Section 1.0, Executive Summary

The College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics Strategic Planning Taskforce, which included students, faculty, chairs, staff, deans and members of the College’s external advisory council prepared this document for consideration and approval by each department. Following a faculty survey that led to some modifications of the document, it was accepted as approved on 10 June 2011 by the CNSM Executive Committee.

Section 2.0 outlines the environment within which the strategic plan must operate. This includes the Vision statement, a listing of the mandates and constraints handed down by the State and CSU, and the operating principles that include the principles and assumptions inherent in the interpretation of all activities to be undertaken by CNSM students, faculty and staff.

Section 3.0 presents the long-term goals and objectives of the College. Departments and College committees, taskforces, and administrators will develop and carry out specific actions designed to accomplish these goals. The goals (not in order of priority) are:

**Goal 1:** Maintain the infrastructure required for high-quality research and preparation of students for future graduate school and career pursuits  
**Goal 2:** Establish transdisciplinary research and degree programs  
**Goal 3:** Upgrade and advance CNSM undergraduate and graduate programs  
**Goal 4:** Prepare students for careers  
**Goal 5:** Increase CNSM graduation rates  
**Goal 6:** Increase CNSM funding base  
**Goal 7:** Increase efficiency of current resource management  
**Goal 8:** Maintain an appropriate number of high-quality staff members  
**Goal 9:** Establish a 21st century learning environment
Section 2.0, Existing Conditions that Impact the Strategic Plan

The CNSM operates in the presence of several conditions that impact the manner by which its goals and objectives can be achieved. These conditions include mandates from the State and CSU, as well as constraints offered by present policies and practices of the departments, as follows:

Vision
Through creating knowledge and learning by discovery, CNSM changes the lives of students while preparing them for advanced degrees and successful careers in science and mathematics.

Mission
The College of Natural Sciences & Mathematics is dedicated to the principle that teaching and research are intricately mixed and that undergraduate research is an integral part of education. Through the combination of quality instruction, student involvement in research, and strong academic advisement, we transform the student experience.

Tagline
Exploration by inquiry and learning through discovery

Mandates and Constraints
1. Current department conditions, policies and practices
2. Meet FTES targets with reduced levels of funding
3. Operate under a balanced budget
4. CSU goal to increase the 6-year graduation rate by 8%
5. CSU goal to increase the number of science and math teaching credentials by 33%

The CNSM embraces a set of principles that underlie all actions taken by its faculty, staff and administrators. These principles define the environment in which operational decisions are made and include the following:

Operating Principles
1. We maintain an infrastructure that supports high-quality research and teaching opportunities, experiences and outcomes by undergraduate students, graduate students and the faculty working together.
2. We offer a high-quality curriculum that prepares students for careers, graduate programs in science and mathematics, and professional schools.
3. Maintaining high-quality research and instruction requires attracting, recruiting, and retaining high-quality faculty, staff and students.
4. We integrate research with teaching and teaching with research.
5. We value a collegial environment in which undergraduate and graduate students, the faculty and the staff can succeed personally and professionally.
6. Successful CNSM faculty members are researchers, instructors, mentors, and colleagues, who embrace our culture of collegiality, expectation of quality performance, and active university involvement.
7. Ongoing program improvement is made possible by evaluation that provides relevant and useful data.
8. We must generate non-state revenues to meet CNSM goals and achieve the level of quality we strive for.
9. High-quality transdisciplinary and applied programs in science, mathematics, and technology are important components of 21st Century Science and Mathematics education and research.