Mission:

The chemistry faculty members are committed to student success by providing a teaching-centered, student-focused environment in which students may reach their potential. A strong foundation in chemistry, diverse learning experiences, and a culture of support produce graduate chemists that are prepared to pursue careers and other educational opportunities.

Vision:

The chemistry faculty will deliver classroom and laboratory instruction, supplemented with experiential learning opportunities to assist students in achieving their educational goals and making informed decisions about science-related societal issues.

Values:

The chemistry faculty and staff are committed to the values put forth in the strategic plan of Armstrong State University. In particular,

- We value exceptional teaching diverse pedagogical strategies which are grounded in assessment in core and program courses.
- We value advising and mentoring as means to facilitate student success.
- We value student and faculty access to current instrumentation and technology to prepare students for STEM careers.
- We value the scholarly pursuits of faculty and the inclusion of undergraduate students.
- We value service to our students, the institution, the community, and the discipline.
- We value professional development as an ongoing commitment to growth.

Goal 1: To facilitate student learning through the deliberate and continuing development of teaching and assessment skills.

- Examine the level and variety of core/ non-majors course offerings to determine if the level is appropriate to support the university and the departmental mission.
- Develop a comprehensive chemistry program assessment plan to help support the program pathway to greatness in the future.
- Examine the high CHEM 3000 level course DFW rates and implement strategies to improve student success.
- Individually and collaboratively apply for and secure Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SOTL) external funding to support the program and student success.
- Enhance the individual and collective faculty professional development as it relates to teaching excellence.
- Maintain a state-of-the-art curriculum grounded in assessment and student outcomes.

Goal 2: To support student involvement in experiential opportunities including undergraduate research, internships, and community-based service learning.
• Develop a rigorous assessment plan for our undergraduate research program to help determine its value to our program and the allocation of resources.
• Encourage faculty External Funding to support UG research
• Improve collaborative ties with external constituencies to increase level of scholarly activities, internships and our professional development of students/faculty/staff
• Emphasize the connections with our partners who hire our graduates, including both industrial and government entities
• Outreach activities to K-12 and the community will be expanded and recognized within the culture of the department
• Enhance internal and external support for scholarly pursuits with the program by emphasizing funding requests beyond the department

Goal 3: To provide access to state-of-the-art instrumentation and technology.

• Maintain a focus on acquisition and maintenance of instrumentation
• Expand efforts to receive external funding to support our instrument needs and program
• Increase efforts to support technology and instrumentation via internal processes at Armstrong
• Acquire the next generation NMR spectrometer at Armstrong State University*
• Evaluate and assess technologies related to the program to prioritize purchases and effort
• Hiring plan to add an instrument technician

Goal 4: To strengthen relationships with external constituencies including alumni, industrial partners, peer institutions, peer programs within the university, and the community.

Specific Goals from SWOT and Planning Meeting
  Public relations / website enhancements / social media
• Expand public relations efforts through web and social media enhancements
• To support communication with constituencies, a program newsletter (annual or biannual) will be developed and distribute
• Develop an internal and external seminar program to highlight accomplishments and opportunities for our student and alumni

Must Haves – ACS CPT
1. Instrument Tech / Stockroom Personnel (Goal 3)
2. Examine scope of CHEM 3900/4991 research reports (Goal 2 with back-up from Goal 1)
3. UG research co-authorship (Goal 2)
4. Improve scope of retrieval and use of chemical literature, problem solving, and independent decision making (Goal 1)
5. Increase open-ended inquiry, project like laboratories (Goal 1)

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