Vision and Values

Simmons' vision and values express the success we wish to achieve and the belief system that guides how we will achieve it.

Our Vision

Catalyzing Discovery and Innovation

Through excellence in research, teaching, and community outreach, Simmons is a

<u>Research</u>

Goal: Advance research efforts using rigorous approaches to address complex issues on both a local and global scale.

Strategies:

Coordinate with University efforts to achieve status as a tier-one research institution

Enhance investment in research and incentivize faculty and staff to pursue new research and scholarship opportunities

Define and promote signature areas of research that illustrate the school's excellence

Cultivate opportunities that lead to interdisciplinary research within Simmons and across SMU

Become a leader in assessment and evaluation to better understand the relationship between practice and outcomes

Outcomes:

Increase in research support and sponsored project funding

Growth in the number of research projects and publication of meaningful findings

Faculty and staff supported to pursue research efforts

Enhanced University and public recognition of Simmons' contribution to the body of knowledge in the field of education and human development

<u>Partnership</u>

Goal: Create new and innovative paradigms for partnership and impact.

Strategies:

Create a replicable model for partnership between a world class university, public, private and charter schools and districts, and the business community to transform the lives of children and families

Increase the opportunities for involvement by students in civic and industry engagement and field work

Advance efforts to integrate research and evidence-based practice as part of partnership efforts

Evaluate impact of community and industry partnerships and share results with Simmons, University, and partners

Outcomes:

Participation in the creation and capacity building of a model school

Infrastructure

Goal: Grow Simmons' infrastructure to support capacity and growth.

Strategies:

Continue efforts to recruit, engage, and retain a high-quality, diverse faculty and staff

Invest in staff professional development

Increase staff capacity and infrastructure support for research, grants, administration, and communications

Expand faculty capacity by adding tenure and clinical lines as well as attracting distinguished visiting scholars

Encourage, incentivize, and provide structure for interdisciplinary, cross-departmental, program, and center collaborations

Seek greater efficiencies by simplifying administrative policies and procedures

Strengthen processes and systems for faculty governance and decision making

Outcomes:

Faculty rated and recognized among the best in the nation

Increased administrative capacity

Growth in collaboration across the school and university

Enhanced faculty governance