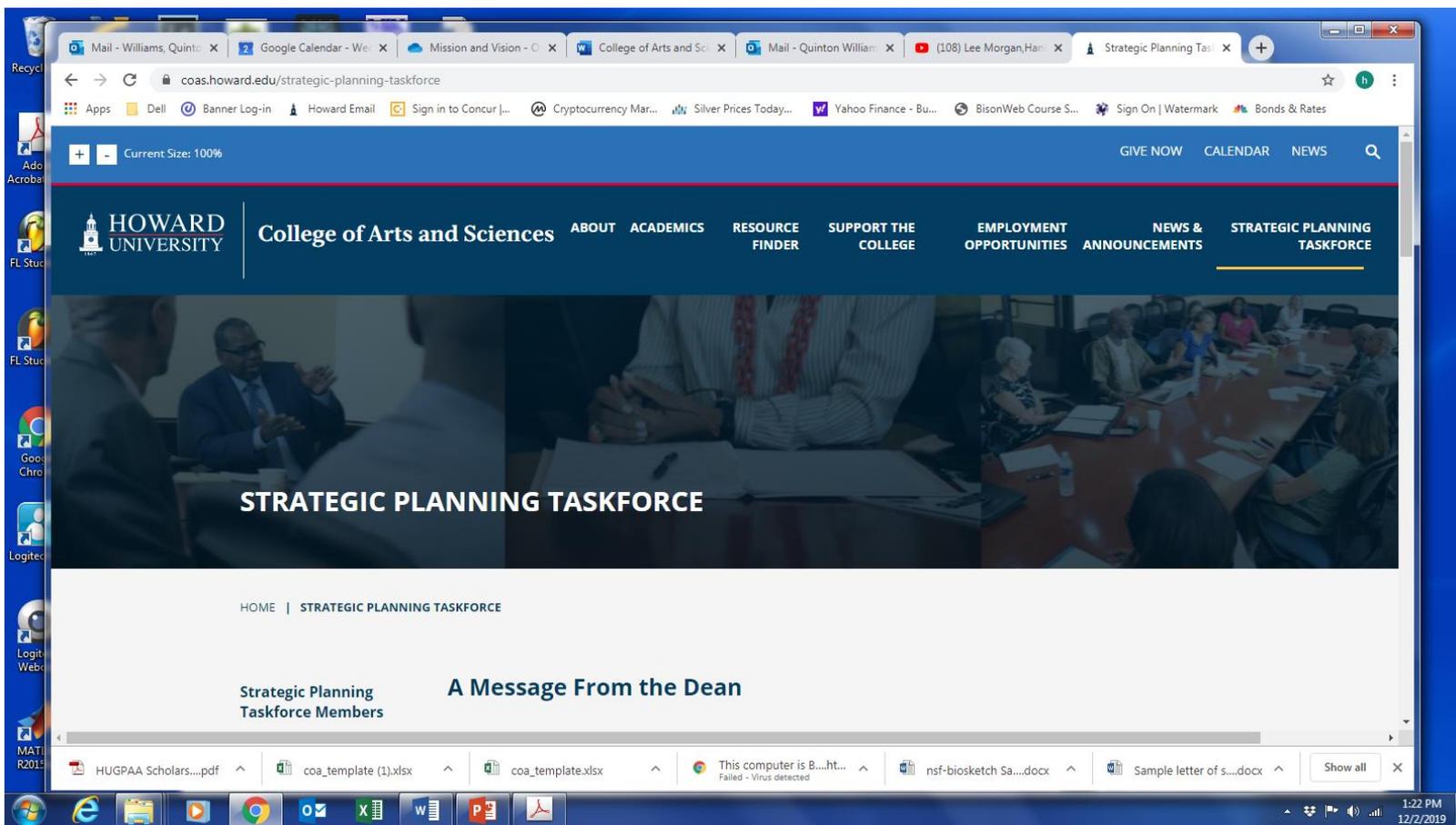
Charge to the Taskforce

- 1) To develop and prioritize strategies to modernize academic programs within COAS.**
- 2) To foster innovative interdisciplinary research for the time period covering academic years 2020-2025.**
- 3) To solidify experiential learning throughout the College.**
- 4) To succeed with development activities via the support of a vibrant Board of Visitors.**



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COAS Strategic Planning Survey



Nearly 300 completed surveys were received.

