

Mission

The mission of the College of Health Sciences is to create innovations in healthcare through the translation of biomedical and clinical research into new diagnostics, new treatment plans, and new approaches to the practice of healthcare delivery.

College Overview

The goal of the College is to provide our students with a dynamic environment in which to explore, engage, experience, and excel as they prepare for an exciting career in the health professions. It is the desire of the faculty to create an environment that is rich and challenging and engages students. Faculty members work to develop the knowledge base and critical thinking skills in students that will enable them to be the next generation of leaders in healthcare.

The field of health sciences encompasses a broad and dynamic collection of specialties, including medical technology, exercise science, nursing, physical therapy, health behavioral sciences, and nutritional sciences – most with Honors Degree options. There are over 100 faculty members across the college, almost 2,000 undergraduate students, and approximately 280 graduate students. In all of the programs, faculty members strive to create an educational experience that transforms practice based on scientific evidence. The ultimate goal is to help the students excel in their chosen profession in the field of health. The intent is to build a strong platform in interdisciplinary science that is then translated into health practices, therapies, and interventions that result in improvements in people's lives now.

Aspirations

The faculty strive to create a College of Health Sciences that is fluid and agile and focused on healthcare issues in the community and the world. The college will be organized around real world challenges and will deliver a curriculum and a research platform that educates the next generation healthcare leaders and the next generation healthcare researchers. This will be done by crossing over the boundaries of professions and departments to bring together teams of nurses, medical technologists, physician assistants, physical therapists, nutritionists, exercise physiologists, health behavior specialists, and nurse practitioners as they work together to develop, design, and deliver the next generation of solutions.

Implementation of the Plan

One of the major goals for the college is to create an environment for synergy, collaboration and innovation -- an outcome that occurs when the various disciplines are located in the same space. As new facilities are planned, the College will form innovative interdisciplinary and translational research centers and institutes such as the Delaware Rehabilitation Institute and create clinical

facilities including an expanded physical therapy clinic and a clinical research center which will provide the base for strong research and teaching programs. These facilities will feature stateof-the-art wet bench research facilities and clinical research space and next-generation simulation laboratories, as well as a video conference room that will link to other institutions in the DHSA and additional affiliate across the state and into the surrounding region for research conferences,

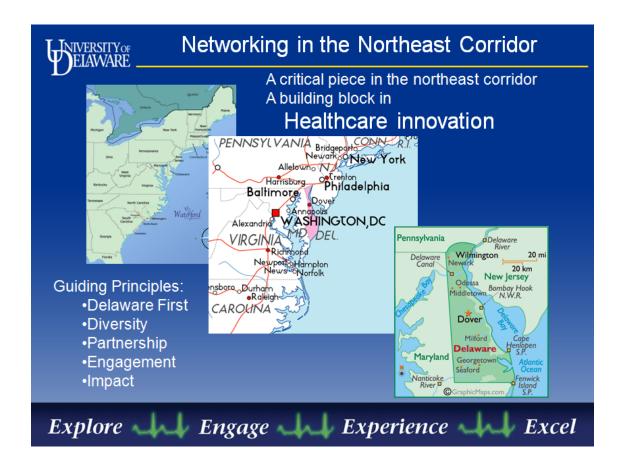


grant development, and team teaching of new graduate and professional courses. As the University moves forward in its "Path to Prominence," the College of Health Sciences will take a lead role in fostering collaborations in the biomedical and health research areas across the campus in interdisciplinary research and outreach to the clinical community to foster translational research.



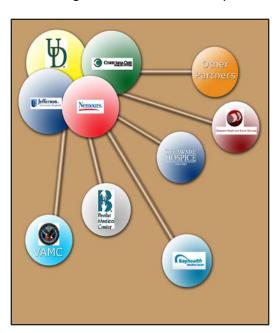
Interdisciplinary and Translational Centers and Institutes

The focal areas of development in the College will be represented by emerging interdisciplinary and translational centers including: Institute for Rehabilitation Research, Training and Practice; Center for Aging for Health Promotion and Management of Chronic Health Conditions; Center for Applied Computational Biomechanics; as well as another possible center in Sustainable Healthcare/ Community Health.



Clinical Collaborations

The College will also serve as the portal and home for several healthcare alliances. The Dean of the



College of Health Sciences, Dr. Kathleen Matt, and Dr. Michael Vergare, TJU's Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, will co-direct the UD-TJU Partnership in Health Education. Additionally, the College will play a lead role in the Delaware Health Sciences Alliance, along with the partner institutions of TJU, Christiana Care, and Nemours, as it moves forward in promoting outreach in education and teaching in biomedicine and health sciences. This outreach to the clinical community is already developing strong partnerships with affiliate institutions such as the VA Hospital, hospitals and clinical centers in lower Delaware, including Bayhealth Medical Centers, and Beebe Hospital, as well as strengthening connections to the State Department of Health and Social Services. These collaborations will gain strength and enhance impact through development of strong memorandums of understanding (MOUs), joint faculty appointments, joint graduate programs, joint research

seed grant programs, and joint clinical research projects.

The Strategic Plan

In the short term, the goal is expand and build the College by recruiting new high-quality faculty that bring excellence in teaching and research to the College. The goal is to expand research and graduate programs in order to develop strong interdisciplinary and translational programs that cut

across the schools and departments in the College as well as create linkages to programs in other colleges across the university. Renovations will be done within the existing space to accommodate new hires and development of new research and teaching capabilities by the addition of new wet bench spaces, new clinical spaces, and new teaching spaces to allow for expanded graduate student numbers. Programs will be expanded and developed to their maximum potential to provide the strong research and academic base to



support the new facilities, which will provide an intermix configuration distinguished by arrangement of faculty in centers of excellence and focus areas as opposed to strict housing by department and discipline.