As society, public institutions and universities respond to social, political and governmental changes around the globe, the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs has embarked on a comprehensive planning process to strengthen its leadership role and raise its academic stature and profile.

UCLA Luskin’s planning project focuses on identifying society’s most pressing problems, developing new opportunities to address them, and creating the knowledge base, tools and initiatives required to lead in these areas for generations to come.
DEFINING our FUTURE

STRAIGHTGOALS AND INITIATIVES

URBAN COMMUNITIES
Create an Institute on Urban Life to focus on inequality, economic development and other challenges confronting urban populations. The Institute will leverage the Center for Community Partnerships and Center for Civil Society, as well as a proposed new center, the UCLA Center for Social Justice, Equity and Opportunity. The Institute will build a robust research, teaching and service agenda around the relationship between economic development and urban poverty.

GLOBAL AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
Develop UCLA Luskin’s international profile by establishing partnerships within Los Angeles and internationally that expose students to the challenges faced by communities both here and abroad. Building on the School’s existing research strengths in global affairs, this initiative will enhance the international curriculum to include new programs, specializations and degrees, and expand and deepen UCLA Luskin’s partnerships and international alumni network.

DEVELOPING TOMORROW’S LEADERS
Enhance student engagement and leadership activities to provide better experiences that are essential to a public affairs education. With new leadership programs and projects, UCLA Luskin will make an impact through student research, practice and other tangible work products.

ENHANCING INTERDISCIPLINARY THINKING
Coordinate and develop curricular initiatives across the School and campus, integrating UCLA Luskin’s unique mix of programs in Public Policy, Social Welfare and Urban Planning to reshape the field of public affairs and provide cross-disciplinary training for the next generation of public service leaders.

EDUCATION FOR LIFE
Develop revenue-generating programs and internal and external partnerships to aid in the creation of markets for knowledge-based products. Through certificate programs, expanded executive education and mid-career programs—matched with research serving community partners, social service providers and public agencies—UCLA Luskin will encourage a culture of continued improvement through education.

IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK
Starting with the 2012-13 academic year, a five-year implementation plan will translate strategic goals and initiatives into actions that are prioritized, resourced, tracked and measured. Outcomes from the efforts of Years 1 and 2 will influence Years 3-5. Progress will be reviewed annually and reforecast or realigned accordingly to ensure relevance and contemporary strategic direction for the School. Such annual plan assessments will provide the basis for future multi-year planning.

Defining Our Future: UCLA Luskin’s Critical Advantage is a living, breathing plan. The vision is supported by strategic goals and initiatives that will be re-evaluated and refined as needs change. The plan’s outcomes will focus on implementing the School’s vision for an innovative global public affairs program of the future.

The plan’s legacy will be a well-engaged alumni population; new and expanded collaborations with community partners; invigorated scholarship, teaching and research; and future leaders who will transform the practice of public affairs to benefit people and communities across the globe.

FOLLOW US as we Define our Future at publicaffairs.ucla.edu