

Arnold School of Public Health (ASPH) – 2023 Blueprint Goals with Status Updates

GOAL 1: Provide educational programs of excellence

The Arnold School continues to maintain strong enrollment with 2345 undergraduate students and 792 graduate students as of Fall 2022. We are committed to attracting the most qualified applicants and to offering the best educational experience to all of our students. Of note, greater selectivity across our five MPH programs has resulted in better matriculation rates than our peer institutions. ASPH is 16% above the national average in MPH yield.

The following data reflect additional points of excellence...

- 67% of AY22 undergraduate ASPH students graduated with Latin honors; 8% Summa Cum Laude
- 10% of AY22 undergraduate ASPH students graduated with USC leadership distinction
- 95% of AY22 undergraduate ASPH alumni were employed or furthering their education at 1-year post-graduation (of the 74% for whom an outcome was known)
- 97% of AY22 graduate public health alumni were employed or furthering their education at 1-year post-graduation (of the 86% for whom an outcome was known)

GOAL 2: Engage in more active and effective graduate recruitment strategies

*To build upon the pandemic-related interest in public health and recent social media ad campaigns highlighting our MPH programs, **the Arnold School recently hired a marketing director** (start date 3/16/2023). This new position will focus on creating a coordinated marketing strategy for the school to enhance overall visibility with a focus on increasing applications from highly qualified individuals, and particularly across our five MPH programs.*

GOAL 3: Promote quality, impactful, and ethical research at the Arnold School

*The Arnold School continues to lead the University in extramural funding. Our FY22 extramural total was \$47.3 million. Of that, \$25.1 million was NIH funding. **ASPH is ranked #13 in NIH funding among all U.S. schools of public health and #6 among those schools at public universities.** ASPH in FY22 was first in NIH funding among U.S. schools not housed in strong academic medical centers. FY23 extramural funding (as of 3/13/23) is \$32.2 million with \$14.2 million from NIH. **Faculty publications are at an all-time high** with a total of 764 for CY22, up 6.3% from CY21.*

GOAL 4: Actively plan for improved infrastructure for the Arnold School

*In FY23, the Arnold School has paid for critical infrastructure improvements in the Blatt PE Center, Close-Hipp Building, Discovery Building and the Public Health Research Center. Notably, these improvements include meeting spaces, research labs, offices and a 30-seat classroom in the Discovery Building and making lab and classroom enhancements in Blatt. In addition, the school has installed security cameras in the Public Health Research Center and is supporting security enhancements to the Close-Hipp parking garage (lighting and cameras) as well as improved signage for the COMD department in Close-Hipp. **The total of these investments in FY23 is \$750,000.***

GOAL 5: Recruit, develop, mentor, and retain quality faculty to meet the mission of the Arnold School

*In AY23, the Arnold School has added **15 faculty** and invested **\$1.91 million in start-up funds** to support their work. To ensure successful research activity, new and existing faculty are encouraged to participate in the Propel (NIH/NSF) Boot Camp, a program that began in the Arnold School and is now offered campus wide through the VPR's office. Over the past year, **10 ASPH faculty participated in this intensive program.** ASPH also had five faculty recognized with 2023 Breakthrough Awards, including 1 Breakthrough Leader and 4 Breakthrough Stars.*

GOAL 6: Meet the professional development needs of the public health workforce

*The Arnold School has an obligation through our mission and our CEPH accreditation standards to support the existing public health workforce. This work is carried out through both school-level efforts and grant-based initiatives. A significant portion of this work occurs through the **Center for Community Health Alignment** which includes our nationally recognized **PASOs program** (providing education, advocacy and leadership development in SC Latino communities) and the **Community Health Worker Institute** (providing training to community health workers statewide). To elevate the profile of workforce development in partnership with DHEC and other community-based entities, **the Arnold School recently hired a new workforce development coordinator** (start date 2/1/2023).*

Arnold School of Public Health (ASPH) – 2024 Blueprint Goals with SMART Objectives

In 2024, the Arnold School will be seeking reaccreditation through the Council on Education for Public Health. Our self-study report is being compiled with required metrics for evaluation and quality improvement; thus, our Blueprint goals are updated here to better align with accreditation requirements and better reflect our mission.

GOAL 1: Provide undergraduate and graduate educational programs of excellence

SMART Objectives:

In AY23, 70% of ASPH undergraduates will graduate with Latin honors.

In AY23, 12% of ASPH undergraduates will graduate with USC leadership distinction.

In AY23, the yield of admitted graduate students across all ASPH degree programs will be > 40%.

In AY23, 95% of graduate and undergraduate alumni with known outcomes will be employed or furthering their education 1-year post-graduation.

GOAL 2: Promote high quality, impactful and ethical research

SMART Objectives:

In FY23, total extramural grant funding to ASPH will exceed \$48M.

In FY23, total NIH funding to ASPH will exceed \$26M.

In FY23, total new grant applications will exceed 300.

In CY23, total faculty publications will exceed 800.

In AY24, 12 ASPH tenure-track faculty will participate in the Propel NIH/NSF Boot Camp.

GOAL 3: Recruit and retain highly qualified faculty and staff to meet our mission

SMART Objectives:

In AY24, > 60% of faculty searches will be completed within 6 months.

In CY23, > 70% of staff searches will be completed within 3 months.

In AY23, > 80% of eligible tenure-track faculty will have earned tenure within 6 years.

In AY24, > 90% of all junior faculty will have participated in at least 2 mentoring meetings.

In CY23, > 70% of FTE staff will be working for ASPH 3-years post-hire.

In CY23, > 60% of FTE and RGP staff will participate in professional development activities.

In AY24, > 60% of faculty will participate in professional development activities.

GOAL 4: Support community engagement activities that promote and improve the public's health

SMART Objectives:

In CY23, > 250 community-based professionals will receive specialized training through ASPH.

In CY23, ASPH will hold at least 3 school-level events in partnership with community organizations.

In AY24, > 50% of faculty will report at least one community engagement activity.

In AY23, at least 650 undergraduate students and 60 graduate students will gain practical experience in a community-based setting; 470 graduate students will gain clinical experience.

GOAL 5: Meet the fiscal and physical resource needs of the school

SMART Objectives:

In FY24, ASPH will maintain an operational reserve equal to 10% of our annual operating budget.

In FY23, ASPH will invest at least \$750K toward maintaining and improving our buildings.

In FY24, ASPH will maintain a reserve of at least \$1M for building-related emergency/critical needs.

In FY23, ASPH will invest at least \$75K toward upgrading our IT infrastructure

In FY24, ASPH will maintain a reserve of at least \$100K for IT-related needs.

In AY24, ASPH will invest at least \$1.5M in start-up investments for new faculty.

In FY24, ASPH will maintain a reserve of \$500K for merit raises and retention of existing faculty.

In FY24, ASPH will maintain a reserve of \$300K for bonuses, merit and retention of existing staff.