

Growing Sponsored Research at RIT
August 18, 2010
Consolidated Recommendations

- 1. President, Provost, SVP of F&A, VPR and Deans define what constitutes RIT research and articulate where it fits in the RIT long term plans and goals (5, 10, 15 years out).**
 - a. Define what we mean by research. Need a definition for research and scholarship that reflects the unique nature of RIT - creativity, innovation, pedagogy, prototype/application development, problem solving, consulting, basic research, book publishing, and journal articles ...?)**
 - b. Capture and recognize both externally and internally sponsored research and scholarship?**
 - c. Identify what must result in**
 - i. Published**
 - ii. Peer reviewed**
 - iii. Disseminated**
 - iv. Tech Transfer**
- 2. Articulate a complementary, team oriented relationship between research and teaching at RIT**
 - a. Do research and teaching receive equal status and recognition through promotion and plan-of-work development?**
 - b. Define recruiting and hiring strategies that meet the needs for establishing research excellence as well as for teaching requirements.**
 - c. Provide incentives for excellence in teaching and excellence in research?**
- 3. Develop a strategic plan with milestones for reaching the research goals articulated by the senior administration.**
 - a. Establish the characteristics of a "RIT research focus area."**
 - b. Develop / refine and identify the RIT research focus areas where RIT is or could become the recognized leader.**
 - c. Develop a faculty hiring strategy and plans that include rank, salary and start-up-packages, for multidisciplinary teams and RIT focus areas.**
 - d. Acquire and support the necessary resources to conduct research including laboratories, equipment, and personnel.**
 - e. Increase research oriented MS/MA & PhD programs targeted toward the focus areas.**

- 4. Achieve support for research throughout the university (faculty, staff, department/center heads, deans, provost, VP's, President).**
 - a. Recognize and reward successes.**
 - b. Develop a portfolio approach to plans-of-work across the University? Provide faculty teaching relief for their awarded external funded research.**
 - c. Define an internal investment request procedure and the funding sources ("Multi-year Research Budget Hearings") that align with RIT research goals – salaries & seed funding for new faculty, start-up packages, bridge funding, proposal preparation, laboratory development & support, travel & publication costs....**
 - d. Provide mentoring, training and other forms of assistants for new faculty.**
 - e. Provide administrative support for each PI**
 - f. Deepen internal networks that promote collaboration across disciplines, create multidisciplinary networks, and improve faculty mentoring.**

- 5. Define and develop appropriate Institute Research Centers and College Research Centers**
 - a. Create research centers that achieve critical mass of faculty, researchers, post-docs, graduate students, technicians....**
 - b. Define the criteria for institute centers (focus areas, external funding levels, multidisciplinary ...) as well as college centers.**
 - c. Develop criteria for center leadership. For example see Northwestern University's Office for Research <http://research.northwestern.edu/policies/center-proposal-evaluation-guidelines.html> .**
 - d. Identify Office(s) with a point of contact to promote sponsored research and initiate research in focus areas?**
 - e. Define center reporting relationship (Provost, OVPR, Colleges?).**
 - f. Focus on creating centers that could become national centers.**