

II. RESEARCH, SCHOLARSHIP AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

GOAL 1: ACHIEVE NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR RESEARCH EXCELLENCE.

OUTCOME: Implement Plan for Two Areas of Excellence: Biomedical And Environmental Sustainability Research (Spring 2018: Implementation and Investment Plan, Developed by the Faculty, Will be in Place. 2022: Implementation and Investment Plan Will be 100% Completed for Its 5-Year Goal.)

NOVEMBER 2019

Three areas of research excellence have been identified: (1) Solar energy, water quality and sustainable technologies; (2) astronomy and astrophysics; and (3) cell architecture and dynamics.

A \$500,000 microscope was purchased to support the cell architecture and dynamics area.

A search is underway for a strategic hire in water quality in support of the solar energy, water quality and sustainable technologies area.

Funds were provided for a remote observing laboratory in support of the astronomy and astrophysics area of excellence.

MAY 2019

Data has been collected regarding research funding and publications leading to the identification of biomedical science and environmental sustainability (energy and water) as the two areas of research excellence.

Subcommittees were formed in fall 2017, and meetings took place throughout the 2017-18 academic year to provide direction and further refine the scope of the research areas identified.

NOVEMBER 2018

Data has been collected regarding research funding and publications leading to the identification of biomedical science and environmental sustainability (energy and water).

Subcommittees were formed in fall 2017 and meetings took place throughout the 2017-18 academic year to provide direction and further refine the scope of the research areas identified.

MAY 2018

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Subcommittees were formed in fall 2017 and meetings took place throughout the 2017-18 academic year to provide direction and further refine the scope of the research areas identified.

OCTOBER 2017

Data collected regarding research funding and publications leading to the identification of biomedical science and environmental sustainability (energy and water).

Subcommittees have been formed and are meeting in the energy and water area to further define specific areas of strength and plan for submission of material to evaluate areas approved by the University Research Council.

OUTCOME: Additional Areas of Excellence to be Identified, in Collaboration With Faculty, With Plans for Implementation (Spring 2018: Additional Areas of Excellence Developed by the Faculty Will be Identified With Master Plans for Implementation. 2022: Implementation and Investment Plan Will be 100% Completed for its 5-Year Goal.)

NOVEMBER 2019

Additional areas of excellence have been identified; however, implementation planning is currently on hold due to budgetary considerations.

MAY 2019

Three additional areas of established research excellence were identified following a review of faculty proposals by the University Research Council and external reviewers. The three research areas include astronomy and astrophysics; solar, energy, water quality and sustainable technologies; and cell architecture and dynamics.

In addition, spotlight areas of unique research distinction also were identified, as well as emerging areas of research excellence and areas of future opportunities.

The spotlight areas of unique distinction include research in human trafficking, disability and society, and hypertension and precision medicine.

Areas of emerging research excellence also were identified and include legacy cities; and cancer, immune therapy and precision molecular therapy.

The areas of future research excellence opportunities were identified and include vector biology, smart transportation, data 2 decision, bio-psycho-social determinants of chronic disease, and community-based STEAM (science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics).

NOVEMBER 2018

Three additional areas of research excellence were identified following a review of faculty proposals by the University Research Council and external reviewers. The three research areas include astronomy and astrophysics; solar, energy, water quality and sustainable technologies; and cell architecture and dynamics.

In addition, spotlight areas of unique research distinction also were identified, as well as emerging areas of research excellence and areas of future opportunities.

The spotlight areas of unique distinction include research in human trafficking, disability and society, and hypertension and precision medicine.

The areas of emerging research excellence identified include legacy cities; and cancer, immune therapy, and precision molecular therapy.

The areas of future opportunity include vector biology, smart transportation, data 2 decision, BioPsychoSocial determinants of chronic disease, and community-based STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics).

MAY 2018

Request for proposals for additional areas of research excellence was distributed to all faculty in fall 2017, and faculty submitted letters of intent requesting designation as areas of research excellence.

The Office of Research and the Research Council reviewed 31 letters of intent submitted by faculty groups for areas of research excellence and identified eight candidate areas for consideration. External reviews were completed for the eight top areas of research excellence submitted.

The selection of final areas of research excellence to be determined in consultation with the President and Provost. The target is to identify at least five additional areas of research excellence by June 2018.

OCTOBER 2017

Draft document to invite faculty to submit suggestions for additional areas of excellence has been approved by the University Research Council and also reviewed by the President and Provost. The document is to be distributed university-wide in fall 2017, and follow-up meetings with faculty groups are under way to explain the process.

