The Department of General Practice Strategic Plan is a statement of our Mission, Values, Key Result Areas and related strategies. This document informs a more detailed work plan which we use to monitor our progress and outcomes.

**ABBREVIATED STRATEGIC PLAN 2010 - 2012**
**DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL PRACTICE**
School of Medicine, University of Western Sydney

**MISSION & VISION**

*The Department of General Practice will work collaboratively to deliver best practice teaching and learning experiences so that UWS Graduates will understand and value the many roles of General Practitioners in Primary Health Care, and are strongly motivated to consider a career in General Practice, particularly in areas of need.*

*To achieve this vision the Unit will build the teaching and research capacity of the General Practitioners and other primary health care providers who work with us. Our research agenda will focus on contributing to the evidence base in primary health care and general practice education.*

**VALUES**

In alignment with the mission of the School of Medicine, the work of the Department of General Practice will be informed by the following core values:

**Social Justice**
We promote equity, prioritising areas of need in health, education and the healthcare workforce.

**Collaboration**
We work collaboratively within the School of Medicine, and more widely across the University of Western Sydney and beyond. We will build and sustain respectful and effective partnerships with General Practitioners and other primary health care providers, their related organisations, teaching and healthcare institutions and with the communities in which we work.

**Excellence through innovation**
We use innovative, evidence based teaching and research activities that are informed by and will inform other programs, locally, nationally and internationally.

**People focused**
In all our work we value people and respond to the needs and hopes of the patients, students, colleagues and community members with whom we work.
KEY RESULT AREAS

- Build and develop the General Practice Unit within the School of Medicine and beyond
- Develop and implement a sustainable best practice learning and teaching program in General Practice
- Build General Practice / Primary Health Care research capacity
- Engage with local communities to inform our work and build mutually beneficial relationships

1. BUILD AND DEVELOP THE GENERAL PRACTICE UNIT WITHIN THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND BEYOND

Strategies:
1.1 Recruit staff to carry out core responsibilities and seek funding for additional staff as required
1.2 Develop knowledge and skills of staff members
1.3 Maintain effective team communication for example through regular team meetings and development of a procedure manual
1.4 Establish and maintain good relationships with other units of the School of Medicine (SoM), the wider university and community including by ensuring adequate Department of General Practitioner (GP) representation at key meetings e.g. through establishment and maintenance of Department of General Practice webpage.

2. DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A SUSTAINABLE BEST PRACTICE LEARNING AND TEACHING PROGRAM IN GENERAL PRACTICE

Strategies:
2.1 Develop and implement a General Practice curriculum which will be informed by mapping the existing SoM curriculum and consulting with other Universities, the community, GP stakeholders and educators.
2.2 Ongoing evaluation of the GP Curriculum
2.3 Support and encourage student interest beyond curriculum
2.4 Ongoing recruitment of GP supervisors and other community teachers
2.5 Develop and implement a GP supervisor training/ support program
2.6 Support Rural Clinical School (RCS) GP attachments
2.7 Develop and strengthen GP teaching across the SoM curriculum
2.8 Seek opportunities to introduce a multidisciplinary teaching approach

3. BUILD GENERAL PRACTICE / PRIMARY HEALTH CARE RESEARCH CAPACITY

Strategies:
3.1 Plan research agenda
3.2 Build post graduate opportunities
3.3 Build GP research capacity
3.4 Maintain individual staff research interests
4 ENGAGE WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO INFORM OUR WORK AND BUILD MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RELATIONSHIPS

Strategies:
4.1 Develop and implement a plan for ongoing community engagement in teaching e.g. through online survey and regional stakeholder forums
4.2 Attend relevant community meetings / events