

# Strategic Plan

2019-2024

## **DESCRIPTION OF JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY**

A Historically Black, Carnegie Doctoral/Research Intensive public institution of higher learning located in the metropolitan area of Jackson, Mississippi, Jackson State University educates a diverse student population from Mississippi, most other states and many foreign countries by providing a broad range of baccalaureate programs and a variety of masters and doctoral programs in its five Colleges: Business; Education and Human Development; Liberal Arts; Health Sciences; and Science, Engineering and Technology. Designated as Mississippi's only Urban University, the learning process at Jackson State is enhanced through experiential learning in urban and rural areas throughout the city, state, nation, and global communities. Jackson State is a learning community for highly capable, as well as capable but under-prepared students who require a nurturing academic environment.

As a public, coeducational institution, Jackson State University is supported by legislative appropriations supplemented by student fees as well as federal and private grants. Programs are provided for students at the baccalaureate, masters, specialist in education, and doctoral levels. Non-credit programs are also offered to encourage lifelong learning and to provide opportunities for personal and professional development. Our special commission to serve as the Urban University is pursued through programs and activities, which seek solutions for urban problems. The University's students are diverse including: first-generation, non-traditional, and lowincome, which means that they bring with them the cultural, social and academic challenges associated with these categorizations. The University embraces the diversity of its students and is proud of its legacy of successfully challenging their minds and changing their lives through higher education, research, service, and preparing them for competitive careers.

#### **JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY VISION STATEMENT**

Building on its historic mission of empowering diverse students to become leaders, Jackson State University will become recognized as a challenging, yet nurturing, state-of-the-art, technologically infused intellectual community. Students and faculty will engage in creative research, participate in interdisciplinary and multi-instructional/organizational collaborative learning teams and serve the global community.

#### **JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of Jackson State University, an HBCU and comprehensive urban research university, is to provide quality teaching, research and service at the baccalaureate, masters, specialist, and doctoral levels to diverse populations of students and communities using various modalities to ensure that they are technologically-advanced, ethical, global leaders who think critically and can address societal problems and compete effectively.

#### **JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY CORE VALUES**

TRADITION – The University believes that its role as a historically black university inspires and exemplifies positive societal change.

ACCOUNTABILITY – The University believes in the principled exercise of leadership and the sanctity of the public trust.

LEARNING – The University believes in an experimentally enhanced learning environment where teaching, research, and service are integrated and mutually reinforcing.

NURTURING – The University is committed to creating a community, which affirms and welcomes persons from diverse backgrounds and experiences and supports the realization of their potential.

SERVICE – The University responds to the needs of society to the best of its ability and expects its graduates to do likewise.

RESPONSIBILITY – The University believes in and accepts its duty to enhance each generation's capacity to improve the human condition.

### **COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES MISSION STATEMENT**

The Mission of the College of Health Sciences is to provide quality teaching, research, and service to produce team-oriented leaders who think critically and address health and societal issues that impact quality of life and well-being in communities at the local, state, national and global levels.

### **COMMUNICATIVE DISORDERS MISSION STATEMENT AND GOALS**

The mission of the Communicative Disorders program is to provide quality education to preprofessional and graduate students from diverse populations who are majoring in Communicative Disorders by offering educational experiences that require the application of knowledge of normal and abnormal communication, critical thinking, data analysis, the use of professional oral and written communication, and the infusion of technology, when possible, for the prevention, assessment and intervention of communication disorders. The program in graduate education will guide graduate students to: (a) acquire the knowledge and develop the skills, competencies and attitudes that are essential for the prevention, assessment and intervention of communicative disorders, and the safe, effective, and efficient practice of entry-level speech-language pathology, (b) develop the ability to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate data, and to conduct research, (c) provide professional and public service to local, state, national, and world

communities, (d) continue their professional growth by exploring developments in the profession and learning new models of prevention, assessment and intervention, and (e) develop an understanding and appreciation of ethnic and cultural diversity on normal and disordered communication.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Jackson State University is a historically black, coeducational, doctoral research-intensive university of higher learning that has been designated by the state Institutions of Higher Learning as the Urban University of Mississippi. The University functions as a community of learners in which teaching, research and service are central to its total learning environment. The University maintains a commitment to effectively serve students from diverse academic, social, economic, ethnic and geographic backgrounds. The University also utilizes its human, cultural and physical resources to enhance the surrounding metropolitan community. It further develops responsible leaders who are capable and willing to seek solutions to human, social and technological problems, with special emphasis on those relevant to the metropolitan and urban areas of the state, the nation and the world.

Guided by Jackson State University's historic mission of empowering diverse students to become leaders, the Department of Communicative Disorders' strategic plan emphasizes five areas that reflect the university's three Pillars of Success – (1) student centeredness (which focuses on quality education, improved student learning, enhancement of student recruitment, retention, and success); (2) teamwork and collegiality (which focuses on working together and with others to foster economic, community, and professional development); (3) the pursuit of excellence/raising the bar (which focuses on securing our future through increased external funding). As will be seen in this plan, the focus areas align with Jackson State University's aim to be student-centered and its mission to produce technologically-advanced, diverse, ethical, global leaders who think critically, address societal problems, and compete effectively.

Therefore, the Department of Communicative Disorders is well integrated into the University's vision, mission, and pillars of success.