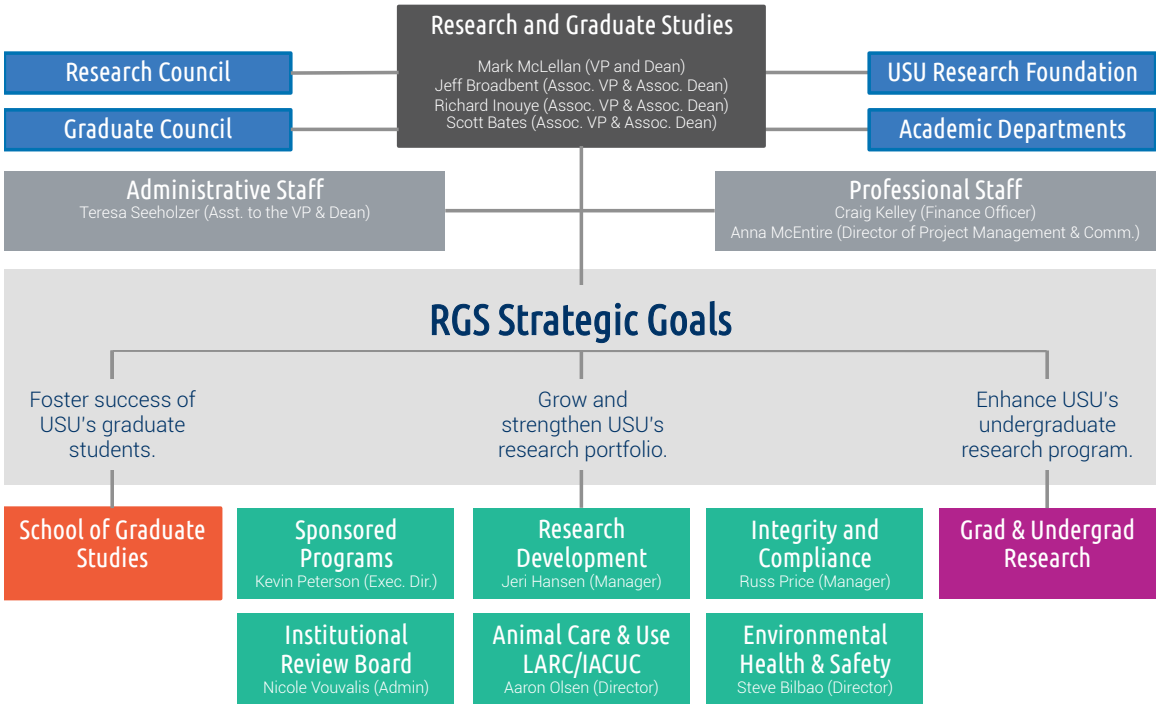
Utah State University
Office of Research and Graduate Studies

Organization



Values

Value	Belief Statement
Individual capacity development	Faculty and graduate students should continue to grow their understanding of how to best propose, conduct and report research and scholarly activities.
Integrity and safety	Scholarship should be conducted with top consideration toward exceeding regulatory and moral standards.
Student engagement	Students are a core focus of a land-grant institution. They can have better balanced lives and educational experiences when they engage in research opportunities.
Interdisciplinary integration	Research and scholarship should not live within silos; all scholars can benefit from interdisciplinary relationships.
Application	Research and scholarship should embrace the land-grant mission of providing meaningful impact for the state, nation and world.
Innovation	All activities should undergo evaluation for areas of improvement in effectiveness and efficiency, and those opportunities should be implemented whenever possible.

Goal: Grow and strengthen USU's research portfolio.

