

## Introduction

---

Established in 1973 by President Jack K. Williams, the Division of Student Affairs (Services) was formed to meet the requirements of a rapidly growing student body. For nearly 50 years, our priority has been to prepare students to lead through engaging and immersive experiences designed to develop the whole student in alignment with Texas A&M University’s vision, mission, and core values.

The Division of Student Affairs’ connection to Texas A&M University’s four strategic pillars<sup>1</sup> is paramount to our strategic efforts. Our collective commitment to transformational education<sup>2</sup>, referenced by some former students as “the other education,” has never been stronger. Today, the division is comprised of 17 unique departments that are inextricably engaged in all aspects of students’ lives and the delivery of key support services and programs.

Professionally respected and renowned for decades, the Division of Student Affairs is committed to Texas A&M’s role as an Association of American Universities’ member<sup>3</sup> through the development of innovative programs and services, the advancement of next-best practices and policies in higher education, and contributions to research and scholarship.

## Vision

---

To be the preeminent, student-centered division that inspires and prepares students for a life of citizenship, leadership, learning, and service.

## Mission

---

In support of the Texas A&M University mission, the Division of Student Affairs actively contributes to student learning and development. We provide exceptional services, programs, and facilities that promote student success, embody the Aggie spirit, and foster a diverse and inclusive campus community to deepen the understanding and individual application of the Aggie Core Values – Excellence, Integrity, Leadership, Loyalty, Respect, and Selfless Service.

---

<sup>1</sup> Decade of Excellence 2020-2030: The Vision ([https://provost.tamu.edu/Provost\\_v19/media/Media/Assets/pdfs-strategicplan/Vision2020-2030.pdf](https://provost.tamu.edu/Provost_v19/media/Media/Assets/pdfs-strategicplan/Vision2020-2030.pdf))

<sup>2</sup> Ibid

<sup>3</sup> Association of American Universities: Who We Are (<https://www.aau.edu/who-we-are>)

## Commitments

---

The Division of Student Affairs continuously aligns itself with the university's strategic priorities.<sup>4</sup> In conjunction with the Aggie Core Values, the Division uses these commitments to guide our practice.

### **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility**

We are committed to cultivating a campus environment where people from all backgrounds and experiences can thrive. We build and model a welcoming environment that promotes a deeper understanding of identities of an increasingly diverse population.

### **Responsibility**

We are committed to being innovative, efficient and effective stewards of our financial, physical, technological, and personnel resources. We are committed to making student-centered, data-informed, evidence-based, knowledge-driven decisions. A commitment to responsibility also means a commitment to fulfilling our mission through intentional, collegial, and ethical practices.

### **Self-Discovery**

We are committed to lifelong learning and providing opportunities to reflect on individual knowledge of character, abilities, and beliefs.

### **Wellbeing**

We are committed to promoting and supporting holistic areas of wellbeing including physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual.

---

<sup>4</sup> Decade of Excellence 2020-2025: Strategic Plan  
([https://provost.tamu.edu/Provost\\_v19/media/Media/Assets/pdfs-strategicplan/StrategicPlan2020-2025.pdf](https://provost.tamu.edu/Provost_v19/media/Media/Assets/pdfs-strategicplan/StrategicPlan2020-2025.pdf))

## Goals

---

The Division of Student Affairs will ...

### **Goal 1. Enrich the learning experience of students by cultivating an environment of intellectual curiosity**

Students learn both in and out of the classroom. Our programs, services, and experiences provide co-curricular opportunities for students to make progress towards achieving the Texas A&M Student Learning Outcomes, to integrate their learning, as well as, prepare for lifetime of learning and development.

### **Goal 2. Contribute to student success, including retention/persistence and timely graduation**

The university is committed to enrolling, retaining/persisting, and graduating students in a timely manner prepared to perform exceptionally in their chosen field impacting the state of Texas, nation, and world. To assist in this endeavor, we provide academic and personal resources to help students be academically successful and attain marketable skills sought after by employers and graduate and professional schools.

### **Goal 3. Create an inclusive environment that develops leaders who productively engage in a wide spectrum of ideas, perspectives, and cultures**

The Division strives to create a climate of belongingness where students feel welcomed and valued. In our efforts to “develop leaders of character dedicated to serving the greater good”<sup>5</sup>, we provide students with opportunities to engage with people different from themselves in order to prepare them for an increasingly diverse and global society, challenge and support students as they expand their horizons, and build on existing and develop new leadership skills and competencies.

---

<sup>5</sup> Texas A&M University Purpose Statement. <http://www.tamu.edu/about/coreValues.html>

## Goals (continued)

---

The Division of Student Affairs will ...

**Goal 4. Provide innovative programs and resources that promote the health, wellbeing, and safety of students**

Students engage in learning experiences that integrate all aspects of their lives. In order for students to be academically successful, they need to be in a positive, healthy, and secure environment. Due to our strong sense of care, we support students as they make decisions that contribute to their success.

**Goal 5. Strategically leverage resources and develop new strategies to ensure our future effectiveness and sustainability**

As the landscape of higher education funding continues to evolve, the Division is dedicated to being good stewards of financial and human resources in order to serve students efficiently and effectively. The Division will continue to explore new and innovative entrepreneurial approaches to finance initiatives. The Division will continue efforts to maximize shared resources (technology, marketing, assessment, etc.) to provide departments with the tools, support, and resources needed to provide quality programs, facilities, activities, and services for students.

**Goal 6. Invest in Division staff and enhance the Division's influence in the profession**

The Division staff serve as the foundation of our work with students. The staff in the Division are committed professionals who seek to support and enhance the learning and development of all Texas A&M students. Collectively and individually, they are well known for their knowledge and expertise across campus and within their respective disciplines in the student affairs profession. As our greatest resource, we invest in the people who work in the Division by providing support and opportunities for personal and professional growth.