Mission
The mission of the College of Allied Health Sciences (CAHS) is to educate and train health professionals to be knowledgeable and skilled in current practice and positioned for success and leadership in their discipline. We accomplish our mission through effective teaching, research, service, clinical practice, and clinical practice management that engages students and the community resulting in improved health care for NC and beyond.

Commitment 1: Maximize Student Success

University Action 1.2: We will establish competency-based requirements for all degree programs

Unit Objective 1: Be a national leader for competency based allied health sciences education.

Metric:
1. Annually exceed national averages on pass rates of first-time test takers in professional programs with licensure and/or certification examinations. (Benchmark: national averages, licensure tests are competency based exams).

Unit Action:
1. Evaluate CAHS degree programs to ensure curriculum requirements are aligned with respective accreditation and/or certification bodies and appropriately modify curriculum and/or field experiences as needed.

Commitment 2: Serve the Public

University Action 2.1: We will inspire our students to be engaged citizens and leaders.

Unit Objective 2: Engage CAHS students in expanded community engagement opportunities with rural and underserved communities.

Metric:
1. Between 2014 and 2019, increase by 20% the number of CAHS students engaged in and with rural and underserved communities (baseline 2014).

Unit Actions:
1. Assign students to rural and underserved sites based on analysis of site availability.
2. Verify that CAHS students serve in rural and underserved sites by adding a question to the student exit survey asking where the student interacted with rural and underserved clients (i.e. client’s home, Greenville clinic, community clinics, etc.).
3. Implement CAHS Student Leaders Council service activities in rural and underserved area with the support of a faculty adviser and funds from the Dr. Stephen W. Thomas Leadership Legacy Student Fund.

University Action 2.3: We will be a national leader in revamping health sciences education, incorporating interdisciplinary education and quality improvement into our health sciences curricula.

Unit Objective 3: Integrate curricular and co-curricular interprofessional educational (IPE) opportunities where CAHS students learn about, with and from students from disciplines other than their own.

Metric:
1. Between 2014 and 2019, increase the number of CAHS disciplines participating in IPE experiences to 100% (2014 baseline). CAHS is composed of units that represent 15 professional disciplines.

Unit Action:
1. Expand current CAHS student IPE experiences focused on quality of care by adding Virtual IPE Case Studies, CAHS Grand Rounds, and events sponsored by the CAHS Student Leaders Council and ECU Chapter of IHI (Institute for Health Care Improvement, a collaborative effort of the SoDM, CON, BSOM and CAHS).

Commitment 3: Lead Regional Transformation

University Action 3.2: ECU will grow innovative and market-driven graduate programs that respond to regional challenges and opportunities.

Unit Objective 4: Grow market driven allied health graduate programs.

Metrics:
1. Between 2014 and 2019 add two new certificates that address market driven needs.
2. Between 2014 and 2019 acquire one new faculty line for each market driven certificate.

Unit Actions:
1. Dean’s staff will conduct annual market analyses and present to CAHS Administrative Council for review and input regarding new certificate programs.
2. Dean with support from Administrative Council will plan and budget for additional faculty lines related to certificate programs.

University Action 3.3: We will dramatically expand ECU’s research enterprise by investing in the people, tools, and facilities needed to conduct mission-driven research.

Unit Objective 5: Drive discovery and innovation in the allied health sciences.

Metric:
1. Between 2014 and 2019, increase externally funded CAHS research awards by 33%. (2014 baseline)

Unit Actions:
1. Strengthen college infrastructure (mentors, networks, grants administration, identification of funding opportunities) to facilitate submission of externally funded research.
2. Invest in faculty through approaches such as departmental differential teaching loads, internal interdisciplinary grants, a Temporary Variable Supplement Plan, etc. that support faculty participation in research programs that build on CAHS strengths and integrate multiple disciplines across the Division of Health Sciences

University Action 3.10: We are recognized as a national leader in the use of technology to deliver health services to dispersed rural populations.

Unit Objective 6: Prepare CAHS students to utilize state of the art technology to enhance health services provided to rural and underserved areas.

Metric:
1. Infuse health technologies into 100% of CAHS disciplines.

Unit Action:
1. Maximize CAHS faculty expertise and resources related to telehealth/telemedicine/telecare, health apps, electronic records & health information technology, smart phones, mobile clinics, etc. by creating a technology speaker’s bureau that is used to provide content expertise in CAHS courses.