GOAL 2: INCREASE THE NATIONAL PROMINENCE OF FACULTY DERIVED FROM THEIR RESEARCH, SCHOLARSHIP, AND CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS ACTIVITIES.

OUTCOME: UToledo's National Ranking In Research Expenditures

NOVEMBER 2019

The National Science Foundation report on fiscal year 2018 research expenditures will not be released until November 2019.

During the 2017-18 academic year, UToledo increased external research awards by 21% compared to the previous year; with 326 research awards and approximately \$46.7 million in external funding. In addition, new awards increased by 40% from \$19 million to \$27 million.

The University recorded 453 awards in FY19 compared with 326 awards in FY18, an increase of 39%. The total dollar amount of the awards was \$46,442,333 in FY19 compared to \$46,659,801 in FY18, a decrease of 0.5%. Part of the decrease relates to the federal government shutdown in FY19 when no awards were released and review panels were cancelled.

MAY 2019

The National Science Foundation report on fiscal year 2019 research expenditures has not yet been released.

During the 2017-18 academic year, UToledo increased external research awards by 21% compared to the previous year with 326 research awards and approximately \$46.7 million in external funding. In addition, new awards increased by 40%, from \$19 million to \$27 million.

NOVEMBER 2018

UToledo is ranked No. 194 nationally by the National Science Foundation for research and development expenditures in fiscal year 2017. The National Science Foundation report on fiscal year 2018 research expenditures has not yet been released.

The baseline ranking of 190 that was recorded in the Strategic Plan was the most recent ranking available from the NSF at the time the strategic was submitted to the Board of Trustees in spring 2016. That year reported by the NSF was 2015. The NSF generally reports the numbers in late fall of each year, and there is a lag of more than a year before numbers are reported. Since the Strategic Plan was submitted, the NSF reported its 2016 ranking in November 2017 where UToledo stood at #197 and most recently its 2017 ranking in November 2018 where UToledo stood at #194. Since UToledo's awards grew by more than 20% in FY18, we expect that our ranking to be reported in fall 2019 will move even more positively toward the 160 target.

MAY 2018

National Science Foundation report on national rankings in research expenditures is not yet available.

UToledo increased external research funding by 20% compared to the same period last year, with \$46.7 million in research funding awarded to UToledo in FY18, compared to \$38.6 million in FY17.

OCTOBER 2017

National Science Foundation report on research expenditures is not yet released. However, sponsored awards for FY17 increased by a small amount, with first increase reported in last five years. Increases recorded in Q1 FY18 compared to Q1 FY17 show us on track for achieving year-end goals.

**OUTCOME: UToledo's Ranking in Research and Development Expenditures
Among Ohio Public Research Universities**

NOVEMBER 2019

National Science Foundation report on fiscal year 2018 research expenditures among Ohio public research universities has not yet been released. It will be released in November 2019.

MAY 2019

The National Science Foundation report on fiscal year 2018 research expenditures among Ohio public research universities has not yet been released.

NOVEMBER 2018

UToledo ranks sixth among Ohio public universities for fiscal year 2017, according to National Science Foundation rankings of research and development expenditures.

The National Science Foundation report on fiscal year 2018 research expenditures among Ohio public research universities has not yet been released.

MAY 2018

National Science Foundation report on Ohio's ranking in research expenditures is not yet available.

OCTOBER 2017

National Science Foundation report on research expenditures is not yet released. However, sponsored awards for FY17 increased by small amount, with first increase reported in last five years. Increases recorded in Q1 FY18 compared to Q1 FY17 show us on track for achieving year-end goals.

OUTCOME: Number of Faculty Publications in High-Impact and High-Profile Journals, With Program Faculty Identifying Those Journals Relating to Their Disciplines

NOVEMBER 2019

According to results of the data set released April 1, 2019 for the three-year period from 2016 to 2018, UToledo continues to rank third in total number of publications for Ohio public universities, behind Ohio State University and University of Cincinnati. In addition, for the 2016-2018 data set, UToledo continues to rank third in the number of citations of our published research (behind Central State and Ohio University), with a 19.2% increase compared to last year's data set (2015-2017). We also maintained our third place rank in h-index for Ohio public universities, behind Ohio State University and University of Cincinnati, with our h-index increasing from 40 in last year's data set (2015-2017) to 47 in this year's data set (2016-2018).

