The College of AHSS made significant progress in realizing its strategic goals during the past year. These goals included finalizing a strategic vision, increasing scholarly productivity, bolstering faculty involvement in sponsored research, promoting and supporting equity and diversity, encouraging interdisciplinarity and innovation, expanding development efforts, deepening connections with alumni, improving the quality and scope of instruction, and enhancing the distinction of the college’s academic programs.

The significant accomplishments of AHSS faculty and staff were reflected in the 13 notable awards they received. These awards included the NDSU Distinguished Faculty Lectureship Award (Ann Burnett), the Blue Key Society’s Distinguished Educator Award (Cindy Urness), the National Ceramic Artist of the Year Award (Michael Strand), the CSTAND Teacher of the Year Award (Carrie Anne Platt), the Gerhts Endowed Professorship (Carol Archbold), a Fulbright Award (Miriam Mara), two Bush Foundation Fellowships (Malini Srivastava and Michael Strand), the W.R. Parker Prize for Best Article in PMLA (Gordon Fraser), the NDSU Impact Award (WGS Program), the Bolley Academic Achievement Award (Don Schwartz), an NDSU Staff Recognition Award (Tracy Dahl), and a Staff Recognition Team Award (Linda Fricker as part of the Student Success Team).

College Goals, Priorities, and Accomplishments:

The goals listed below have served as the cornerstones for AHSS activity over the past five years, and most of these goals will continue to be salient as we implement the college’s strategic vision. A green triangle precedes actions we have taken to attain these goals. A yellow square indicates that we have already partially achieved the goal, and a red circle indicates that we have not yet started to implement actions pertaining to the goal but plan to do so in AY ‘16-17.

Goal: Develop and Clarify the Strategic Goals of the College
Action steps:
- Successfully formulated a faculty-driven strategic vision for the college (approved by the faculty at a college meeting held on April 9, 2016).
- Assigned responsibility for overseeing the college’s progress in implementing the strategic vision to the AHSS Dean, and granted the Policy and Planning Committee an advisory role in the oversight process.
- Aligned the college’s new strategic vision with the university’s strategic plan.

Goal: Increase the Level of Scholarly Productivity in the College
Action steps:
- Developed a new Dean’s Challenge Grant program and awarded $21,000 to support faculty research activities in the college.
- Sustained the Dean’s Fellowship Program as well as travel support for faculty research endeavors.
- Provided small-scale stipends to assist faculty with costs associated with book publications.
- Supported activities and expectations that resulted in increases in the scholarly output of faculty, as measured by publications, presentations, exhibitions, concerts, and performances.

Goal: Bolster Faculty Involvement in Sponsored Research
Action steps:
- Sponsored research cafés (facilitated by Verena Theile) that allowed faculty to share their research interests and to discuss specific projects, useful sources of feedback, and writing strategies.
- Hired a new full-time Director of the Center for Social Research (CSR) and expanded the Center’s staff to secure increased external funding.
- Used the Gunlogson Fund of the NDSU Press to provide monetary support for faculty projects with notable potential for publication.
Supported the efforts of faculty who garnered significant NEH grants, including an Enduring Questions grant (Carrie Anne Platt) and a Humanities in the Public Square grant (Christina Weber, Alison Graham-Bertolini, Angela Smith, and Michael Strand).

Continued to fund a half-time Grants Coordinator to aid faculty and graduate students with seeking, preparing, and submitting grants, such as the NEH grants listed above.

Sustained research partnerships and grant-related collaborations with NDSU’s Public Health program.

Collaborated with faculty in other colleges in developing proposals for the Grand Challenges Initiative.

Partnered with Sisseton-Wahpeton College in the development of a NSF Tribal College- University Partnership to create a Behavioral Sciences degree program.

