

Values



Courage and creativity

Courageous researchers and teachers in the Faculty of Health Sciences create new knowledge to share with our colleagues, collaborators, national and international communities and students. We are at the cutting edge of knowledge in our fields and have creative approaches to learning and teaching. Courage and creativity are reflected in our decision making, teaching and research. We have the courage to take calculated risks, innovate and do things differently. Professional staff have the courage to try new, innovative processes or systems rather than doing things the way we have always done them. All staff and students have the courage to speak out against racism, discrimination and injustice.

Respect and integrity

These values are reflected in how we communicate and work with each other, our students and our partners. We will respect the contributions of all staff, academic and professional, and understand that everyone has a role to play in the success of the faculty and the shared experiences of students and other stakeholders. Our research and teaching is always to the highest ethical standards. Education in academic honesty is routine for all students and academic integrity is at the centre of our research. Individual staff and the Faculty continually reflect on whether our individual behaviour and group processes adhere to these values, and adjust behaviour to demonstrate the values. In the rich Faculty context of diverse ideas, beliefs and experiences we “disagree well” and engage in respectful, constructive debate. Our practices are transparent to students and to staff.

Inclusion and diversity

Every person in FHS is valued for the contribution they make to our collective success, rather than for who they are or their position in the organisation. All staff and students have opportunities to reach their full potential. Inclusion and diversity is reflected in the qualities of our staff and students, a sense of cultural safety for all, our recruitment practices and student experience. We focus on developing the cultural intelligence of our staff and students and value qualities such as cultural competence and cross cultural knowledge. We are known for working effectively in diverse cultural settings. Our staff at all levels, both academic and professional and our student cohorts are culturally diverse.

Openness and engagement

We are open to others through networks that we nurture, through our research and teaching and through being alert to opportunities. We value our connections to the communities we serve. We seek collaborators in every project that we instigate and welcome the opportunity to work on other projects. We actively seek meaningful and mutually beneficial engagement with local health districts, primary health care networks, other faculties and Universities, industry and communities, nationally and internationally. Our managers and leaders take an open, transparent and collaborative approach to decision making, seeking input from team members and taking multiple views into account before arriving at decisions. We engage in public debate and policy development in our areas of expertise.

Adapted from “Strategic Planning for 2016–20. Discussion Paper no. 5. A Culture Built on Our Values, The University of Sydney, September, 2015”.