In November 2019, the Office of the Provost held a Future of Higher Education Forum that featured a presentation for faculty on publishing in high impact journals.

MAY 2019

UToledo Libraries faculty and staff, under the leadership of the dean of UToledo Libraries, consulted with deans, department chairs and faculty and conducted research to identify a database and metrics to measure faculty publications in high-impact and high-profile journals. As a result of this study, three-year datasets were identified to allow for the measurement of the number of faculty publications, the number of citations and the h-impact (a measure of impact factor related to faculty publications), then a baseline metric for all three measurements was established for the three-year dataset covering the period from 2015-2017.

According to the data, the number of faculty publications and citations increased by 12% for the three-year data sets from 2014-2016 to 2015-2017. UToledo faculty ranked third in Ohio in relation to the h-index (a measure of impact factor) for publications from 2015-2017 (h-index for UToledo from 2014-2016 was 31 and from 2015-2017 was 40).

In addition to using the 2015-2017 data set as a baseline, the 2022 target was established as a 5% increase in all three categories: an increase in the h-index from 40 to 42; an increase in total faculty publications from 3,283 to 3,447; and a 5% increase in citations from 12,474 to 13,097. In addition, the 2022 target includes maintaining our rank of No. 3 among the state's public universities in each of these three categories. UToledo ranked third among Ohio public universities in each of these categories from 2015-2017.

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research (behind Central State University and Ohio University), with a 19.2% increase compared to last year's data set (2015-2017). We also maintained our third place rank in h-index for Ohio public universities, behind Ohio State University and the University of Cincinnati, with our h-index increasing from 40 in last year's data set (2015-2017) to 47 in this year's data set (2016-2018).

We will continue to report data in three-year accumulations through the end of the strategic plan; however, we also will begin this year with the separate reporting of InCites data to measure faculty publications. UToledo has purchased a license for InCites software, which will allow us to compare how our faculty publications are performing in their particular disciplinary categories. InCites is available and University Libraries is conducting outreach and training, beginning with the College of Engineering.

In addition, we have acquired Cabell's Whitelist and Cabell's Blacklist, which provide information regarding publishers and publications. The College of Business and Innovation is using these products.

With support from the provost, deans and the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, the library is managing implementation of the products. The first will import publication data into Faculty 180 to aid faculty members in building their online dossiers. The second is an online research portal that will highlight research accomplishments and make them known worldwide. For an example, see scholars.duke.edu to view a portal that uses the same software we will use to construct UToledo's research portal.

The Office of the Provost and the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs sponsored several workshops for faculty during the 2018-19 academic year on skill building related to publishing in high-impact journals.

NOVEMBER 2018

The number of faculty publications and citations increased by 12% from 2014-16 to 2015-17, and UToledo faculty ranked third in Ohio in relation to the h-index (impact factor) for publications from 2015-17.

Note that a baseline was established for this outcome based on 2014-16 data, which identifies 2,920 total journal publications, 9,487 citations and an h-index (impact factor) of 31. The 2022 target was established as a 17% increase in all three categories. (Note: databases searched and report prepared by the Dean's Office, UToledo Libraries, "UT Research Productivity and Impact Study, 2018.")

MAY 2018

UToledo increased the number of faculty publications in high-impact and high-profile journals by 12.4% (from 2,920 in 2014-2016 to 3,283 in 2015-2017).

Citations for faculty publications increased by 31.4% (from 9,487 in 2014-2016 to 12,474 in 2015-2017).

UToledo ranks third in Ohio from 2015-2017 in relation to impact factor (H-Index) of faculty publications, with an increase of 29% from an H-Index of 31 from 2014-2016 to an H-Index of 40 from 2015-2017.

OCTOBER 2017

Dean of libraries, working with library faculty and staff, have identified high-profile journals for each of the colleges, to be reviewed by department chairs and deans of each college.

Faculty activity reporting software (Faculty 180) was launched in fall 2017 and will be expanded for all candidates for tenure and/or promotion and all pre-tenure faculty beginning in fall 2018.

OUTCOME: Number of Faculty Who Are Fellows of Selected National Societies, Hold Leadership Positions in National Organizations or Serve on National Grant-Review Panels or Study Groups

NOVEMBER 2019

The proposed target for 2022 is 25% of tenure-track faculty selected to prestigious national appointments. In order to more accurately measure the number of faculty who serve in these capacities, the Office of the Provost is currently working on revisions to the University's Annual Report of Professional Activities (ARPA) form for faculty so that this information is available for tracking in Faculty 180, as faculty enter their ARPA reports annually into the Faculty 180 software system, beginning in fall 2019.

