Office of the Dean of Education and Behavioral Sciences

Office or Department of Academic Affairs

Administrative Unit Assessment Report Information

Year Reporting: FY21 (July 2020 – June 2021)

Prepared on: 8/5/2021 9:40:52 AM

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Department Mission and Goals

The mission and goals of the department should be consistent over a 5 year period, although some institutional changes may necessitate and prompt a change in mission or goals for specific departments. In this section, you will report the mission statement for your department as well as the long term goals (5 year range) for the department.

6. What is the mission statement for this department/area? Your mission should explain why the department/area exists and who it serves.	The School is a dynamic academic community that brings faculty, students, and community stakeholders together to inspire and empower the next generation of professionals, practitioners, and scholars.

7. What are the goals for this department? These should be the "big things" the department/area intends to accomplish within 5 years.	1. Rigorous academic programming - four new graduate degrees by Fall 2022 (Criminal Justice, Education x2, Social Work, and/or M.A. in Psychology); new "completion degree" - B.S. in IDS; new B.S. in Sociology; participate in MGA Direct - at least two programs (Psychology and Criminal Justice). ALL graduates of the School will have at least ONE "signature experience" (undergraduate research, service learning, internship, peer mentoring, etc.) by graduation. 2. Disciplinary, interdisciplinary and applied scholarship - at least five publications co-authored by faculty from two or more disciplines by 2022; found and launch a scholarly journal focused on interdisciplinary research and perspectives in social justice – Southeastern Journal of Social Justice and Equity (tentative/working title); CARE center generating more than $250,000 annual revenue by 2022 with 5 faculty as associate members (revenue estimate revised down, July 2019); Complete

	launch and rollout of MGRACE - Middle Georgia Regional Aging Center of Excellence; emphasis on school social work, school psychology, and an interdisciplinary approach to drug and alcohol or other area of counseling in faculty collaborations/applied scholarship (revised topic/area, July 2019).
	3. Innovative partnerships - with at least five school districts in our service area, including our innovative Interns as Teachers program, buildout and maturing of pre-college academic pipelines in education, criminal justice and psychology. Social Work faculty to collaborate and take a lead role in the MaconAIM social services collaborative in Macon-Bibb. Continue School's involvement with and work on Macon-Bibb/AARP/WHO Age-Friendly Initiative. CARE center partnering with multiple service agencies in region to work on identified problems. MGA Thrive Summit follow-up and continuance – partnering with sister institutions of higher education to advance the Middle Georgia region.
	4. Community engagement - THE regional community resource center for drug/alcohol counseling training, research on successful aging, teacher preparation, social work education, civic engagement/participation and homeschool resource center. The MGA Thrive Summit, CARE and MGRACE centers each has a significant outreach/community engagement focus; Southeastern Journal of Social Justice has regional presence/impact.

Objectives

Each year, every department should identify objectives the department hopes to accomplish in the next year. These should align with departmental goals and the MGA strategic plan. In the next section you will be reporting on the objectives you set and whether or not you achieved them in FY21. Later in the document you will report on objectives you hope to accomplish in the coming fiscal year, FY22.

Objective 1

8. Objective 1: What was this department's first objective for this fiscal year? Objectives should be specific, measurable, and achievable within one year.	5% enrollment growth, Fall 2021 vs. Fall 2020 - credit hour production and # of majors.
9. Objective 1: Detail how your department measured this objective? (Survey, budget number, number of participants, jobs completed, measurable time and/or effort)	Enrollment tracking via automated reports
10. Objective 1: What was your target outcome for this objective? (1.e. 80% participation, 5% enrollment growth, 7% change in engagement)	5% increase in # of declared majors; 5% increase in credit hour production (Fall 2021 vs. Fall 2020)
11. Objective 1: At what level did the department/area achieve on this objective? (This should be a number, i.e. 82%, 6%, 345 attendees, 75% engagement)	Comparison of enrollment report for 7/30/21 vs. 7/31/20 shows a 15.3% decline in credit hour production for our School. The likewise comparison for count of majors shows only a 1.9% decrease in # of declared majors in our School.
12. Objective 1: Did your department meet this objective?	The department did not meet this objective.
13. Objective 1: What did your department learn from working toward this objective? What changes will you make based on this effort next year?	We have strong enrollment of our continuing students (currently 71% retention for PSCJ, for example, for Fall 2021); the dramatic decline in credit hour production is likely related to a decrease in the # of freshman the University is experiencing this Fall.

Objective 2

14. Objective 2: What was this department's second objective for this fiscal year? Objectives should be specific, measurable, and achievable within one year.	Create and Launch "Southeastern Journal of Social Justice"
15. Objective 2: Detail how your department measured this objective? (Survey, budget number, number of participants, jobs completed, measurable time and/or effort)	Timeline and Progression of activities related to creation of this journal.
16. Objective 2: What was your target outcome for this objective? (1.e. 80% participation, 5% enrollment growth, 7% change in engagement)	Journal launched by Summer 2021; RFP drafted and sent out by August 2021
17. Objective 2: At what level did the department/area achieve on this objective? (This should be a number, i.e. 82%, 6%, 345 attendees, 75% engagement)	75 percent
18. Objective 2: Did your department meet this objective?	The department met this objective.
19. Objective 2: What did your department learn from working toward this objective? What changes will you make based on this effort next year?	We have created the Journal, including registering it with the Library of Congress. We need to complete the formation of the Editorial Board, and draft/disseminate an RFP in the next 6 weeks. These tasks are on-track.

