

HCDE Town Hall

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Professor & Chair

HCDE Mission & Vision

MISSION

We build possibility. We advance systems and technologies for people and communities to create accessible, sustainable, and prosperous futures.

We create intersections. We thrive at the critical junction of research, education, and community to cultivate equity, access, and opportunity.

VISION

We believe a just future is possible. We will be the leading academic program integrating empathy and collaboration to design and engineer equitable practices, tools, and technologies across the globe.



HCDE Guiding Principles

RESPECT FOR PEOPLE

We respect all individuals, communities, and their agency. We assume positive intent on behalf of those we work with and strive to understand before acting.

EQUITY

We centralize the needs of those who are often marginalized. We work to create environments and practices that are open and safe for all participants and perspectives from all social identities.

INTERDISCIPLINARY EXPLORATION

We celebrate innovation, iteration, and reflection using interdisciplinary methods and perspectives. As we endeavor toward excellence, we take considered risks and learn from mistakes. We seek opportunities for collaborative exploration and partnerships.

THOUGHTFUL IMPACT

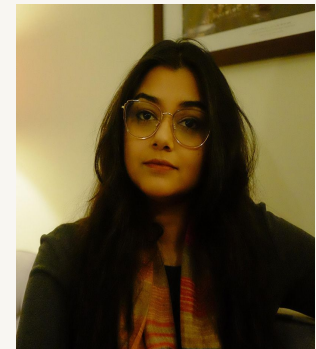
We are action-oriented toward challenges while continually questioning and improving. We continue to follow and study the repercussions of our actions so that they maximize the possible benefits while anticipating and minimizing possible harms.

HCDE Strategic Plan - Year 2

- **Goal 1:** Advance HCDE as a high quality, influential, interdisciplinary design and engineering program, and ensure our mission and vision are widely recognized.
- **Goal 2:** Balance total HCDE program size and scope with demand, ensuring the financial stability and sustainability to maintain excellence in teaching and research
- **Goal 3:** Advance and sustain diversity and equity across our work and communities
- **Goal 4:** Develop and execute a strategic approach to bolstering and diversifying high-quality research and research impact
- **Goal 5:** Strengthen integration with the College of Engineering's current goals and influence future goals

2020-2021 - Lots to Celebrate

- Welcoming 9 PhD, 128 MS, 30 UCD, & 74 BS students to HCDE (remotely)
- Welcome to new faculty members Sarah Coppola and Sucheta Ghoshal
- Welcome back from sabbatical to Daniela Rosner, Kate Starbird, and Gary Hsieh
- Welcome to Kathleen Rascon to her new role as Academic Services Director and Melissa Ewing as Outreach & Events Manager
- Lots of active research on COVID-19
- Sieg Hall 3rd floor expansion



2020-2021 - Lots to Consider

- COVID-19 quarantines will likely continue until a vaccine is developed and widely available
- School and assistive care facility closures and their impact on our community's caregivers
- 2020 Election and its impacts
- Continued systemic racism and anti-Black violence
- Visa concerns for international students
- Pending state budget cuts to be announced after the election
- Impacts of hiring slow downs on our graduating students

Chair's Goals for the Year

- Get us through the pandemic while maintaining our community
- Work on objectives for 2nd year of Strategic Plan (with some revisions)
- Make significant headway on diversity, equity, and inclusion goals
- End this biennium with a positive budget and manage any budget cuts while keeping to our principles
- Execute Sieg Hall 3rd floor expansion (pandemic permitting)
- Be as transparent and communicative as possible
- Maintain focus on educational mission while ensuring research is as minimally disrupted as possible

COVID-19 Updates

UW & COE are in Phase 2

We anticipate Autumn quarter will be extremely similar to Spring and Summer 2020

- All of our classes, with few exceptions, are remote
- All official department work (faculty, staff, and committee meetings, department events) is remote
- Research can take place in person only in labs with approved lab safety protocols

The COE has already asked the department to anticipate Winter 2020 courses to be online and to provide a prioritized list of in-person vs. remote.






Lee Paul Sieg Hall Access

- Sieg Hall is closed to students unless there is special approval. Student organizations can apply for access by applying to the College of Engineering - contact Jane Skau for more details on this process.
- Please attend remote classes from your dorm, apartment, or other safe off-campus location.
 - If you need WiFi access, please see UW IT resources from recent COVID-19 update email
 - If you need to attend classes remotely from campus, please use the HUB or South Campus Center, where cleaning protocols and safe social distancing can be assured
- Faculty, staff, and HCDE student employees can work on campus only if its is deemed essential and follow established safety protocols, but are encouraged not to.
- **Masks required in all of Sieg Hall** except when working privately in a closed door office space.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

HCDE is committed to being anti-racist and is taking significant steps this year toward building a community

