

Future Directions

The School of Education and Allied Professions is poised to respond to the many growing challenges in education. The public is demanding highly qualified, effective teachers and other professional school personnel in our nation's schools. The School of Education and Allied Professions is responding with more rigorous expectations of our candidates. Our public school partners are calling for additional resources and expertise. Miami is responding with increased collaboration and enhanced partnerships including our colleagues from the College of Arts and Science. Parents are demanding more from our public schools. We are responding with a focus on student learning. These challenges are at the forefront of our decisions as we attempt to navigate the increasingly complex map of school reform.

Our strategic plan will assist us in addressing the growing challenges in education. Our plan includes eight goals. They include: strengthening the academic qualifications of entering candidates; strengthening the academic qualifications of new faculty and the academic support for all faculty; developing a curriculum for the 21st century at both the undergraduate and graduate levels; strengthening our academic standards and enrich campus intellectual and cultural life; increasing the diversity of the faculty, staff, and student body; enhancing campus facilities, buildings, systems, and technology; strengthening the university revenue base; and developing improved benchmarking with peer institutions.

The next five years will be a period of accountability as we continue to implement our assessment plan, providing evidence of candidate performance and assurance of P-12 student learning. With this challenge and the growing number of demands at the national and state levels comes the unique opportunity for purposeful reflection on how to best prepare our candidates to educate all students in our diverse and dynamic world. We welcome this challenge as we continue to work to prepare teachers and other school personnel ready to respond to the educational issues of the future as **caring, competent and transformative educators**.