**Department of Communication & Performance**

**Vision, Mission, Goals, and Values Statements**

*Approved by faculty and staff 8-24-18*

**VISION:**

To offer high demand, high impact communication and storytelling training that is recognized on campus and throughout the region as vital to improving the human condition and creating fulfilling career paths.

**MISSION:**

The Department of Communication and Performance advances the understanding of communication by focusing on the ways people communicate with each other personally and professionally, embracing the complexity of human diversity, and examining the ways in which identity and meaning are created through the stories we tell and the stories we are told.

We engage our mission by pursuing the goals and upholding the values below.

**GOALS**

1. To ready students for a variety of careers by enhancing their practical communication skills, including both oral and written communication, and by equipping students with the experience, knowledge, craft, and competence of working professionals and leaders.
2. To facilitate intellectual growth, research training and discovery, critical thinking acumen, and performance craft for students and faculty.
3. To explore human performance in its many forms and utilize it as a way of understanding and knowing.
4. To promote civic engagement, social responsibility, and civil dialogue in local, national, and global arenas.
5. To make vital contributions to liberal arts education at ETSU by offering an exceptional General Education program in oral communication through skilled training provided by recognized experts from the communication discipline.
6. To support the professional aspirations of our graduates and maintain ongoing relationships with them, while seeking out opportunities to connect our current students with our alumni.
7. To foster a work environment that values each individual’s contributions, inspires good humor and creative problem-solving, promotes personal and professional growth, and recognizes each person as a member of families and communities beyond work.

**VALUES**

* **Relationships**—that are healthy, respectful, and mutually beneficial for all members of our department community.
* **Excellence**—in critical thinking, academic endeavor, creative exploration, and artistic expression.
* **Inclusiveness**—that fosters respectful, ethical engagements and dialogues across populations and communities, and that advocates for free and open exchange of ideas, sustained democratic values, and working for the public good.
* **Scholarship**—that is pragmatic, critical, theoretical, and creative, and that is a product of passionate engagement with important social and research questions.