The GSA created and launched Student Affinity Groups this year

				
<p>HCDE Spectrum - LGBTQIA+ & Allies</p> <p>HCDE Spectrum is a collective where students who identify as members of the LGBTQIA+ community, along with allies can have a safe space to discuss challenges and needs, while also promoting advocacy and celebrating pride throughout the HCDE community.</p>	<p>HCDE Able (Dis)Ability</p> <p>HCDE Able is a collective of students with varying (dis)abilities visible or invisible - physically, mentally, or cognitively, along with allies. Able is designed to uplift, empower, and support members while engaging in advocacy efforts to raise awareness and improve accommodation for students' unique needs and abilities.</p>	<p>HCDE WXM - Womxn</p> <p>HCDE WXM is a student group dedicated to connecting and fostering a community where womxn can feel empowered, celebrated, and included, recognizing the unique contributions of womxn in HCDE.</p>	<p>HCDE URM - Underrepresented Minority</p> <p>HCDE Underrepresented Minorities (URM) is a group that provides Black, LatinX, Indigenous, Tribal, Southeast Asian, and Multiracial students with a safe space to discuss racial and ethnic inclusion, advocacy, and build a supportive and empowering community.</p>	<p>HCDE International</p> <p>HCDE Intl. is a group that recognizes that a global perspective is essential to our community and provides a space for immigrants and locals to share experiences, resources, and promote advocacy for diverse backgrounds.</p>

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion - Commitments

- Engaging in department-wide self-education and trainings, including reading groups
- Establishing more channels to listen to and learn from our students, faculty, and staff of color
 - Open call for new Chair's Student Advisory Board members
 - Affinity Groups are encouraged to collect and share experiences with dept. leadership
- Examining and revising our practices around hiring
- Examining and revising our practices around admissions
- Adjusting our department fundraising priorities
 - New fellowships relating to DE&I, HCDE Student Emergency Fund
- Engaging with College of Engineering's DE&I activities
- Empower and resource HCDE's Diversity Committee
 - Protected time for Diversity Committee chair to work on goals for year
 - Look for an announcement soon about open application process to apply for department funds for DE&I-related activities

Your Questions

What are steps that HCDE is doing to foster **mental health & emotional wellbeing** of its students, staff, faculty, etc.? what about **financial concerns**?
How can we ensure a safe learning environment during this time?

Mental Health & Financial Resources

Top down guidance from the COE Dean and HCDE Chair to maintain flexibility, understanding, and set expectations that are commensurate with ongoing world events.

Mental health resources:

- [Task Force on Student Mental Health](#)
- [The Whole U](#)
- [The Center for Child & Family Well-Being](#)
- [Virtual Let's Talk](#) (*UW NetID required*)
- [Resilience Lab](#)
- [Psychological First Aid](#)
- [UW Carelink](#) (for faculty and staff)
- HCDE Slack #mentalhealth channel - weekly de-stressing activities

Financial resources:

- HCDE Website on Financial Aid Resources: <https://www.hcde.washington.edu/financial-resources>
- Student Technology Loan Program <https://stlp.uw.edu/>

Your Questions

Could you talk a little bit about the departments plans advice for **supporting community building & learning** among peers in our new environment? So much of learning happens in the hallway, in the common spaces, and walking to class together. Or if there are no plans yet what advice do you have for us as students to start initiatives?

HCDE Community Connections

HCDE Department Slack Server can be used to connect across the community
(hcde-department.slack.com)

- #social
- #mentalhealth
- #diversity-equity-inclusion
- #parents
- #reseach
- #teaching
- #sweet-puppers (all things dogs)
- #feelgood (post things that make you happy)

HCDE Department Sieg Hall Whiteboard on Miro

<http://tinyurl.com/HCDEWhiteboard>

HCDE Events

Most all of HCDE's events have been moved remotely - check out our calendar here:

<https://www.hcde.washington.edu/calendar>

Upcoming events:

- Portfolio review nights
- Mini Career Fair
- A Discussion with the Center for an Informed Public about the Upcoming U.S. Elections
- Upcoming virtual tea times

Your ideas are welcome! Feel free to reach out to me directly if you have ideas.

Your Questions

Why isn't UW offering a tuition cut?

UW Response:

<https://www.washington.edu/coronavirus/autumnquarter/#financial-concerns>

HCDE Situation:

- In a normal year, ~83% of HCDE's expenditures are on its people (faculty, staff, TAs, etc.)
- We have increased the amount of teaching support for our classes to accommodate remote learning (e.g., additional TAs, graders, etc.)
- Costs saved in some areas (e.g., food/rental for events) has transitioned to other costs (e.g., individually mailing packets to students for graduation)
- We are preparing for state budget cuts as yet to be announced

Additional Q&A

Please add your questions and vote on them using Zoom's Q&A feature