Goal: Promote and Support Equity and Diversity

Action steps:

- Developed college-based diversity scholarships to support students of color majoring in an AHSS program.
- Funded the involvement of several AHSS faculty and administrators in ARMAC (Anti-Racism and Multiculturalism Across the Curriculum) training.
- Provided support for the Institute for the Study of Cultural Diversity, which engages in research that promotes understanding and efficacious communication between diverse publics, particularly vulnerable groups, regarding risk and crisis situations.
- Supported Christina Weber and Betsy Birmingham in their roles as associate deans.
- Worked closely with the associate deans and the Director of Women’s and Gender Studies to sustain FORWARD initiatives on the college level.
- Required college faculty and staff to participate in FORWARD face-to-face search committee training if they were members of a hiring committee.
- Sponsored the involvement of several women faculty in leadership development training, including Fast Track Leadership workshops. Also continued to encourage the male faculty in AHSS to serve as FORWARD allies.
- Continued developing and implementing family-friendly policies at the college level, as reflected in multiple spousal/partner accommodation hires.
- Increase fundraising activities to provide greater support for diversity-related scholarships.

Goal: Strengthen Support Networks for Interdisciplinarity and Innovation

Action steps:

- Continued to support implementation of the UNITE initiative (Unifying hires committed to innovation, transformation, and engagement).
- Supported ongoing efforts to expand the activities of the Center for Social Research.
- Endorsed and promoted the activities of the Upper Midwest Center for Public Policy, which is linked to the college and the Department of Criminal Justice and Political Science.
- Sustained a formal mentoring system in the College which facilitated interdisciplinary connections among the junior faculty. This mentoring was coordinated by Christina Weber, the Associate Dean for Faculty Development.
- Encourage the continued development of an innovative Arts, Humanities, and Emerging Media (AHEM) initiative based on the collaboration of four AHSS departments.
- Implement a series of UNITE dialogues or events to encourage interdisciplinary analysis of issues pertaining to racial and ethnic justice.

Goal: Increase Development and Alumni Outreach Efforts

Action steps:

- Established strategic development priorities for the college.
- Funded a half-time Development Director for the college, who engaged in significant outreach to alumni and potential donors.
- Developed state matching grant proposals and solicited donor pledges and gifts that totaled more than $4 million.
Expanded alumni outreach efforts, particularly by increasing visits and communications.
Continued to develop a more focused communication and marketing plan for the college and supported efforts to overhaul the college’s website.

Goal: Improve the Quality and Scope of Instruction

Action steps:
- Recognized and rewarded teaching excellence by nominating deserving faculty for university and college awards.
- Offered teaching cafés (facilitated by Carrie Anne Platt) that allowed faculty to enhance their pedagogical knowledge and skills.
- Funded an Assistant Professor of Practice who helps faculty with instructional technologies and the development and assessment of online courses.
- Received support from the Provost’s Office to hire and supervise a professor of practice charged with expanding and revamping the current NDSU Honors Program.
- Promote continuous improvement in departmental assessment of instructional outcomes.
- Expand programs for tuition-paying Master’s students, such as the MMME program.
- Increase undergraduate research experiences.

Goal: Enhance Academic Distinction in the College

- Successfully granted tenure and/or promotion to six faculty members in the college.
- Continued to collaborate with unit heads in completing program reviews, setting future priorities, and improving the quality and distinction of their programs as well as the college.
- Funded an Assistant Professor of Practice to ramp up the activity and stature of NDSU Press as a scholarly and teaching press and initiated the development of two publishing courses.
- Supported the activities of the Red River Valley Writing Project (coordinated by Dr. Kelly Sassi of the English Department) as a site for the National Writing Project.
- Sustained the advancement and publicity activities of the College, particularly in regard to promoting the scholarly and creative accomplishments of our faculty members.
- Supported AHSS faculty in their successful application for distinguished scholarly fellowships, such as Bush Fellowships and Fulbright Awards.
- Transition the Department of Architecture and Landscape Architecture to a School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture.

Research, Scholarly, and Creative Activities

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<tr>
<th>Peer Reviewed Publications (published or accepted articles, books, and chapters)</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other, applied publications = 56 (research reports, internal evaluations, program publications, and needs assessments)</td>
<td>195 (+17 increase from 2015)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarly Presentations (peer-reviewed or invited)</td>
<td>232 (+26)</td>
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<tr>
<td>National or International = 119</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional = 113</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Creative Activities</td>
<td>360 (+27)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional concerts or performances = 308</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juried performances or exhibitions = 52</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Grants, Contracts and Fellowships:</td>
<td>85 (+3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cumulative Annual Expenditures: 2,251,923 (+$1,023,893)</td>
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