

UCCS Graduate School Strategic Plan

We believe students who are fully supported and engaged can focus on their educational goals to reach their highest potential. In everything we do we offer resources, create opportunities, and promote excellence so that UCCS provides an outstanding student experience.

We create an environment that is welcoming, supportive and collaborative. We provide service that is friendly, helpful and thorough—we will do the leg work so you don't have to. When you interact with our office, we are clear in our communication to help you get to where you need to go. We are open to new ideas to develop best practices. We put energy into developing relationships inside and outside of UCCS to co-create mutually beneficial partnerships. We respect individuals and provide information, tools and support to help them explore their next adventure.

By working in this way, we promote responsible growth and quality educational experiences. As a result of all we do, we provide opportunities for professional development and student support to enhance student success.

Core Function Areas

Professional Development: Enhance the graduate student, staff, and faculty experiences by providing a variety of opportunities applicable to future endeavors.

- Promote and grow on and off campus research events
- Invite local and regional speakers to share their expertise and skills
- Support the Graduate Student Association and SGA Grad School Senator
- Better serve the needs of our staff and faculty by offering regular trainings around various topics to include, personal professional development, policy support, new processes/software support
- Graduate School staff attend external professional conferences to be engaged with broader issues and to bring ideas to UCCS and support graduate education
- Facilitate Responsible Conduct of Research training with the Office of Sponsored Programs

Outreach & Recruitment: Support responsible growth by collaborating with various community and campus partners.

- Maintain partnerships with local businesses and organizations to build awareness of the value of a graduate degree at UCCS
- Maintain a highly collaborative relationship with the Enrollment Management Unit in which we support and are supported by that unit in order to meet the University's strategic enrollment goals
- Offer and attend on campus and regional recruitment events to share our programs and opportunities
- Grow knowledge on current best practices in graduate enrollment management
- Partner with colleges and UCCS Downtown to provide targeted outreach

Student Support: Encourage student engagement through academic achievement, social and financial support.

- Strengthen scholarship and other funding opportunities
- Provide outlets for students to engage in social settings with a variety of disciplines
- Intentionally engage and promote international student activities
- Provide clear, easy to find information on websites and other materials
- Provide information sessions, workshops and trainings for current and prospective students (e.g., GRE test preparation, NSF GSRP)
- Thesis and dissertation guidance and completion

Policy & Standards: Promote quality education by providing clear and consistent standards. Evaluate needs of the campus based on data and national trends.

- Provide accurate and up to date information on websites and other printed materials
- Provide trainings and help guides
- Have an open door, email, phone policy where any and all questions are welcomed and encouraged
- Be consistent in all areas to ensure equity of treatment and quality of education
- Create policies that we can stand behind that have a clear reason for existing
- Confirmation of earned master's and doctoral degrees