Research at the University of Delaware

Mark A. Barteau  barteau@udel.edu
Senior Vice Provost for Research and Strategic Initiatives

Strategic Milestones – May 2008

i. A Diverse and Stimulating Undergraduate Academic Environment
ii. A Premier Research and Graduate University
iii. Excellence in Professional Education
iv. The Initiative for the Planet
v. The Global Initiative
vi. The Engaged University

UD – Path to Prominence
• RESEARCH is critical to the advancement of the University of Delaware!

• YOU are critical to the advancement of research at the University of Delaware!

(and the Research Office is not the Enemy!)

10-Year History of UD Research Expenditures

• FY 2008 Research Expenditures: $162MM - doubled in 10 years
• Over 1300 Proposals Submitted in 2007/08
• 3-Year Average Success Rate is 42%
72% of Research Funding from Federal Grants

UD FY08 Research Expenditures

- NIH: 21%
- NSF: 19%
- Other: 24%
- Other Fed: 14%
- DOD: 18%
- State: 4%

Trend toward Interdisciplinary Grants

Appendix: Trend in Single vs. Multiple Investigator Awards at NSF

NSF Research Grants for Single Investigators (SRPS) and Multiple Primary Investigators (MPI) by Percentage for both the Total Dollar Value (bars) and the Number of Grants (lines)

From NSB-08-80
Research Office Mission

- Advance the University’s Research Enterprise
- Build leading-edge research programs from existing strengths
- Develop new strengths aligned with Strategic Plan
- Promote the application and awareness of UD research and creative endeavors

SVPR as “Chief Research Advocate”

Enhance UD Competitiveness!

- Reduce “Drag”
- Cultivate Opportunity
- Build Infrastructure, Depth and Capability
PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS
• Increase communication/training for unit administrators
• Explore ways to improve proposal submission process
• Champion adequate financial reporting to units and PIs
• Define, institutionalize and support critical compliance functions

INCREASE OPPORTUNITY
• Increase flow of timely information about funding opportunities
• Provide training and assistance in grant development and proposal writing
• Organize pursuit of limited submission opportunities

BUILD CAPABILITY
• Build support infrastructure and resources needed to successfully compete for large, multi-investigator, multidisciplinary grants, including social sciences and humanities
• Facilitate planning, organization and management of shared facilities such as research instrumentation centers and research computing capacity
• Work with colleges and departments to identify research foci and facilitate coordinated response
• Seed promising concepts to develop sustainable initiatives
• Foster sustainable growth of interdisciplinary institutes (UDEI, IEC, DRC, CCZR, DBI)

OUTREACH
• Work with OEIP to promote “master agreements” with industry, CRADAs and partnership agreements with govt. and NGOs
• Explore regular publication on UD research with OCM
Cultural Changes Needed

- Research Office as facilitator, not regulator
  - Propagate best practices, training, responsible decision-making to units
  - Prudent oversight does not necessarily equal risk minimization
- Institutionalize compliance culture and organization
- Proactive approach to education about PI and unit responsibilities, responsible conduct of research, compliance issues, etc.
- Increase faculty involvement and recognition of value by chairs and deans
- Commit and act to minimize institutional barriers to multidisciplinary research
- Promotion and Tenure, faculty evaluation and reward need to evolve to recognize the critical importance of collaborative research

Presented to Provost’s Executive Council and Chairs Caucus, Fall ’08

What Chairs can do!  

- Support Department Staff in Internal and External Training Opportunities
- Provide Time at Faculty Meetings for Information/Discussion from Research Council Members
- Support Faculty Service on Critical Boards and Committees (IRB, IACUC, etc.)
- Help reduce Impediments to Interdisciplinary Research
  - Faculty Evaluation and Promotion
  - Overhead Return Issues
- Additions and Comments on Research Office Initiatives
- Help identify Needs and develop Opportunities for supporting Research and Scholarship in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

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Research Office Organizational Chart

Sr. Vice Provost For Research & Strategic Initiatives
- Karl Steiner
- Cordell Overby
- Chris Cook
  - Delaware Biotechnology Institute (DBI)
  - Institute of Energy Conversion (IEC)
  - Disaster Research Center (DRC)
  - UD Energy Institute (UDEI)
  - Center for Critical Zone Research (CCZR)

Associate Provost for Research
- Missy Peloso
- Brad Yops
  - Asst. Dir., IP and Tech Transfer*

Asst. Provost for Interdisciplinary Research Initiatives

Mgt. & Ops.
- Trudy Riley
- Janet Ianni
  - Manager, Sponsored Programs Admin.
  - Manager, Sponsored Research Accounting

Research

Asst. Provost for Research Management & Operations

- Sponsored program administration
  Pre-award processing, contract negotiation, award set-up, award management, subcontract management, training dept. admins, liaise with sponsor and dept. (admin and faculty)

- Sponsored research accounting
  Billing, audits, report creation, effort certification, cost sharing funds

- Grants system administration
  PS functional support

- Funding opportunities
  UDRF, GUR, and Limited submission support
Associate Provost for Research

- Research Integrity & Compliance
  - Human subjects, Animals, conflict of interest, research integrity, radiation, chemical, and biosafety

- Contractual Guidance
  - Research Agreements, Material Transfer, Non Disclosure Agreements

- General Research Related Problem Solving

Research Office Initiatives - 2008

- Research Council established
- Responsible Conduct of Research Workshops (1/08 and 1/09)
- Federal Demonstration Partnership
- Cost Accounting Standards / Unit Administrator Training
- UDRF Strategic Initiatives Program (6 Grants funded)
- CAYUSE System for grants.gov Submissions
- Export Control Policy (6-17)
- Limited Submission Notices on UDaily
Research Office Initiatives – in Progress

- Master agreements with companies (DuPont as first case)
- Streamlined PI permissions for grad research fellowships
- Streamlined match permission requests to external sponsors
- Web process for Materials Transfer Agreements
- Improved Conflict of Interest practices
- Improved Human and Animal Protocols Submission/Review
- UD Research Publication
- Funding Information and Dissemination
  - Working with Library & Community of Science
- Proposal development assistance/workshops
- Core facilities needs

What you can do!

- Increase your awareness of programs, procedures and policies in areas of greatest importance to your units
- Be pro-active in seeking out such opportunities
- Help raise the awareness of faculty, students and administrators about issues that affect them
- Help us to improve communications, especially leading to better practices and more timely reporting
- Help effect the needed cultural changes!