

Mission, Values, Strategic Goals

The University of Southern Mississippi/College of Education and Human Sciences/School of Library and Information Science

Mission

USM	CoEHS	SLIS
<p>USM is a community of engaged citizens, operating as a public, student-centered, doctoral-granting research university serving Mississippi, the nation, and the world. The University is dedicated to scholarship and learning, integrating students at all levels in the creation and application of knowledge through excellence in teaching, research, creative activities, outreach, and service. The University nurtures student success by providing distinctive and competitive educational programs embedded in a welcoming environment, preparing a diverse student population to embark on meaningful life endeavors.</p>	<p>Building on the distinctive heritage of our University as a normal college, the CoEHS has expanded its mission to prepare not only successful professional educators but also influential researchers, mental health and human service professionals, and information specialists. The College 1) delivers high quality teaching that transforms the lives of students, 2) generates and disseminates knowledge through research that impacts societal needs, and 3) engages in professional service that multiplies the effects of both teaching and research. The CoEHS provides a student experience characterized by student support that fosters success, provides exposure to diversity of people and ideas, includes active engagement in research, offers quality practicum and internship experiences, and provides opportunities for professional service.</p>	<p>The mission of SLIS is to prepare qualified individuals for professional roles in libraries, archives, and other information environments with appropriate knowledge and skills to serve the information needs of their communities.</p>

Values

USM	CoEHS	SLIS
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research and instructional excellence focused on student success at all teaching sites and through campus-based and distance education 2. Student engagement that fosters personal growth, professional development, and a lifelong commitment to wellness 3. An inclusive community that embraces the diversity of people and ideas 4. Institutional governance that respects academic freedom and faculty inclusion 5. A campus culture characterized by warmth and mutually-supportive connections among students, faculty, staff, and alumni 6. An approach to academics, research, and personal conduct based on integrity and civility 7. An evolving curriculum that fosters lifelong curiosity and critical thinking 	<p>Students, faculty, and staff in the CoEHS are committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • learning and its value for individuals, families, communities, and society; • an inclusive environment that reflects and respects diversity of people and ideas; • success for all students based on holistic and contextual supports; • high quality teaching, research, and service that merits respect from one's peers; • personal integrity, individual responsibility, and a demonstrated work ethic; • professional collaboration that maximizes both resources and results; • a positive work environment that promotes and supports individual and 	<p>SLIS is committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student-centered learning: to cultivating an active, student-centered learning community. • Diversity: We recognize and value the diversity of modern society and support inclusiveness in learning. • Intellectual freedom: We embrace the ideals of intellectual and academic freedom and strive to nurture an open, respectful learning environment for the free exchange of ideas. • Service: Because it is a core of the profession, we support service at all levels and encourage ongoing professional development as a means of enhancing skills and knowledge. • Community: We believe in creating, fostering, and participating in learning and research communities that spans state, national, international levels.

8. Community participation that promotes social responsibility and citizenship	collective professional growth, recognition, and success; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> educational attainment for the citizens of Mississippi and beyond and the resulting impact on quality of life and economic development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research: We believe that research is an essential part of scholarship, not just for the creation of new knowledge but also for the support of teaching and learning and sharing of new knowledge with multiple communities of interest.
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Strategic Goals

USM	CoEHS	SLIS
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support student success to foster retention, progression and graduation 2. Promote teaching, research, and creative excellence 3. Strategically expand undergraduate and graduate enrollment 4. Strengthen economic and community partnerships 5. Invest in faculty and staff to maximize their potential 6. Promote a culture of inclusiveness of people and ideas 7. Enhance physical, technological, and financial infrastructure to support our mission, vision, and values 8. Improve efficiency and effectiveness of institutional processes and systems 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Achieve recognition as a premier provider of the academic programs in CoEHS (evidenced by assessment measures; including national accreditation, rankings and licensure exams; related to faculty, curriculum, technology, research, and funding). 2. Maintain undergraduate and graduate programs that recruit the highest quality students (as measured by admission, retention, and graduation standards), faculty, and staff. 3. Achieve targeted and strategic enrollment growth in CoEHS. 4. Achieve retention and graduation rates in the top quartile nationally in higher education. 5. Optimize synergy through communication, collaboration, and planning across programs and campuses. 6. Maintain an inclusive, engaged community of learners that reflects and respects diversity of people and ideas. 7. Continue to integrate & advance emergent technology. 8. Maintain strong connections and develop collaborative partnerships with alumni as well as other individuals and groups, both internally and externally, to further the mission of CoEHS 9. Ensure an infrastructure within the College that provides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> educational opportunities that attract, engage, and retain diverse, well-prepared students who progress and graduate professional opportunities that recruit, develop, engage, and retain a diverse and well-qualified faculty and staff competitive graduate stipends attractive, functional classroom, research, and office space leadership that maximizes the results and resources through strategic planning and encourages responsible stewardship and ecological responsiveness. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintain recognition as a strong, accredited provider of LIS education and training 2. Review departmental processes, objectives, and activities as necessary for continuous accreditation 3. Support targeted, strategic enrollment growth in undergrad and grad programs 4. Foster retention, progression, and graduation in all programs. 5. Enhance the visibility of SLIS programs and faculty 6. Maintain and develop connections with stakeholders to further the mission of SLIS 7. Emphasize professional development for faculty, staff, and students 8. Support student research activities 9. Support faculty contributions to research and scholarship.