College/Division Name: College of Education
2-year Review of 2012-2017 Plan

College/Division Mission:

As a premier professional school, Texas State University’s College of Education is dedicated to enhancing human potential for all through excellent teaching, relevant scholarship, and community engagement.

College/Division Goals:

1. Interdisciplinary research and professional preparation initiatives to implement and enhance our role as a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI). (University Goals 2.1, 2.2, 3.5, 3.9, 4.2, 4.4)

2. Interdisciplinary collaborations to create synergies in researching and serving special needs populations, as well as STEM education. (University Goals 1.5, 1.6, 2.5, 3.1, 3.9, 4.4)

3. Hire and/or convert from lecturer lines 13 new tenure-track faculty members to improve student-faculty ratios and to maintain and achieve new national accreditations of our programs. (University Goals 1.2, 1.5, 1.6, 1.9, 4.1, 4.4)

4. Invest in College infrastructure to support student learning and faculty research and external funding. (University Goals 1.4, 1.6, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 3.2, 3.8, 4.2, 4.3)

5. Upgrade and expand facilities to support increased enrollment, research, and service. (University Goals 1.4)

Top Five 2012-2017 Strategic Priorities for Remainder of Planning Cycle:

1. We wish to implement our organizational commitment to serving the growing Hispanic segment of the population (especially public school enrollments). We propose new doctoral programs for research and professional preparation, targeted seed money for high salience research teams, targeted recruiting for high need teaching fields, and bilingual/bicultural training and outreach programs for faculty, staff, and students, among other initiatives.

2. We are increasingly strong in research and instruction in several areas of special education, therapeutic recreation, and adaptive physical education. We want to capitalize on that strength by proposing a doctoral program in special education; leveraging our very successful Center for Autism Research, Evaluation, and Support (CARES) Clinic to create new funding streams; providing seed money for interdisciplinary grant proposals; and increasing our multidisciplinary clinic capability to provide excellent community services in the context of meaningful training and instruction. In STEM education, we want to increase and intensify our relationships with the
College of Science and Engineering and build the LBJ Institute for STEM Education and Research. The department of HHP will develop a proposal for an interdisciplinary PhD in health promotion in collaboration with the nutrition faculty from the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

3. Each of our three departments has specific needs: CLAS needs new faculty to implement fully a new program and to expand our offerings into San Antonio; HHP has had explosive growth the past 10 years and needs new lines to respond and to enhance accreditations; and C&I has a lower than optimal percentage of classes taught by tenure and tenure-track faculty. Converting lecturer lines will enable us to respond to continuing rapid growth in enrollment with fewer new resources.

4. Each department needs help in the area of recruiting and admitting students, someone to help with data needs and liaison with the Graduate College, freeing faculty for academic duties. We need to further assist faculty to obtain external funding by providing them with a variety of pre-proposal and post-award resources. We need more and better technology and training to ensure that our graduates have cutting edge skills. And we need a College specialist in external and internal communications and recruiting.

5. We are outgrowing our buildings and, while some help is on the way in the form of promised space in ASB-N, that only meets the needs of one department in its current state. Growth of enrollment and research means that we cannot afford the luxury of use of space in Jowers by other units (athletics, recreational sports, and theater) and so we need to re-purpose some spaces and recapture shared space for classrooms and labs. We need to update several areas in the College, notably the Advising Center. We need to expand our clinic space, both on and off campus. And we need to plan for the next phase of growth for HHP in the years ahead, perhaps requiring a new facility.