ELPS Mission, Vision, and Values

Mission

The mission of the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies is to prepare entry and executive-level administrators for schools and colleges, faculty in colleges and universities, and policy scholars to serve in state, regional, and national policy agencies associated with educational and human service enterprise. The graduate programs of the department are designed to enrich knowledge, skills, and values requisite to effective leadership and to effective teaching and research in educational settings.

The Department views leaders as stewards and servants of organizations; designers of the social and cultural climate in which they work; teachers who facilitate and encourage human growth and development; change agents who continually examine the purpose and performance of their organizations; and conceptual provocateurs who challenge ideas and assumptions on which policy and practice are built.

Vision

The Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies will be nationally recognized for graduating outstanding, innovative, and courageous leaders and for producing significant educational research that influences policy and practice.

Core Values

Our core values, embedded in all components of the work that occurs within the Educational Leadership and Policy Studies Department, include the following:

- **Civility** – Affirming the power of human dignity and diversity
- **Candor** – Respecting the power of public forum and the role of dissent and debate
- **Courage** – Acting on conviction and linking belief to action
- **Responsibility** – Accepting care for one’s actions and decisions
- **Compassion** – Caring for person and principle and hold high expectations
- **Community** – Respecting diversity while developing an agenda of common caring
- **Persistence** – Accenting long-range goals and staying the course in face of hardship
- **Service** – Placing the welfare and promise of others before self
- **Excellence** – Calling individuals and organizations to high standards of performance
- **Justice** – Ensuring equity in opportunity and recognition