2035 Biomedical Sciences Strategic Plan

Program Identity, Reputation and Future Goals: The Biomedical Sciences (BMSC) Program is an interdisciplinary academic program supported by all five COSAM departments. This program is focused on providing students with optimal education and preparation in the biological, chemical and physiological underpinnings of human health and disease. Through coursework, laboratory experiences, and research opportunities the program prepares students for careers in healthcare, research, biotechnology and related fields or for further study in these areas. The BMSC program has a strong history and reputation of producing graduates who excel in professional schools and in health-related careers. BMSC is also the largest major in COSAM, accounting for an average of 60-75% of all majors. Thus, this program is of central importance to the college and to the university. The program goals are to not only maintain the stature and excellence of this program, and to provide unparalleled preparation for a variety of health-related fields, but also to enhance and modernize the curricula to set students up for maximal success in their careers in the 21st century.

Our Vision: To empower students to holistically improve human health through an interdisciplinary curriculum and transformative research experiences. (Inspiring Leaders in Health)

Our Mission: To provide a comprehensive foundation that prepares students for future success in careers related to human health by leveraging interdisciplinary expertise across the departments to provide students with rigorous coursework in both foundational and clinically related topics. To enrich their academic preparation, students will participate in high-impact practices that apply concepts to real-world scenarios through hands-on experiences gaining critical cultural competence skills. (Bridging science and Medicine for a Healthier Future)

Overarching Goal – Provide students with foundational knowledge in biomedical sciences.

1. **Goal-** Leverage existing strengths within COSAM to strengthen the BMSC curricula.
2. **Goal-** Diversify the concentrations available to BMSC students interested in health-related careers outside the “traditional” paths (medical/dental/optometry school).
3. Goal- Diversify the upper-level electives included in the BMSC curricula.
4. **Goal-** Promote student success by supporting high-impact practices that complement the academic curricula.

Overarching Goal – Strengthen and grow the BMSC program in line with University enrollment:˜

1. **Goal-** Market the program to enhance enrollment and participation.
2. **Goal-** Strengthen and leverage relationships with alumni and donors to enhance student scholarship opportunities, career awareness and success.
3. **Goal-** Retain students by providing inclusive, engaging, and supportive academic opportunities.

Overarching Goal – Cultivate a community of socially responsible, culturally competent and engaged students who actively contribute to positive change.

1. **Goal-** Increase awareness of outreach opportunities among students and emphasize the personal, academic, and professional benefits of participating in these activities.
2. **Goal-** Foster a sense of belonging and purpose by creating meaningful educational outreach opportunities aligned with students’ interests and academic goals.
3. **Goal-** Develop cultural competency in biomedical sciences students by equipping them with the knowledge, skills, and awareness necessary to understand, appreciate, and effectively engage with diverse cultural perspectives in healthcare.

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