

**Yale Gordon College of Arts and Sciences  
Vision and Strategic Priorities  
2013-2017**

**VISION**

The Yale Gordon College of Arts and Sciences is recognized as the heart and center of creative, cultural, and intellectual excellence of the University of Baltimore, with national distinction for experiential learning and for commitment to promoting high-quality, innovative, and interdisciplinary applied liberal arts and sciences for a digital world.

**MISSION**

The Yale Gordon College of Arts and Sciences promotes critical thinking, encourages innovation and discovery, and enriches the intellectual lives of its diverse community of learners. Through interdisciplinary and discipline-based programs in the arts, humanities, and social and natural sciences, the College offers visionary, integrative learning and teaching environments enhanced with rapidly evolving information and communication technologies. Our graduates learn to be reflective, skilled communicators, adept at addressing contemporary problems within an ethical framework and able to adapt to a changing world. Well prepared for the world of work, our students become broadly informed and deeply engaged in local, regional, and world communities.

**PRIORITIES**

**ENROLLMENT: STRATEGICALLY GROW ENROLLMENT IN SUPPORT OF STUDENT SUCCESS AND IN RESPONSE TO MARKET DEMAND**

goal 1: Implement recruitment and retention plans, and achieve strategic enrollment goals for all YGCAS programs.

goal 2: Create an incubator for students and faculty to support creative innovation & transition from the academy to the “real world.”

**CHANGE: MANAGE CHANGE EFFECTIVELY**

goal 1: Foster an innovative and risk-taking culture.

goal 2: Review the college's organizational structure to ensure the best, most effective and efficient approach to responding to change.

### **RECOGNITION & VISIBILITY: ENHANCE PERCEPTION THAT YGCAS IS THE CORE AND HUB OF THE UNIVERSITY**

goal 1: Change student, staff and faculty perceptions about the role, importance and significance of YGCAS.

goal 2: Communicate our scholarly accomplishments to the entire university.

### **SENSE OF COMMUNITY: STRENGTHEN OUR COLLEGIAL & SCHOLARLY COMMUNITY**

goal 1: Celebrate scholarly and creative activities with students, faculty, staff and alumni.

goal 2: Create a physical and temporal space for the YGCAS community to interact, network and be creative.

goal 3: Foster a work-life supportive culture and preferred workplace for faculty, staff, students and alumni.

goal 4: Enhance engagement with internal and external communities.

### **PROGRAMS: EMBRACE OUR INTERDISCIPLINARY AND INTEGRATED UNIQUENESS AND CREATE NEW OR ENHANCED, 21ST CENTURY-RELEVANT PROGRAMS**

goal 1: Establish a center that focuses on social issues, justice and equality to facilitate discussions and collaborations, develop curricula to include the wicked problem approach to frame learning experiences and college-wide activities, established connections with the community, and support student and faculty research on social issues.

goal 2: Realign and redesign current programs, and implement additional interdisciplinary programs to complete the college's role in General Education and

position students for employment in fields that require competencies in multiple disciplines.

goal 3: Recognize reading and writing as important to all disciplines.

**STUDENT SUCCESS: BE A FOCUSED CHOICE FOR STUDENTS AND IMPLEMENT INTENTIONAL, COHERENT & INTEGRATED, BEST PRACTICES FOR ACADEMIC STUDENT SUCCESS**

goal 1: Establish a mentoring center in YGCAS.

goal 2: Define, understand and implement a broadly inclusive range of ways to define, achieve and celebrate student success.

goal 3: Increase resources to support students through individualized educational experiences.

goal 4: Enhance learning communities and other high impact practices, including experiential learning, to ensure high quality learning experiences.