**MISSION STATEMENT**

To foster and support research, scholarship, and creative activities at Virginia Tech. The Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) is committed to enhancing the environment for research and scholarship, encouraging the highest standards of quality and ethical conduct, and serving the good of local communities, our Commonwealth, and the nation.

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**Central Research Administration**

**Goals and Objectives Achieved for FY 2012**

- **Propose a system for research incentive pay, work through the university governance system to deliberate its merits, and advocate for passage if appropriate.**

  **Goal accomplishment:** Working with the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, a system for research incentive pay was developed and approved by the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors in June 2012 as part of the overall Faculty Compensation Plan. Implementation will begin in AY 2012-13 as a pilot project.

- **Implement new procedures regarding university industrial affiliates programs.**

  **Goal accomplishment:** An updated version of OVPR Policy 01-03 was approved and implemented in January 2012 to govern the establishment and operation of industrial affiliates programs. Between 25 and 30 such programs now operate on the Virginia Tech campus. Streamlined and well-defined procedures are now utilized to establish new affiliates programs.

- **Update policies and procedures related to conflict of interest and consulting.**

  **Goal accomplishment:** An updated version of University Policy 13010: Individual Conflicts of Interest and Commitment was approved by the Board of Visitors on July 5, 2012. As part of the policy revision, primary responsibility for review of conflict of interest disclosures campuswide was moved from the Provost’s office to the Office of the Vice President for Research. New face-to-face and online training modules were developed for all employees involved in the design, conduct and reporting of research.

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**Statistics**

- **Limited Submission Solicitations Managed**
  
  128

- **Funding Opportunities Screened and Posted**
  
  15,301

- **Internal Budget Managed**
  
  $11.8 million

- **International Travel Grants**
  
  123 awards
  
  $869 average award

The Office of Research enhances institutional resources and opportunities through short-term and one-time funding. Notable examples of one-time funding are as follows:

- **$65,000 Laboratory for Interdisciplinary Statistical Analysis**

- **$35,000 College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences Research Initiatives**

- **$25,000 Kentland Farm Underwater Autonomous Vehicle Facility**

- **$20,000 World Polymer Conference, Macromolecules and Interfaces Institute**
**Additional Accomplishments**

- Led the development of the academic research section of the Commonwealth Research and Technology Strategic Roadmap, which provides an investment framework for the Commonwealth Research Commercialization Fund.

- Established the Proposal Development Institute to provide professional development opportunities in grantwriting to early-career faculty. Under the leadership of Bill Knocke, the program offers grant-writing workshops, mixers to encourage research collaboration, individual consultations, mentorship, and visits to research sponsors for faculty members, staff, and students. The inaugural class (2011) consisted of 37 participants, and 38 participants will complete the program in 2012.

- Established the Virginia Tech Faculty Entrepreneur Hall of Fame as a means of recognizing outstanding contributions to the excellence, innovation, and impact of university research.

- Building on the success of the Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division (NSWCDD) contract, OVPR has supported the ICTAS Director for National Security and Program Development through an intense year of building stronger contacts with leaders of research in support of the national defense.

**GOALS AND OBJECTIVES for FY 2013**

- Complete the Office of Research strategic plan for 2012-2018, developing metrics for research performance in areas of strategic importance to determine the impact of research investments.

- Deploy a comprehensive web presence for Conflict of Interest and Consulting procedures, frequently asked questions, and sample management plans for identified financial conflicts of interest.

- Update the university intellectual property policy (University Policy 13000) in light of recent court decisions and pending changes in U.S. patent law, and to move the revised policy proposal through university governance.

- Provide web-based instructional materials to Virginia Tech faculty, staff and students regarding the university intellectual property policy (University Policy 13000) as well as topics such as research commercialization.

- Continue to refine and enhance the Proposal Development Institute (PDI) Program experience for Virginia Tech faculty who are relatively new to the process of procuring external funding to support their research and scholarly activities.

- Develop a website focused on Virginia Tech industrial affiliates programs that will enhance the visibility of these programs both within and external to the university.

- Lead a multi-university effort to generate a successful proposal to the U.S. Department of Energy for a hub facility and associated programs focused on critical materials and rare earth minerals.