

Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences Department of Physics Strategic Framework

(approved February 2nd 2007)

Vision Statement:

Learning Physics for Life

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Department of Physics is to serve the people of the State of North Carolina by educating the students enrolled in its courses and programs through excellent teaching at the undergraduate, masters, and doctoral levels. Further, the Faculty of the Department of Physics pursues active programs of research in pure and interdisciplinary applied physics seeking to advance the frontiers of knowledge in their chosen fields of specialization.

Strategic Directions:

The Department of Physics contributes to the basic Liberal Arts foundation and purposes of the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences through the development and expansion of human knowledge and skill.

The Department views itself as a research department and has done so since its earliest days as a separate department, e.g., the present accelerator research facility was built in 1971. The Department established the Ph.D. in Biomedical Physics, the first Ph.D. program in the College, in 1998. We will continue to build our research capabilities, and we support East Carolina University becoming a research extensive university.

The Department promotes the following initiatives within the five Strategic Directions of East Carolina University: 21st Century Education, A Region's Health, A Region's Arts, A Region's Prosperity, and The Leadership University, and addressing the Priorities Access, Economic Development, and Partnership/Engagement.

21st Century Education

Initiative	Priority Addressed	Timeline	Resource Needs	Evaluation/ Assessment
Increase publications by 20 %	Publications contribute to the reputation of the Department and will attract more and better students, Postdocs, and faculty; addresses access and economic development.	AY 2010-2011	Continuous support	Faculty Annual Reports
Hire exceptional faculty to strengthen research opportunities and varieties in both undergraduate and graduate (MS and Ph. D.) programs	Addresses access for students.	AY 2011-2012	1 new + 3 replacement (retiree) faculty positions (maintain existing faculty positions)	Unit Annual Report
Increase number of students in the Ph.D. in Biomedical Physics program to two students per Biomedical Physics Faculty Member	This goes hand in hand with the increase in external funding for research and the effectiveness of the program. It will provide access to more and better students; graduates provide leadership and a highly trained workforce in the Biomedical Health sector	AY 2011-2012	Increase of Tuition Wavers and Graduate Assistantship support by 50 %	Enrollment report of the Assistant Chair for Graduate Studies
Support the Ph.D. program with qualified graduates from the M.S. in Applied Physics program; make thesis requirement in M.S. in Applied Physics optional.	Provides access to the Ph. D. program for qualified students	AY 2009-2010	Increase of Tuition Wavers and Graduate Assistantship support by 50 %	Enrollment report of the Assistant Chair for Graduate Studies
Provide desk areas for all graduate students	Addresses access for students	AY 2008-2009	Room Space and Furniture / Office equipment	Annual Report of the Assistant Chair for Graduate Studies

Increase undergraduate degrees to 5-10 per year	A strong undergraduate program provides a well trained workforce for the local economy. Addresses access and economic development	AY 2011-2012	Continued Support on current level	Enrollment report of the Assistant Chair for Undergraduate Studies
Promote our B.A and B.S.A.P. undergraduate programs as pre-professional majors (pre-medical, pre-law, business, engineering, etc.)	Addresses access for students to professional schools	AY 2011-2012	Promotional costs	Annual Report of the Assistant Chair for Undergraduate Studies
Offer a B.S. tie-in with our graduate programs in order to attract well-qualified and ambitious students	Addresses access for undergraduate students to go on to graduate studies	AY 2011-2012	None	Annual Report of the Assistant Chairs for Undergraduate and Graduate Studies
Offer studies area for our majors in the Department	Addresses access to communal study facility for undergraduate students	AY 2009-2010	Room Space, Furniture / Office equipment	Unit Annual Report

A Region's Health

Initiative	Priority Addressed	Timeline	Resource Needs	Evaluation/Assessment
Obtain and maintain AAPM (American Association of Physicists in Medicine) accreditation for the Medical Physics program, and maintain the Medical Physics program at the highest level in concert with our ability to ensure the necessary clinical experience and with societal demand for medical physics professionals	The accreditation contributes to the reputation of the Department and will attract better students (access).	AY 2009-2010	Fees for Accreditation and Reviews of the program	Annual Report of the Assistant Chair for Graduate Studies

Reduce the dependence of the Medical Physics program on state funded Graduate Assistantships by 50 %.	Addresses access for students.	AY 2011-2012	None	Annual Report of the Assistant chair for Graduate Studies
Develop and offer a new Health Physics track in the Master's program.	This will complement the M.S. Medical Physics program and provide a highly trained workforce for the growing Health sector.	Develop by AY 2009-2010; offer by AY 2011-2012	Develop: Development costs; Offer: TBD	Annual Report of the Assistant Chair for Graduate Studies

A Region's Arts: N/A

Initiative	Priority Addressed	Timeline	Resource Needs	Evaluation/Assessment
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A Region's Prosperity

Initiative	Priority Addressed	Timeline	Resource Needs	Evaluation/Assessment
Increase funded research by 20 %	This will contribute to technology development, will create new jobs and technically trained workforce and will address access and economic development	AY 2010-2011	Continued reassignment time for faculty	Annual budget review

The Leadership University

Initiative	Priority Addressed	Timeline	Resource Needs	Evaluation/Assessment
Reestablish our Sigma Pi Sigma (Physics Honor Society) Chapter	Addresses access	AY 2010-2011	Administrative and promotional costs	Unit Annual Report

<p>Increase participation of students in scientific professional societies and research presentations at society meetings and national/international conferences</p>	<p>Addresses access and partnership</p>	<p>AY 2011-2012</p>	<p>Membership fees, Travel costs (including travel, accommodation , registration, etc.)</p>	<p>Unit Annual Report</p>
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