Executive Summary

With our vision statement, “To create an exemplary learning community that experientially prepares students for ethical leadership and active citizenship at Emory and beyond,” the Division of Campus Life Strategic Plan strives to develop a community with outstanding resources, programs, and facilities that supports the University mission and the needs of Emory students. As we create an environment that teaches holistic well-being, ethical leadership, community service, and global citizenship, we will make Emory a destination university for students seeking an outstanding co-curricular experience.

The Campus Life plan infuses health practices into all aspects of co-curricular education in order to advance holistic well-being among members of the Emory community. To fulfill this, additional staff and resources will be necessary to meet the growing mental health needs of Emory students. The Counseling Center must meet the standards established by the International Association of Counseling Services (IACS). The Counseling staff must also be located in close proximity to the Student Health Service staff in order to effectively collaborate with the medical doctors and psychiatrists. In addition, implementing mandatory student health insurance will ensure that students have adequate health care coverage. Innovative health education efforts will emphasize alcohol and drug education and sexual assault awareness.

The Division will provide additional safe and entertaining late-night activities for students as alternatives to many aspects of contemporary student social life that promote substance abuse. Increased resources will be required as well as enhanced programming space. In providing for the physical health of our students, upgrades to athletic and recreational programs and facilities will be necessary along with the appropriate staff to oversee these.

Developing students to become recognized ethical leaders is another cornerstone of the Campus Life Strategic Plan. This will be accomplished through: increasing career exploration efforts, developing outstanding staff members who will act as mentors, creating an exemplary residential/learning environment, and exploring issues of ethics, integrity, and honor. Through the development of signature Campus Life programs such as First Year at Emory (FYE) and Second Year at Emory (SYE), Emory aspires to lead our peer institutions in providing a top-quality living/learning experience in the residence halls. A major aspect of quality housing will be comprehensive renovations of the residence halls on central campus. Providing attractive living arrangements conducive to sound learning and community
building will be among the guiding principles. By developing an outstanding Career Center, a stellar Residence Life program, and a variety of opportunities for service and leadership, Campus Life can produce additional leaders who lead with integrity.

As Campus Life supports the university vision of “positive transformation in the world,” we will create opportunities for students to become global citizens. To accomplish this, additional staff and resources will be needed to address the needs of Emory Advantage and QuestBridge students, the University’s plan to increase international students, and cross-cultural education to the university community. Continual efforts will be made to educate the community and provide training in mediation and conflict resolution. Supporting a diverse community will continue to be a priority for Campus Life. Over forty percent of our undergraduates are students of color. We strive to provide many opportunities for all students to enjoy and experience this diversity.

Cultivating a campus culture that values service and fosters collaboration will be another key Campus Life initiative. As outlined in our plan, collaborative efforts will grow and prosper with Emory’s various academic units including Oxford College. Through joint student development programs such as Volunteer Emory and Barkley Forum, Campus Life seeks to advance these efforts and involve faculty and staff in helping us shape our students’ co-curricular experiences. In addition, more efforts will be made to develop and assess the learning outcomes of our programs and continually update them to meet the changing needs of Emory students.

Because many Campus Life offices are not located where they can easily collaborate and reach students, our plan provides the vision for obtaining adequate space that will allow effective exposure and collaboration. The Office of Multicultural Programs and Services, the Career Center, and the Counseling Center can have more impact on the community by gaining more efficient and logical space.

Two other community-building programs, the Bookstores and Food Service, will also provide opportunities for bringing all levels of staff and students as well as Druid Hills community members together. Through the Master Plan process, opportunities exist for various food service venues and for top-quality academic and university bookstores. We look forward to enhancing the services they provide in collaboration with our bookstore and food service vendors.

The Campus Life Core Values of human development, integrity, collaboration, professionalism, and community are interspersed throughout our strategic plan. Our staff members look forward to the opportunities presented by the University through the strategic plan. We aspire to make Emory University a top destination for students seeking the highest quality educational experience both inside and outside of the classroom.