Survey location online:



**NOW
CLOSED.**

Email address:
COAS_StrategicPlanning@howard.edu



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Mission - DRAFT

In accordance with the mission of Howard University, the College of Arts and Sciences provides students with a distinguished education that facilitates self-discovery and preparation to lead, create, discover, and apply knowledge to real-world problems locally and globally.

Our liberal arts education contributes solutions to human, social, and scientific problems, particularly in the African diaspora and under-resourced communities. Discernably embedded in the humanistic, natural, and social scientific scholarship generated and disseminated throughout the College is critical thinking and critical consciousness.

With a wide range of degree programs, emphasis on synthesis of knowledge and a sense of personal and social responsibility, the College of Arts and Sciences provides a haven for intellectual curiosity and a nurturing environment for culturally diverse students of all academic pursuits.



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Key Points in COAS Draft Mission Statement

Provides students with distinguished education that

- facilitates self-discovery and preparation to:

- *Lead * Create * Discover

- *Apply knowledge to local and global real-world problems

- contributes solutions to human, social and scientific problems

- generates and disseminates critical thinking and critical consciousness

- creates a haven for intellectual curiosity and a nurturing environment for all students



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Vision - DRAFT

The Howard University College of Arts and Sciences strives for preeminence among liberal arts institutions by educating the whole individual for personal, civic, and professional success. The College is committed to offering powerful learning experiences, through independent research, service-learning projects, and locally and nationally based internships, as well as through study-abroad opportunities. We will continue building a culture of academic excellence and rigor to solve local and global problems, particularly those that impact peoples of African descent and other under-resourced communities.



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Key Points in COAS Draft Vision Statement

- Preeminence in arts and sciences
- Educating the whole individual
- Offering a variety of domestic and international learning experiences
- Solving local and global problems
- Academic excellence
- A leader in research



COAS Survey Findings

Established Themes

Social Justice	Science and Technology
Finances	Education
Environmental Issues/(health research)	Culture
Globalization/Internationalization	Diversity and Inclusion



Centers of Excellence

- **Definition of “COAS Center of Excellence”**

A COAS Center of Excellence is an interdisciplinary and interdivisional center that focuses on research, best practices, and training, guided by “rules of change,” and led by one of three Divisions but incorporates all Divisions in its focus area.



Criteria for Centers of Excellence

- 1) A Center should have the potential to make a significant impact on a grand challenge of the 21st century;**
- 2) A Center should have enough ‘space/elasticity’ to accommodate interdisciplinary research and education by faculty from among the three future COAS Divisions (i.e., Humanities, Natural Sciences and Social Sciences) to make them truly interdivisional;**
- 3) A Center should have high potential of attracting external funding for its ongoing operation and for being a significant contributing enterprise for COAS.**



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Center for Environmental Sustainability, Human Development and Global Justice

Grand Challenge: The Center aims to develop new advancements and approaches in the production and distribution of environmental and societal resources. As climate change continues to alter the environment and impact lives, a myriad of challenges must be overcome to ensure environmental sustainability regarding energy, food, land, water and shelter. Additionally, for a world population of nearly 8 billion people, access to high quality education and adequate health care also remains limited. Checks and balances are needed to ensure that diversity, equity and inclusion are systemically incorporated throughout the governing structure as resources and access to education and health care are provisioned. Faculty and students conducting research within this Center will use scientific methods and historical analysis to examine the broad impact of environmental variability. Center participants will blend different modalities of developing and delivering resources to help ensure that people of the African diaspora find equality and justice for the overall development and elevation of humanity. The work of the Center will also consider how narratives regarding these concerns circulate and shape how we conceptualize these issues more broadly.