Objective 3

20. Objective 3: What was this department's third objective for this fiscal year? Objectives should be specific, measurable, and achievable within one year.	Implement quality assurance system for online programs offered by the School.
21. Objective 3: Detail how your department measured this objective? (Survey, budget number, number of participants, jobs completed, measurable time and/or effort)	Initiation and implementation of this assessment system for our online programs.
22. Objective 3: What was your target outcome for this objective? (1.e. 80% participation, 5% enrollment growth, 7% change in engagement)	Full rollout by Spring 2021 semester.
23. Objective 3: At what level did the department/area achieve on this objective? (This should be a number, i.e. 82%, 6%, 345 attendees, 75% engagement)	N/A
24. Objective 3: Did your department meet this objective?	The department did not meet this objective.
25. Objective 3: What did your department learn from working toward this objective? What changes will you make based on this effort next year?	Our Online Program Coordinator had resigned at the very beginning of this assessment cycle. We're still piloting the measure we created. Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic made this work more essential at the same time that it made the work impossible due to time/energy/resource reallocation. Work will continue into the coming academic year.

Objective 4

26. Objective 4: What was this department's fourth objective for this fiscal year? Objectives should be specific, measurable, and achievable within one year.	Complete inventory of signature experiences/notes in upper-level courses across the School - target 75%.
27. Objective 4: Detail how your department measured this objective? (Survey, budget number, number of participants, jobs completed, measurable time and/or effort)	Inventory of courses vs. # of defined signature experiences/notes.
28. Objective 4: What was your target outcome for this objective? (1.e. 80% participation, 5% enrollment growth, 7% change in engagement)	Assessment of this survey to 100% of our courses in the School.
29. Objective 4: At what level did the department/area achieve on this objective? (This should be a number, i.e. 82%, 6%, 345 attendees, 75% engagement)	0 percent
30. Objective 4: Did your department meet this objective?	The department did not meet this objective.
31. Objective 4: What did your department learn from working toward this objective? What changes will you make based on this effort next year?	This work was not completed this year - there were simply too many other demands on the time and energy of faculty, staff and administrators. This work will continue into the upcoming academic year.

Future Plans

32. Please identify and detail three to four measurable objectives for the next fiscal year. In listing the objectives, please use the format shown in these examples.1) The Department of X will improve services levels by 5% as measured by our satisfaction survey. 2) The department of X will provide training in ABC for at least 73 MGA faculty and staff.	1. 5% overall enrollment growth for our School's programs. 2. Creation of editorial board and RFP for Social Justice journal. 3. Rollout of quality assurance program for all online courses. 4. Completion of signature experience inventory 5. Focus on getting at least 10% of our declared majors to adopt a minor or certificate add-on

Open Box for Assessment Comments

33. Based on this assessment, please share your thoughts on the current status and future direction of this department or area. Use this space to summarize overall use of assessment results for continuous improvement and open text box for assessment comments:	Our School is progressing nicely in terms of building a shared culture that emphasizes academic experiences, faculty care and concern for students and community/stakeholder engagement. Our enrollment picture is looking strong across our School's portfolio of curricular offerings. We also have smart, caring and hard-working leadership. The future is bright for our School, even as we face the uncertainty that is to come with the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.
37. If the COVID-19 pandemic impacted this assessment cycle, please provide specific details below.	Time, energy and motivation of faculty and staff was constantly top-of-mind and impacted operations on a daily basis this past year. We focused on critical tasks (teaching, enrollment) and slowed our progress intentionally on several of our "growth initiatives".

MGA's Strategic Plan

34. Based on your goals and objectives listed above please indicate their connection with MGA's Strategic Plan (https://www.mga.edu/about/docs/Strategic_Plan_Overall_DB.pdf) by checking all associated and relevant Imperatives / Strategies from the list below. (Check all the apply)	Grow Enrollment with Purpose 1. Expand and enrich the face to face student experience, Grow Enrollment with Purpose 2. Expand and enrich online instruction into new markets, Own Student Success 4. Expand student engagement and experiential learning, Build Shared Culture 7. Cultivate engagement with its local communities
35. Please indicate which of the following actions you have taken as a result of the 2020/2021 Assessment Cycle (Note: These actions are documented in reports, memos, emails, meeting minutes, or other directives within the reporting area) (Check all the apply)	Disseminating/Discussing Assessment Results/Feedback to Appropriate Members of the Campus Community, Faculty or Staff Support: Professional Development Activities, Trainings, Workshops, Technical Assistance, Request for Additional Financial or Human Resources, Making Improvements to Teaching Approach, Course Design, Curriculum, Scheduling, other

Other

36. Please indicate (if appropriate) any local, state, or national initiatives (academic or otherwise) that are influential in the operations, or goals, and objectives of your unit. (Complete College Georgia, USG High Impact Practice Initiative, LEAP, USG Momentum Year, Low-Cost No-Cost Books, etc)	Our School is engaged in work related to all of the above-mentioned initiatives. Additionally, we undertook during this past year a voluntary quasi-accreditation visit related to fostering diversity in all aspects of educator preparation through the nationally-acclaimed group, Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity.
38. Mindset Update (Academic Deans ONLY) Please provide an update on the implementation of your school based mindset plan/strategy. Include any adjustments to metrics for the AY20/21 as well as outcomes associated with your appraisal of your schools activities.	Our Gateways to Completion (G2C) work has been recognized at the State and National level at this point. Our professional advisors have grown tremendously in their knowledge and skillset over this past year. We continue to explore undergraduate teaching assistants. Our School-wide communication with academic planning, advising and career guidance for our students has grown more coherent and streamlined.