Embracing R2 Initiative

Progress Update
Faculty Coffee Hour
Feb. 19, 2021
Why do universities do research?
The purpose of the university is **knowledge**

Knowledge *Production*  
(Research)

Knowledge *Transfer*  
(Education)

Coupling the *education* and *research* missions strengthens both
Why Research at a University?

Figure ES-1: The Functional Impacts of Research Universities

- Societal Well-being and Quality of Life
- Knowledge Expansion and Innovation
- Human Capital
- Economic Development

Source: TEConomy Partners, LLC.
Why does **UNCW** do research?

- Solve complex problems
- Practice discovery, innovation, creativity
- Teach, a high impact practice (aka *applied learning*)
- Engage & recruit students
- Strengthen our community
- Develop the economy

*Fun!*

**Learn**
Discere Aude
Dare to Learn

Research is an approach to learning
It is fundamental to the institutional DNA
Examples of UNCW research at work

COVID-19 Pandemic Research (29+ projects)

Research Experiences for Undergraduates
An Interdisciplinary Approach to the Marine Sciences for First-Year Students, 2020-2021
Dr. Nathan Grove, Dr. James Stocker, Dr. Jess Boersma, Dr. Shawn Bingham, Dr. Martin Posey, Dr. Bill Sterrett, Dr. Chris Finelli
Carnegie Reclassification, December 2018
Based on achieving the criteria:
research expenditures (>5M) & scholarly doctoral degrees awarded (>20/yr)

Doctoral Transition Task Force (DTTF), 2019-2020
Final Report, April 2020

Embracing R2 Implementation Strategy

Fundamental Goal
Build foundations to sustain and grow research and graduate education
**Embracing R2**  
*Implementation of the DTTF Recommendations*

**Point 1: Incentives and direct support for research activity**  
Awards, Momentum Funds, Kickstart Program, Strategic Research Initiatives

**Point 2: Adjusting faculty and staff workload, expectations & compensation**  
Teaching workload policies & procedures, RTP, distinguished faculty, compensation

**Point 3: Developing new academic programs**  
Program growth aligned with research opportunities

**Point 4: Supporting graduate students and postdoctoral scholars**  
More and larger stipends for graduate students, support for postdoctoral scholars

**Point 5: Building research infrastructure**  
Research administration improvements, research support structure improvements (IT, Library, OGC),  
Business processes to facilitate research needs, centers, institutes, and core facilities
Coordinating Team
– track progress, support point leaders, facilitate coordination
– large group

Bradley Ballou, Stuart Borrett, Rob Burrus, Kati Chipps, Van Dempsey, Chris Finelli, Nathaniel Grove, Charlie Hardy, Dana Harris, Mark Lanier, Carol McNulty, Sharyne Miller, Nate Miner, Andy Mauk, Jeanine Mingé, Richard Ogle, Jeanne Persuit, Donyell Roseboro, Jose Sartarelli, John Scherer, Paul Townend, Jamie Winebrake

Point Leaders
– responsible for *leading* the changes necessary for each broad theme. Include additional team members or workgroups as needed to accomplish goals

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Point 1: Incentives and direct support for research activity
Awards, Momentum Funds, Kickstart Program, Strategic Research Initiatives

Actions

• Momentum Funds (SPARC)
  • Awarded 19, Fall 2020
  • Call for next year (closed 2/15)

• FSRC asked to identify ~2 potential new awards to celebrate success

• Piloting support for Open Access publishing (Library)

Faculty Workgroup

• Stuart Borrett, Office of Research and Innovation [co-chair]
• Kati Chipps, Sponsored Programs and Research Compliance [co-chair]
• Nathan Crowe, History, CAS
• Nikki Fogarty, Biology and Marine Biology, CAS
• Liping Gan, Physics and Physical Oceanography, CAS
• Dennis Kubasko, Instruction Technology, Foundations and Secondary Education, WCE
• Christina Lanier, Sociology and Criminology, CAS
• Jessica Magnus, Management, CSB
• Wilson Okello, Education Leadership, WCE
• Jeanne Persuit, Communication Studies, CAS & Chair, Faculty Senate Research Committee [co-chair]
• Robin Post, Theater, CAS
• Justine Reel, CHHS
• Stephanie Crowe, Library

Consider existing support and make specific additional recommendations
Point 2: Adjusting faculty and staff workload, expectations & compensation

*Tentative Phases and Timeline*

**Phase 1: Spring 2021**
Dean/College internal discussions; plan pilots; meet with leadership and faculty; and seek general principles for consistency.

**Phase 2: Summer 2021**
Building Models, Building consistent framework; Communicate with stakeholders

**Phase 3: Fall 2021**
Develop implementation plan for workload models; Fac. Senate Engagement

**Phase 4: Spring 2022**
Seek senate endorsement, Institutional implementation. Workload model informs work plan decision making for AY22-23
Point 3: Developing new academic programs

Program growth aligned with research opportunities

Goal
Develop a robust process for proposing, planning, and resourcing new programs that align with UNCW’s mission and values.

Subgoal – Guiding Principles for New Program Development
- Drafted, will be circulated to university community for feedback.
- Seek approval from Faculty Senate and Graduate Council will be sought later in Spring 2021

Subgoal – codify Planning Process
- Revised planning and approval process
- Recognizes (a) university-level and system-level curricular approval processes, and (b) key faculty role
- Incorporates specific budget, space, and resource management planning
Embracing R2

Implementation of the DTTF Recommendations

Point 4: Supporting graduate students and postdoctoral scholars

Areas of Focus

1. **Campus Culture** – What role do graduate students and postdoctoral scholars play in the UNCW community? What type of campus culture do we want to establish at UNCW in support of graduate students and postdoctoral scholars?

2. **University Policy** – What policies need to be revised or established at UNCW to support graduate students and postdoctoral scholars?

3. **Compensation and Benefits** – What compensation models should UNCW establish to support graduate students and postdoctoral scholars?

4. **Tuition Support** – What strategies should UNCW employee as a campus to advance the institution by offsetting the cost of attendance?

5. **Institutional Support** – What other supports should UNCW offer to graduate students and postdoctoral scholars?

Initial efforts have identified specific recommendations graduate student/postdoc support and policy changes.
Point 5: Building research infrastructure

Highlights

• New research administration system (OSPREY) to replace RAMSeS. Rolling out Fall 2021.

• Hired new/additional research administration support staff
  • SPARC – Director, Assistant Director, Pre-award Coordinator, Pre-award Specialist
  • RIO – Research Compliance Specialist
  • OIC – Full-time Director
  • ORI – Electronic Research Administrator (to manage OSPREY, InfoReady)

• Initiated search for permanent Executive Director of Center for Marine Science

• Library efforts focused on Research Scholarly Services (new hires, programs)

• Working Group formed to drive next steps.
  • Policy revisions & gaps, business processes, academic technology support
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Timeline

Questions?