

Recruit, retain, and support top research talent especially in key strategic areas.

- Collaborate with the Provost and other UGA leaders to recruit extraordinary faculty.
- Lead the recruitment of new GRA Eminent Scholars in strategic areas.
- Support efforts to build two new research centers: Center for Molecular Medicine and Center for Vaccines and Immunology.
- When allocating faculty startup dollars, prioritize areas of strategic growth and investment such as Engineering, Biomedicine, Plant Genomics, and areas of strong funding potential.
- Collaborate with UGA leaders to retain especially productive faculty.
- Support efforts to expand the number of graduate students, especially in PhD programs, and to recruit high quality graduate students.
- Improve experiences for postdocs, research scientists, and visiting scholars.

Promote interdisciplinary research and strategic partnerships.

- Support interdisciplinary centers, institutes, and other research initiatives, especially those that align with existing areas of strength or important growth opportunities.
- Strengthen and expand strategic research partnerships with Emory, Georgia Tech, and Augusta University, including through the development of targeted seed grant programs.
- Explore the potential value of enhanced partnerships with international universities, including through increased collaboration with new leadership in the Office of International Education.
- Collaborate across campus to develop strength in Big Data and Informatics.

Work to increase externally sponsored research funding, including grants and contracts.

- Integrate and strengthen resources to assist faculty and multi-disciplinary teams in grant writing, including by creating and growing an Office for Proposal Enhancement.
- Implement strategies to increase sponsored research funding and donations from foundations and industry.
- Help expand and support clinical and translational research opportunities.
- Partner with Government Affairs to secure a firm to enhance knowledge of UGA research expertise at federal agencies and to help secure new funding opportunities.

Further strengthen research administration, including research compliance.

- Continue the roll out of eResearch administration, with improvements to the grants and IRB Portals and expansion of Portal applications to include additional research compliance activities.
- Continue efforts to improve data retrieval and reporting.
- Continue the operational integration of the Pre-Award and Post-Award Offices within Sponsored Projects Administration to provide PIs with seamless grants administration from proposal submission through award closeout.
- Help to increase the number of centrally trained grants pre- and post-award staff in units.
- Continue to improve the negotiation of sponsored research contracts with industry with leadership from our new industry point person for Sponsored Projects Administration.
- Continue to strengthen symbiotic relationship with Athens Regional Medical Center that both expands UGA Institutional Review Board capacity for biomedical and health research and assists ARMC in its human subjects research efforts.
- Continue integration of the former ESD Research Safety group into OVPR, and revise operations to incorporate best practices and to realize new efficiencies.
- Fully establish Export Control compliance.

Improve research infrastructure including core facilities and laboratory space.

- Strategically invest in core facilities and essential equipment and technologies to support continued research growth.
- Actively manage the new Clinical and Translational Research Unit, and in parallel explore the possibility of UGA membership in the Atlanta Clinical and Translational Science Institute.
- Improve the business operations of core facilities and consolidate separate cores when appropriate.
- Encourage use of major instrumentation grants to secure new or improved equipment and technologies.
- Explore ideas for select shared/regional cores and/or technology consortia with other Georgia research universities.
- Work with the GACRC, EITS, and other UGA leaders to plan and implement future investments in computing infrastructure.
- Help to support and direct renovation of laboratories and other research space in a manner consistent with strategic goals.

Encourage innovation and entrepreneurship.

- Continue integration of technology commercialization and business incubator functions under the new Innovation Gateway.
- Review and revise business incubator policies and procedures, including rent structures, and improve services provided to resident companies.
- Work towards a research commercialization building, ideally located in a new “research park,” and the co-location of all Innovation Gateway staff.
- Increase technology commercialization and new venture outreach to the UGA community.
- Improve services and data management through implementation of Sophia software.
- Support state and local economic development activities.
- Continue to refine the Thinc. program and develop additional means to support student interest in entrepreneurship.

Enhance communication of UGA research, including for fundraising.

- Continue to develop and improve websites and informational/promotional materials relating to OVPR offices, center, institutes, and other research initiatives.
- Update the content and design of the Research Magazine to make it more compelling and reflective of UGA’s strengths.
- Increase the use of digital and social media for research communications.
- Coordinate with other UGA communications offices to strategically disseminate the value and impacts of research, including impacts on economic development.
- Target and reach new audiences with news and information about UGA research.

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