

RESEARCH2020

Operations & Aspirations

Spring 2017 Action Plan Progress Summary

Fiscal Year 2017 (January 1, 2017 – June 30, 2017)

Goal	Description	Progress
RE-2A	The OVPR will augment efforts within the three most promising, emerging areas as identified in Research Excellence report (i.e., social and cultural place-based research relating to the southwest, renewable energy and "water in the west") by supporting efforts to develop externally funded proposals in each of these areas.	Q1 ● Q2 ● Q3 ● Q4 ●
RE-2C	The OVPR will proactively communicate an UNM vision for research (i.e., on the OVPR website, the OVPR Annual Report and through presentations) that includes areas of cross-cutting strength and planned investments into priority research areas.	Q1 ● Q2 ● Q3 ● Q4 ●
RE-3B	The OVPR will initiate a closer working relationship with the Office of Community-Engaged Research.	Q1 ● Q2 ● Q3 ● Q4 ●
HC-1C	The OVPR will highlight researcher activities on the OVPR website (a minimum of once/month) and through increased PR work (bimonthly and on ad hoc basis). Researchers for whom a press release is submitted will be invited to a hosted lunch with their ADR and the VPR/AVPR.	Q1 ● Q2 ● Q3 ● Q4 ●
HC-2C	The OVPR will coordinate with Graduate Studies and the Subject-Area Librarians to develop a Pilot Program where graduate students provide support for proposal preparation for departmental research involving graduate student researchers.	Q1 ● Q2 ● Q3 ● Q4 ●
I-1A	OVPR leadership will provide input into the goals and annual performance review of the OSP Director to ensure a consistent focus on a PI/customer service approach and will meet at least monthly with financial services leadership to review processes and collaborations between OSP and FRDO.	Q1 ● Q2 ● Q3 ● Q4 ●
I-1D	The OVPR and the Director of FRDO will work with OSP to evaluate and improve (if necessary) the quality of data and data reporting in Cayuse. The OVPR website will link to the new OSP dashboard.	Q1 ● Q2 ● Q3 ● Q4 ●
I-2D	The OVPR will invite the FAMIS Data Manager to make a presentation to ADRs and Center Directors each year to communicate the importance of keeping the FAMIS database updated with accurate information. In addition, the OVPR will invite representatives from PPD & PDC to make a presentation to ADRs and Center Directors regarding how to access architectural and engineering services.	Q1 ● Q2 ● Q3 ● Q4 ●
I-3A	OVPR will develop a mission statement and incorporate a stronger customer service based approach.	Q1 ● Q2 ● Q3 ● Q4 ●
I-3B	VPR and/or AVPR (with the appropriate ADR) will regularly attend department faculty meetings to hear and address research concerns and promote OVPR mission and services.	Q1 ● Q2 ● Q3 ● Q4 ●
I-3C	The OVPR will create an easily accessible "road map" of the UNM research process and resources to be posted on the OVPR website.	Q1 ● Q2 ● Q3 ● Q4 ●
I-3D	The OVPR will serve as an advocate for the research community and will continue, on a case-by-case basis, to assist and facilitate interactions with support offices to ensure that important research needs are met in a timely and satisfactory manner.	Q1 ● Q2 ● Q3 ● Q4 ●
I-4A	OVPR will provide input into Central IT restructuring process to ensure research-computing needs are addressed.	Q1 ● Q2 ● Q3 ● Q4 ●

- = Not Started
- = Some Progress
- = Good Progress
- = Completed
- = Not Applicable

Working Groups

RE = Research Excellence
 HC = Human Capital
 I = Infrastructure
 FSG = Fed & State Govt
 C = Corporate

Example: RE-2A = task A under Objective 2 of the Research Excellence report

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Research Excellence

Objective 2. Develop a plan for investments into new research areas

- Building on the information gathered during the research strategic plan development, the VPR/AVPR will release a vision statement to describe our future aspirations for research. Refining and communicating this vision will be an on-going, continuous activity that will engage scholars from across campus.

In the meantime, the OVPR website (research.unm.edu) was revised to better communicate UNM's research mission, current research activities, and available research support resources.

- Within the area of social and cultural place-based research, OVPR provided support to the College of Fine Arts for an environmental justice conference that resulted in a successful \$500,000 proposal to the Mellon Foundation to work towards establishment of a Center for Environmental Arts and Humanities. OVPR also coordinated the development of a proposal to the US Department of Energy to study the impacts of a regional ecosystem for energy materials innovation, bolstering UNM's efforts in renewable energy research. Finally, OVPR committed support to enable the successful implementation of a new NSF Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) project, that if funded (\$5.4 million) will advance knowledge about the impact of climate variability on dryland ecotones.

Objective 3. Improve and encourage interdisciplinary research

- As a first step to improving interdisciplinary research, the OVPR has initiated a closer working relationship with the Office of Community Engaged Research. The Associate Dean for Community Engagement now participates in regularly scheduled meetings of research leaders and has initiated discussions with OVPR staff to set the foundation for a civic engagement/STEM initiative on campus in the coming year.

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Human Capital

OBJECTIVE 1: Recognize and publicize research contributions and research excellence

- To expand recognition of the research being conducted in all areas of UNM, the OVPR website (research.unm.edu) now includes a Researcher Showcase that includes at least one new item each month. OVPR is also generating press releases about research for local and national media.

OBJECTIVE 2: Identify and assist in providing more time for investigators to conduct their research.

- The OVPR is collaborating with Graduate Studies to identify ways that graduate students can provide support for proposal preparation for departmental research involving graduate student researchers, including providing assistance with graphics content for proposals.
- Future meetings are scheduled and efforts will continue through the Summer and into the Fall.

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Infrastructure

OBJECTIVE 1: Improve efficiency of research administrative services provided by the Office of Sponsored Projects and Contract and Grants Administration and improve coordination between OVPR research support (FRDO) and OSP.

- The AVPR, Director of FRDO, and ADRs have been working closely with the Chief Financial Services Officer, OSP Director and OSP Managers to evaluate and improve processes and procedures. Improvement efforts will continue and be evaluated regularly.
- FRDO staff participated in beta-testing the OSP Data Dashboard and provided input for further refinements for report generation and data quality that are currently under development.

OBJECTIVE 2: More efficiently manage research equipment and facilities and plan strategically for future needs.

- In order to most effectively plan for future research needs, it is critical that systems used to manage data about research equipment and facilities have current and accurate data. As a first step in this process, the OVPR partnered with PPD to invite the FAMIS Data Manager to make a presentation to the ADRs and Center Directors (05/2017).

OBJECTIVE 3: Improve OVPR visibility and effectiveness in supporting research.

- The OVPR launched the new research.unm.edu website - a robust tool to communicate the OVPR mission, highlight researcher activities and provide useful tools for the research community (i.e., research roadmap).
- On a case-by-case basis, the OVPR serves as an advocate for the research community to assist and facilitate interactions with other support offices to ensure important research needs are met.

OBJECTIVE 4: Improve research IT capacity and services.

- To represent research-specific interests, the OVPR provides representation for the IT Research Technologies Advisory Board and in the IT Officers Group from Central IT.