Strategies	Before 2013	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Increase proposal quality.	Central and embedded proposal development specialists Agriculture, Education Engineering Extension			
	Proposal Writing Institute			
	Grant-writing workshops			
	IGERT workshop	Arts/Humanities WS		
	Funding Finder email newsletter			
	Online limited submission process			
	New Faculty Research Orientation			
	New Faculty Research Training Series			
		Faculty trip to visit DC agencies		
			DMP Data Management Tool	
			Training for Research Faculty (TRF X5)	
Strategically fund research initiatives.	30% F&A returned to generating units + $378K in dean's strategic funding			
	Startup funds for new faculty			
	Biannual seed grants program			
	Annual Equipment matching fund			
Increase research infrastructure.	RGS core facilities: LARC and Microscopy			
	High Performance Computing			HPC U/U partnership
	Qualtrics support and training			
	NMR support			
	Herbarium support			
Provide efficient research support services.	Proposal submission, award, and closeout			
			SPD restructure	
			Kuali Research	
	SP-01 routing through DocuSign			
	Researcher Dashboard			
	Campus Environmental Health and Safety			
			EHS Assist Tool	
	Research integrity and compliance			
	Research Scholars Certification RCR training			
	DHHS COI policy update	Time & Effort, ESC policy updates		Uniform Guidance
			RFAST training	
	Human/animal research subjects protection			
	AAHRPP and AALAC re-accreditation			
	Protis online protocol submission system			
	RSA training for certification in sponsored programs administration			
		Basecamp coordination tool		
				Website update
Communicate research successes.	Research Week Awards Gala Ignite Student awards Symposium D. Wynne Thorne and USU Researcher of the Year recognition awards			
	Sunrise Sessions			
	Ascend email newsletter			
	RGS social media (FR: USUResearch, Twitter: @USU_RGS, YouTube: USU RGS)			
	TEDxUSU conference			
			Fall PI forum	
			RGS Coffee Breaks	

Goal: Foster success of USU's graduate students.

Strategies	Before 2013	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Increase student financial support.	Tuition awards, fellowships, scholarships			
			Research non-resident tuition waiver	
			Excellence non-resident tuition waiver	
	Manage subsidized insurance		(moved to Student Services)	
	Tuition award pool (decentralized, two-year allocation cycle)			
	Require tuition be included on grant proposals			
		PhD conversion		
		One-time state funding: PDRF expansion, dissertation enhancement		
			Recurring state funding: X-STEM, RGS assistantships	
Enhance recruitment efforts.	Recruitment grants	(augmented)		(augmented)
	Grad school recruiting email campaign			
	PDRF program, profiles, posters, recruiting			
	Western Regional Graduate Program			2 new degrees
	Recruiting fairs			
	Recruitment online toolkit, workshop, panels			
		Web enhancement		
		Iraq recruiting trip		
				CRM software
Improve departmental programs.	Program reviews (Self studies, 5-year plans)		(mid-term reviews)	
		Restructuring programs and degrees; conversion of MS/C to professional degrees		
		Graduate faculty process: department review		
Provide value-added opportunities.	Thesis and dissertation workshops			
	Graduate Research Symposium	(symposium training)	(combined with UG)	
	Responsible conduct of research training		(mandatory for doctoral)	
	Social media			
	Grant-writing workshops each semester			
	Travel funding moved to RGS			
	Ignite speaking event			
		Graduate Student Training Series (7 workshops/year)		
		Graduate student awards moved to RGS		
Provide efficient graduate support services.	Application processing			
	New student orientation		(grad orientation fair)	
	Graduate catalog		(RGS ownership)	(Acalog system)
	Commencement			
	Graduate program coordinator meetings			
		Graduate faculty forums		
		Enrollment management study		
		DocuSign		
		Data summaries: college/dept demographics		

Goal: Enhance USU's undergraduate research program.

Strategies	Before 2013	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Encourage greater participation in undergraduate research.	Undergraduate Research Advisory Board			
	Day on the Quad promotion			
	Social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)			
	List serve		(migration to MailChimp)	
	Fall undergraduate research orientation		(summer research symposium)	
		Spring undergraduate research orientation		
			Erevna UR String Quartet	
				Update UR website
				Connections content
Encourage recruitment of high achieving students.	Undergraduate Research Fellows program communication			
	Coordination with Honors			
	Scholars' Experience recruiting event		(May event)	
		Overhaul URF application process	(Combine process with Honors)	
Provide funding opportunities for undergraduate research projects.	URCO grants			
	Undergraduate Research Fellow program			
	Travel Funding (UCUR, NCUR, POTH, ROCH)			
	SURCO program for summer research			
			Changes to URCO policies	
			Combine URCO with SURCO	
				UR Travel Award
Recognize undergraduate research successes.	Undergraduate Research			
	Research on Capitol Hill			+U/U partnership
	UR transcript designation			
	Undergraduate research awards			
	Research Fellow activities			
	Faculty mentor reception			
Train students in research best practices.	Student Showcase		(Student Research Symposium)	
			SRS badging, training, feedback, partnerships	
	UCUR	(hosted 2013)		
	National events: NCUR/POTH			
	"Perfect Year of UR" brochure			
	URF guidebook	(UR guidebook)		
	Student Showcase training			
	Ignite speaking event			
			URCO training	
				URF boot camp

OFFICE of RESEARCH and GRADUATE STUDIES
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