

<p>Academic Affairs Mission, Values, and Philosophy Statement</p>
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### **Mission Statement**

Our mission is to prepare students for successful employment, transfer, and life-long learning. We equip students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to succeed in their professional endeavors, and to lead in service to their communities.

### **Enduring Values**

To achieve our mission, we pursue goals and activities within a framework of shared values which serve as a touchstone for our decision-making, and which form the foundation for assessment of our effectiveness in achieving our goals. We value:

- **Excellence** in all endeavors.
- **Evidence-based assessment** of progress towards goals.
- **Continuous improvement.**
- **Personal responsibility** for one's roles in the learning environment.
- **Recognition and reward** for outstanding accomplishments.
- **Partnerships** of varying types which advance goal achievement.
- **Effective use of technology** to support learning.

### **Educational Philosophy Statement**

#### ***We believe that education...***

- is key to the growth and development of the individual and the larger society.
- starts with a balanced and integrated general education that includes academic learning, social development, and exposure to new perspectives.
- prepares learners for an active role in society and gainful employment, while establishing the foundation for lifelong learning.

#### ***Educational goals are accomplished through...***

- programs and curricula that are both current and relevant to our community and society.
- learning environments that are orderly, comfortable, safe, and well-equipped.
- flexible and varied instructional methods designed to maximize learning opportunities for our diverse students.
- the development of critical thinking, problem solving, teamwork, and life skills.
- tasks that challenge our students to think creatively and take risks as part of the learning process.
- empowerment of students to become self-directed learners.

#### ***Academic success begins when students...***

- take responsibility for their education by actively participating in, and contributing to, the learning process.
- identify their own personal and professional goals and develop a plan to achieve those goals.
- demonstrate academic integrity, civility, and a respect for diversity.

***Therefore we...***

- mentor students and serve as role models for learning and excellence.
- are well prepared and current in our areas of expertise and bring excitement and enthusiasm to the teaching/learning process.
- continually assess student learning, striving to improve effectiveness of instruction.
- commit resources to create a supportive college environment.
- maintain high expectations, which encourage high student achievement.

***As a college community, we commit to demonstrating this philosophy in our daily work.***

*Educational Philosophy Statement endorsed by the faculty February 2006*

*Mission and Values Statement endorsed by the faculty October 2010*