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Center for Human Security and Artificial Intelligence

Grand Challenge: This Center aims to examine the impact and intersection of artificial intelligence (AI) on human security. More societal and economic matters are being relegated to computer systems able to perform tasks that normally require human intelligence. As such, decision rules and codes of ethics must be applied to ensure that preventative measures are in place to avoid the historical racial inequalities as these tools are implemented globally. The implementation of AI via machine learning, automation, and data analytics across industries, coupled with a reduction in required human labor is already disproportionately impacting communities of color in intended and unintended ways.

A central focus of this Center is to identify and address the impact of AI on the widespread and cross-cutting challenges to the survival, livelihood, freedom, empowerment, and dignity of all people. The global labor force is being profoundly affected by these technologies. Through research, applied and experiential learning opportunities, faculty and students will address the application of AI and data analytics on the one hand, and human security and diversity through process control and inclusive policies on the other as they impact people of the African diaspora.



■ What is meant by ‘modernization’?

- Academic programs should be in alignment with contemporary issues and equipped to provide knowledge and skills that are relevant for the current and future workforce.

■ What are examples of modernization?

- Curricula reform, updated course numbering scheme, instructional aids and learning resources (in-class and on-line), contemporary scientific equipment in instructional and research labs, updated library/information/media resources, infusion of new skills that are highly valued and expected in today’s workplace, incorporates leadership and team building skills incorporating diversity, equity and inclusion awareness.



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Academic Excellence

FEEDBACK:

Teacher training in pedagogy is needed to help improve academic excellence. Provide training via the Centers of Excellence & CTLA. Provide technical help for faculty to integrate more technology in the classroom and to help with online course delivery and initiatives.

Explore the concept of forming a corps of online-only faculty.

Consider better online teaching platform alternatives to Blackboard.

Review the “Divisional Courses” format for ways to streamline the curriculum.

Unpack the “Whole-Person” theme. What does it include?

Integrate ROTC leadership development concepts or practices into the undergraduate/graduate student experience.

Consider forming a Division of International Studies to work situations with an international component.



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Experiential Learning

FEEDBACK:

Consider forming an Office of Experiential Learning

- Sustainability is possible through grants
- Utilize the alumni network, Office of External Affairs, Career Services and the Bunche Center (for study abroad)
- Look at the School of Business as a possible model

Revisit the idea of Senior Comprehensives to be used as a checkpoint for internships and/or service learning.

Integrate service learning/internships/co-ops within the curriculum modernization efforts.

Perhaps utilize the Bunche Center to vet/evaluate the students' study abroad experience so that departments can issue grades.



Board of Visitors

- Focus on Board composition
- Cover an array of disciplines
- Sectors to consider for potential Board members:

• Industry/Corporate					• National Greek-letter Sororities and Fraternities				
• Government (Local (DC), State and Federal)					• National Organizations (Links, NAACP, National Urban League, etc.)				
• International Affairs (other non-US academic institutions, UN, etc.)					• HU Alumni				
• Federal Agencies					• Banking				
• Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO)					• Major Research Institutes				
• Non-Profit Entities					• Faith Based Community				
• Foundations (Public and Private)					• Military				



Next Steps

- **Phase I – Data Collection and Analysis** Oct 2019 – Feb 2020
 - Focus Group Meetings – Jan. 28, 2020
 - Focus Group Meetings – Feb. 2020
- **Phase II – Data Synthesis and Plan Development** Feb 2020 – Mar 2020
 - Synthesize all inputs and develop the Strategic Plan
- **Phase III – Writing of the Strategic Plan** Apr 2020
- **Deliver the Final Strategic Plan** May 1, 2020
- **Dissolve Taskforce** May 8, 2020



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Conclusion and Discussion

THANK YOU!