**The University Mission:**
We are “...a community of engaged citizens...dedicated to scholarship and learning, integrating students at all levels in the creation and application of knowledge through excellence in teaching, research, creative activities, outreach, and service. [We] nurture student success by providing distinctive and competitive educational programs embedded in a welcoming environment, preparing a diverse student population to embark on meaningful life endeavors.”

**University Strategic Priorities:**
1. Support student success to foster retention, progression and graduation
2. Promote teaching, research, and creative excellence
3. Strategically expand undergraduate and graduate enrollment
4. Strengthen economic and community partnerships
5. Invest in faculty and staff to maximize their potential
6. Promote a culture of inclusiveness of people and ideas
7. Enhance physical, technological, and financial infrastructure to support our mission, vision, and values
8. Improve efficiency and effectiveness of institutional processes and systems

**The Division of Student Affairs Mission:**
As a partner in the academic experience, the Division of Student Affairs empower students to succeed by engaging in intentional learning opportunities and providing resources that foster holistic growth and well-being in an inclusive campus community.

**DSA Vision:**
We aspire to provide model programming and services that promote positive transformational experiences for our students while empowering them to reach their full potential.

**DSA Strategic Priorities** (with links to University strategic priorities):
- Develop a culture that significantly impacts student retention and academic success. (Theme: Student Success)
  - Primary link: priority 1
  - Secondary links: priorities 2-8
- Produce strategic and effective student learning experiences. (Theme: Student Learning)
  - Primary links: priorities 1 and 2
  - Secondary links: priorities 3-8
- Ensure a work environment that supports and retains quality employees. (Theme: Staff Excellence)
  - Primary link: priority 5
  - Secondary links: 1-4 and 6-8
- Acquire, allocate, and spend funds using a strategy-driven fiscal philosophy. (Theme: Strategic Finance)
  - Primary links: 7 and 8
  - Secondary links: 1-6
THE DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS STRATEGIC THEMES AND OBJECTIVES
- THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI -

**Student Success Objectives** (primary link: university priority 1)

1. Enhance staff expertise in student development, resources, and engagement opportunities
2. Improve coordination of human and financial resources
3. Support and evaluate programs in accordance with appropriate standards
4. Develop environments that support retention, progression, and graduation
   Increase students’ attachment to Southern Miss

**Student Learning Objectives** (primary links: university priorities 1 and 2)

1. Develop effective student educative practices
2. Improve coordination of human and financial resources
3. Support and evaluate programs in accordance with appropriate standards
4. Optimize all opportunities for student learning
5. Develop a culture of learning that helps facilitate academic success

**Professional Excellence Objectives** (primary link: university priority 5)

1. Improve teambuilding and leadership skills
2. Improve coordination of human and financial resources
3. Provide competitive packages to retain and recruit high quality staff
4. Enhance perception of community and team among staff

**Strategic Finance Objectives** (primary links: university priorities 7 and 8)

1. Improve budget management skills
2. Enhance and develop fundraising and grant-writing skills
3. Seek and support additional funding opportunities
4. Strategically align budget structures and functions
5. Maximize revenue, minimize expenditures, and preserve assets