

Kennesaw State University
College of the Arts
Department of Theatre & Performance Studies
2013-2017 Strategic Plan

Vision Statement

The Department of Theatre and Performance Studies aspires to be a leading force in the innovative fusion of theatre and performance studies. We envision expanding the impact of our projects and programming into regional, national, and international arenas through the creative and scholarly work of our students and our faculty.

Mission Statement

The Department of Theatre and Performance Studies cultivates scholar-artists who engage in rigorous research, critical investigation, and creative artistry. We prepare our graduates to be artists, scholars, and entrepreneurs in a variety of professions where their creativity, critical thinking, and communication skills make significant contributions to local and global communities.

- We combine the breadth of a liberal arts education with the depth of professional theatre and performance training.
- We equip students with a diverse portfolio of transferable skills.
- We witness, investigate, and create performances across cultures ranging from the traditional theatrical canon to new works, adaptations, and the avant-garde.
- We foster the development of original creative work, research, and scholarship.
- We incorporate and honor diverse voices.
- We integrate local, regional, national, and international engagement activities into our curricular and co-curricular programming.
- We approach the study and creation of performance as a method of analysis, a mode of inquiry, and an aesthetic act.
- We integrate a variety of pedagogical methods including digital technologies, classical training, and experimental performance.
- We stimulate entrepreneurial thinking.
- We promote collaboration across academic and creative contexts.

GOAL ONE:

Promote excellence and innovation in education through teaching, supervising, and mentoring students; research, creative activity, and scholarship; and professional service.

Objective 1: Promote excellence and innovation in teaching, supervising, and mentoring.

1. Create hybrid and online courses, which integrate innovative technology with theatre and performance studies pedagogies.
2. Enhance integration of technology into face-to-face curricular and co-curricular programming.
3. Integrate partnership activities with cultural, socially engaged, and artistic organizations into curricular and co-curricular planning and content.
4. Increase student participation in the High-Impact Practices of internships and community-based learning.
5. Promote interdisciplinary curricular and co-curricular collaborations.

Objective 2: Promote excellence and innovation in research, creative activity, and scholarship.

1. Provide stipends and course reassignments for individual faculty research and creative activities with potential for regional, national, and/or international prominence.
2. Provide financial support to faculty during the development phase of research and creative activity.

Objective 3: Promote integration of teaching, supervision, and mentoring with research, creative activity, and scholarship.

1. Expand integration of guest scholars and guest artists into season and curricular planning.
2. Integrate development of new work into curricular and co-curricular programming.
3. Promote student-centered activities that include community engagement.
4. Support and increase visibility of undergraduate research

Objective 4: Promote excellence and innovation in the internal and external service.

1. Host disciplinary conferences, workshops, and/or symposia to garner regional and national recognition.
2. Expand reward systems for exemplary internal and external professional service.

GOAL TWO:

Improve recruitment, retention, progression and graduation rates (RRPG) in accord with the Complete College Georgia Initiative, while maintaining and/or increasing the quality, breadth, and relevance of academic and co-curricular programs.

Objective 1: Increase recruitment of students with potential to succeed in the TPS major.

1. Gather and analyze TPS enrollment data to improve recruitment.
2. Develop and maintain reciprocal relationships with targeted high schools.
3. Disseminate and reinvigorate TPS recruitment strategies annually.

Objective 2: Increase retention and improve progression towards graduation while maintaining academic and artistic standards of excellence.

1. Gather and analyze TPS enrollment data regarding time to completion of degree and course enrollment/completion.
2. Increase and support regular advisement sessions.
3. Foster academic and professional mentoring opportunities.
4. Integrate peer-mentoring opportunities into curricular and co-curricular activities.
5. Implement academic intervention (or TPS Student Success) program in collaboration with the Associate Dean of Student Success.
6. Increase need-based scholarships.

Objective 3: Improve academic and co-curricular student engagement programs and activities.

1. Launch a TPS minor.¹
2. Formalize regular student input into curricular and co-curricular programming.
3. Create and coordinate TPS honors track with new Honors College.

GOAL THREE:

Become more engaged and prominent in the local community, Georgia, the nation, and the world.

Objective 1: Deepen, increase, and/or sustain engagement activities.

1. Articulate guiding principles for engagement activities.
2. Evaluate quality and effectiveness of current engagement activities.
3. Formalize reciprocal engagement practices with existing local and global partners.
4. Pursue partnership opportunities that include applied theatre.
5. Support faculty efforts toward the creation of engagement projects.
6. Increase the number of students participating in socially engaged organizations and projects.
7. Strengthen and sustain reciprocal engagement with alumni.

¹ The Department will clearly define the benefits before doing so.

Objective 2: Raise the profile of TPS engagement and partnership activities.

1. Negotiate with professional and community partners to maximize TPS visibility.
2. Position TPS as a vital participant in the fertilization of our local and regional theatre and performance ecology.
3. Strengthen TPS engagement activities on KSU campus.
4. Pursue partnerships with organizations of national prominence.

GOAL FOUR:

Enhance the collegiate experience, and foster a welcoming, diverse, and inclusive environment.

Objective 1. Promote a culture of diversity and inclusion.

1. Ensure diversity* of TPS curricular and co-curricular programming.
2. Sustain development of course content and delivery that is inclusive.
3. Create a forum for voices to be heard on issues of diversity and inclusion.
4. Promote co-curricular programming to diverse audiences.

*Diversity as defined by us: culture, ethnicity, race, sexuality, class, economics, and gender.

Objective 2. Enhance the workplace experience and the job environment.

1. Enhance physical spaces to communicate celebration of diversity.
2. Host events that are focused on building collegiality and community.

GOAL FIVE:

Expand resources and improve operational efficiency and effectiveness.

Objective 1: Expand and enhance facilities to support need, growth, and demand.

1. Pursue and acquire existing university facilities for TPS classes, studio, and rehearsal spaces.
2. Plan and begin development of new TPS Design Center to include costume shop and storage, lighting lab, computer lab and dedicated student studio space.
3. Transform interior spaces to reflect and support TPS climate, culture, and activities.

Objective 2: Improve operational efficiency and effectiveness.

1. Alleviate faculty/staff overloads within department.
2. Create signage that directs patrons to theatre and performance studies events.

3. Enhance internal communication between faculty members and between faculty and staff.
4. Review and revise (as needed) production, facilities, and co-curricular policies annually.

Objective 3: Increase financial and in-kind support.

1. Develop and implement a strategic plan for fundraising.
2. Cultivate and activate a Friend and Fundraising Board.
3. Define function of Advisory Board and activate members.