



پوهنتون کاردان
KARDAN UNIVERSITY

Strategic Plan

Bachelor of Political Science
Program



(2021-2025)



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INTRODUCTION

In November 2021, the Department of Bachelor of Political Science (BPS) endorsed the Strategic Plan for the term 2021–2025. This plan is inspired and adopted in light of the SWOT analysis and many discussions within different meetings.

The plan is developed in the context of recent changes in the Vision and Mission of the department. After many meetings and evaluations, we found that our previous Vision and Mission was overambitious and was above the level of bachelor's program. Therefore, we studied our Vision and Mission again and made it according to the level of the bachelor's program.

The University deemed these changes vital for sustainability of the program, enrich the educational experiences it offers and support the transformation of students for coping with the modern challenges they must cope with. It enables BPS to fulfil the mandate it has been entrusted and prepare a generation that will contribute to welfare of the society and the country.

This Plan encompasses the Department's vision, mission, and values. It identifies the key actions that will help it focus on attaining its objectives. In addition, it will guide decision-making and resource allocation in the right direction over the next years.

PBS&IR has turned its attention into engaging its faculty members, staff, and students in identifying means and methods through which they can successfully attain the goals and objectives set in light of consultations we had with the different stakeholders.


BACKGROUND

Universities in Afghanistan offer law and political science as one-degree program where students are required to take courses of law, Sharia, Political Science as part the same degree during the initial two years. In the fifth semester, the universities offer them two choices: law or diplomacy.

For obvious reasons, Kardan University tended to follow international standards and offer law as an independent degree program whereas offer a joint degree of Political Science as an independent degree program. The Faculty of Law therefore is separate from Faculty of Social Sciences, which covers BPS, master's in international relations and bachelor's in journalism and communications.

BPS, from its inception in 2016, is driven by a vision of setting up a vibrant and stimulating academic environment. Nonetheless, it was observed that curriculum of the program was influenced by the law subjects due to requirements of the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) which had not permitted establishment of a separate program of political science from law.

In order to modernize the program and bring it into compliance with international standards as well as to facilitate the alumni respond to the market needs, the medium of instruction of BPS was changed into English. Moreover, the process of revision of the curriculum was commenced by a specially designated committee of experts to ensure the courses offered and the course contents delivered to the students were updated and responding to the realities of the 21st century.



VISION

To be considered change, solution and knowledge oriented by producing students who are professionally trained in political science.

MISSION

Pursuing academic excellence, creativity, research, and professionalism in the discipline of political science.


Core Values

- » Academic excellence
- » Critical thinking
- » Creativity, innovation, and originality through excellence in teaching and research
- » Promoting, professing, and performing ethical principles and Standards
- » Promoting civic responsibilities
- » Respect for faculty, students, and staff.

Key Priorities

The Department of BPS is striving for promoting innovative thinking that responds to Afghanistan's and international issues. Innovative ideas are only relevant if communicated properly, teaching and knowledge dissemination are useful if put to discussion and reflection, and hence research is the only way in which knowledge is disseminated as well as put forth for discussion, critique and reflection. Due to these reasons, research remains the key priorities of not only this department but of the university as a whole.

Towards 2025, two strategic priorities and relevant objectives guide our efforts at the Department. These are:

- » To implement and maintain the curriculum and keep it updated and as per the accepted standards.
 - » To have standard teaching.
 - » To signs MoUs with other national and international institutions.
 - » To enable the degree program through research, extra- and co-curricular activities as well specialized certificate courses attract more students and ultimately respond to the market needs.
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| SWOT ANALYSIS

Self-assessment of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for the Faculty of Social Sciences will enable the same remain focused in design of the plans for the future.

Strengths

- » Collegial work environment
- » Excellent library services (physical and digital)
- » Excellent student population
- » Strong pool of faculty members
- » Research experience of most of the faculty members
- » Proper evaluation mechanisms in place
- » Strong leadership team
- » Support of the management team for innovation and growth

Weaknesses

- » Lack of distinguished professors educated internationally
- » Lack of students interest in seminars and workshops
- » Lack of cooperation from government and private sector in relation to internship and practical work for students

Opportunities

- » Invest strategically to sustain and grow
- » Increased focus on teaching and learning innovation
- » Enable the departments become more research oriented
- » Huge number of high school graduates looking for high class education
- » Ministry of Higher Education's emphasis on quality in teaching and research

Threats

- » Other private universities offering same courses with low quality and fee
- » Restrictions in the revision and updating of the curriculum
- » Deteriorating financial situation of households



| STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVE 1

To maintain and strengthen our curriculum.

Key Actions:

- » Make sure that our curriculum is implemented.
- » Make sure that our curriculum is outcome based.
- » Continuously revise the curriculum in order to make it in accordance with the accepted standards.

OBJECTIVE 2

To recruit and retain highly qualified faculty members and further develop their capacity to ensure best learning outcome for our students.

Key Actions:

- » Offer nationally competitive salaries for new faculty.
- » Manage work-load on the faculty members.
- » Design special programs for the capacity building of the faculty members.
- » Encourage and support faculty members to participate in national and international conferences and research activities.
- » Nominate deserving staff for service awards.

OBJECTIVE 3

To create an environment that leads to quality research among our faculty and students alike.

Key Actions:

- » To assign manageable course-load on the faculty members in order to allow them to do research.
- » To arrange more research workshops to our faculty members.
- » Encourage and support students' research in the Research Society.

OBJECTIVE 4

To broaden our relations with national and international universities/ institutes and organizations, to pursue national and international cooperation and seek opportunities for our graduates and faculty.

Key Actions:

- » Signing MoUs with institutions within the country.
- » Signing MoUs with institutions outside Afghanistan.

OBJECTIVE 5

To make a wide variety of extra and co-curricular events in the department and to make sure that all our students are getting the necessary help in their capacity building outside the classrooms.

Key Actions:

- » Arrange a grand book week event at least once a year.
- » Invite guest speakers.
- » Arrange competitions among the students.
- » Support Political Science Students Club.

OBJECTIVE 6

To add more digitally oriented material to the courses, taught in the department and make the full use of technology available in the campus.

Key Actions:

- » Arrange Online Conferences.
- » Add more videos to drawn attention of students.
- » Add more e-books in reference material for students.
- » Support Library to enrich its online e-book corner.

OBJECTIVE 7

Have impact on bringing significant positive change to address a social challenge.

Key Actions:

- » Place our department as a central lever for social change.
- » Increase social awareness on societal issues.
- » Focus on bringing positive changes to address social injustice and challenges.

This strategic plan verified in the Faculty of Social Sciences Academic Council, dated 6th February 2021 meeting #01 and approved by the University Academic Council dated 02/May/2021.



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