



SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND EXERCISE SCIENCES

STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-2025



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

School of Health and Exercise Sciences

Faculty of Health and Social Development
Okanagan Campus



QUICK FACTS *

School at a Glance



*2013-2018
**2019

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome

As Director of the School of Health and Exercise Sciences at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus, it gives me great pleasure to share with you our strategic plan for 2020-2025. Following a period of rapid growth between 2005 and 2019, and my appointment as Director at the start of 2018, it is timely for the School to review its current activities and to identify key priorities that will help to shape the future of the School.

Currently, the School has 19 full-time faculty members, many of whom are widely published internationally. Based on our emerging reputation for research and teaching excellence, and in combination with the School of Kinesiology at UBC Vancouver, we have been ranked #1 in Canada (QS and Shanghai rankings) and #3 (QS) or #18 (Shanghai) in the world for sport-related subjects. Looking forward, we have the opportunity to consolidate on our early successes and refine our practices, in order to strategically shape our future direction and confirm our position as a world-leading centre of excellence for the study of health and exercise sciences.

This strategic plan is the result of ~12 months of engagement, consultation, and thoughtful dialogue with faculty, staff, students and alumni and follows on from our 5-year external review. As such, the foundation of this plan is grounded in the feedback that we have received from our key stakeholders and external experts over the last year. This plan reaffirms our commitment to the values that influence our work, and highlights our commitment to strengthening UBC Okanagan and its standing as a top research and educational institution.

As a collaborative member of the UBC Okanagan campus, the School has directly integrated the broader institutional goals and aspirations into this document. With [Outlook 2040](#) and [UBC's Next Century](#) serving as the School's guide, the priorities outlined herein will position the School to support and advance the University-wide goals. In particular, the School will prioritize the delivery of experiential learning opportunities embedded in the solving of real-world research and development challenges as well as the enhancement of collaborative research efforts.

After more than a decade of rapid change at UBC's Okanagan campus, this plan presents goals for our continued transformation. I personally invite you to review our plan and I look forward to hearing your thoughts and ideas on how we can continue to grow and develop over the next five years.

Rob Shave, PhD
Director and Professor, School of Health and Exercise Sciences
University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus

VISION

Advance discovery and application of health and exercise knowledge for a better world.

MISSION

Optimize human health, from the individual to the population, through excellence in teaching, research, and community engagement.

VALUES

We value excellence.

The School embodies UBC's aspirational value to strive to be outstanding in teaching and research.

We value integrity.

As a School, we are a scholarly community committed to the highest ethical standards.

We value respect.

The School strives to achieve its mission and vision while respecting and celebrating the diversity of our students, faculty, staff, and communities.

We value academic freedom.

The School honours the unique value of the academy, which respects a scholar's freedom without risk of censure.

We value accountability.

As a School, we are accountable for our performance and lead by example in the responsible stewardship of resources.





Transformative Learning

Prepare aspiring professionals for meaningful impact

Research Excellence

Inspire discovery and innovation

Partnership & Engagement

Serve and engage communities to advance health

People & Place

Provide a welcoming and rewarding learning community

STRATEGIES



TRANSFORMATIVE
LEARNING

Prepare aspiring professionals for positive impact

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

Prepare career-ready graduates through exceptional student experiences.

- Actively engage students in evidence-informed and innovative curricula delivered by world-leading experts in the field of health and exercise sciences
- Provide students with exceptional practicum experiences that prepare them for real-world career opportunities
- Prepare students for postgraduate certifications in the field of health and exercise sciences
- Facilitate international educational opportunities

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMS

Create an exceptional environment for research trainees to address real-world research challenges.

- Deliver innovative graduate-level courses closely aligned with our research expertise
- Provide high-quality mentorship for research trainees
- Recruit top students from around the world who are drawn to the unique research strengths of the School
- Cultivate a collegial environment that facilitates the development of both academic excellence and also professional expertise and integrity

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Commit to learning impact both in and beyond the classrooms of the School of Health and Exercise Sciences.

- Continuous review and development of our curriculum in order to enhance the quality of our programs and student learning
- Actively engage and lead campus-wide initiatives that improve student health and well-being
- Foster mechanisms that help the School's undergraduate and graduate students, as well as faculty members, to develop as effective teaching and learning practitioners
- Work collaboratively with partners across BC and Canada to professionalize the discipline of health and exercise sciences



RESEARCH
EXCELLENCE

Inspire discovery and innovation

SCHOOL RESEARCH

Build a strong and diverse research culture that creates impact across disciplines

- Enhance graduate student research experiences in the School by providing opportunities for research trainees to participate in the development, completion and/or translation of high-quality research programs
- Explicitly support the development of research excellence in recognized areas of expertise
- Pursue and support the development of interdisciplinary research
- Enhance support for all researchers irrespective of the stage of their career
- Support the development and maintenance of meaningful research partnerships



PARTNERSHIP & ENGAGEMENT

Serve and engage communities to find solutions to real-world problems

LOCAL AND GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Strengthen community engagement and enhance accessibility for partners to promote reciprocity and coordination.

- Effectively communicate to relevant stakeholders the successes achieved and the opportunities provided by the School
- Identify and cultivate key relationships that support both teaching and learning
- Define our ongoing relationship with the School of Kinesiology at UBC Vancouver
- Identify and work with key stakeholders to establish a UBC Health and Exercise Centre
- Build and sustain strategic global networks that enhance the teaching and learning experience of our students and facilitate the delivery of world-leading research



PEOPLE & PLACE

Provide a welcoming and rewarding academic community

SYSTEMS, PROCESS & CULTURE

Make strategic investments in people, support systems and infrastructure

- Facilitate and encourage a collegial environment that supports faculty and students to successfully strive towards their career aspirations
- Continually review and, if required, refine the working policies of the School
- Work with Dean's Executive Council and Central Administration to optimize space and budget allocation
- Work with Okanagan Planning and Institutional Research as well as the Office of Research Services to review and refine the reporting of key metrics and performance indicators
- Systematically consider Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in all aspects of the School to support, encourage, and empower the full spectrum of ideas, perspectives, and talents irrespective of personal identity and background



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Faculty of Health and Social Development
School of Health and Exercise Sciences
Okanagan Campus

1147 Research Rd.
Kelowna, BC Canada V1V 1V7
250-807-9906 | fhds.info@ubc.ca
hes.ok.ubc.ca



STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-2025