The Office of the Provost is exploring the possibility of establishing a focal point at the University to support and assist faculty with the nomination process in order to increase the number of faculty who serve in national leadership roles.

MAY 2019

A baseline was established for 2016-17 with 174 (or 21%) of tenure-track faculty selected in 2016-17 as Fellows of national societies, receiving national named fellowships, Fulbright or other prestigious appointments, or national or international awards and honors; hold leadership positions in national organizations; or serve on national grant review panels or study groups. The baseline metric was established based on data collected from departmental and college annual reports for the 2016-17 academic year.

The proposed target for 2022 is 25% of tenure-track faculty selected to prestigious national appointments as described above.

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(Note: data collected from departmental and college annual reports for the 2016-17 academic year; report prepared by the Office of the Provost, 2018.)

During the 2017-18 academic year, three UToledo faculty members were selected as Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement in Science.

In fall 2018, Dr. Amanda Bryant-Friedrich, interim dean of the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, was named a Fellow of the American Chemical Society; and Dr. Paul Erhardt, Distinguished University Professor of Medicinal Chemistry, was inducted into the American Chemical Society Medicinal Chemistry Division Hall of Fame.

Enjie Hall, UToledo director of campus accessibility and student disability services, was appointed to serve on the Board of Directors of the national Association of Higher Education and Disability.

MAY 2018

During the current academic year (2017-18), three UToledo faculty members were selected as fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

OCTOBER 2017

Faculty will be invited in spring 2018 to enter information on Faculty 180 to determine number of faculty who are fellows and leaders in national organizations, grant-review panels or study groups. Other survey methods to secure this information are being reviewed by the provost and the Council of Deans.

OUTCOME: Number of Faculty and Staff Participating in Local and Community Engagement Activities Will Increase.

NOVEMBER 2019

The University established the new position of Director of Strategic Initiatives in fall 2017 to track and promote university-community engagement. Efforts are ongoing to collect and communicate this information as a resource to campus and community constituents.

The Office of the Provost established a baseline for 2016-17 with 48% of faculty participating in one or more community engagement activities, and a target 2022 goal of 55% of faculty participating in one or more community engagement activities.

Note that there is no overall database of community engagement activity of faculty and staff at this time. The only source of aggregate data is Faculty 180, the online database for faculty activity reporting, which is currently limited to information on faculty who applied for tenure and/or promotion during the 2017-18 academic year, and a review of their dossiers related to listing of community service (a total of 58 faculty dossiers reviewed). Once all tenure-track faculty enter their information into the Faculty 180 system during the 2018-19 academic year, it is anticipated that a more comprehensive database may become available.

MAY 2019

The University established the new position of Director of Strategic Initiatives in fall 2017 to track and promote university-community engagement. Efforts are ongoing to collect and communicate this information as a resource to campus and community constituents.

The Office of Research is working with the Office of Government Relations to survey faculty involvement in community projects.

A new leadership appointment was made for the Jack Ford Urban Affairs Center with the goal of increasing the University's profile in relation to engagement with the community and the region.

The Office of the Provost established a baseline for 2016-17, with 48% of faculty participating in one or more community engagement activities. A 2022 goal of 55% of faculty participating in one or more community engagement activities has been set.

Note that there is no overall database of community engagement activity of faculty and staff at this time. The only source of aggregate data is Faculty 180, the online database for faculty activity reporting, which is limited to information about faculty who applied for tenure and/or promotion during the 2017-18 academic year, and a review of their dossiers related to listing

of community service (58 faculty dossiers reviewed). Once all tenure-track faculty enter their information into the Faculty 180 system during the 2018-19 academic year, it is anticipated that a more comprehensive database may become available.

NOVEMBER 2018

The Chancellor's Award was awarded to Dr. Tom Bridgeman, director of the UToledo Lake Erie Center, in recognition of his leadership and expertise in the Harmful Algal Bloom Research Initiative for the Ohio Department of Higher Education. The Chancellor's Award recognizes exemplary faculty, administration and students who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in using the power of higher education to impact the communities where they are located and for the greater good of Ohio.

In fall 2018, UToledo's Department of Pediatrics' literacy program celebrated 20 years with the goal of collecting 20,000 children's books. The Reach Out and Read program has provided more than 258,000 books to children across the region during the last two decades.

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MAY 2018

The University established the new position of Director of Strategic Initiatives in fall 2017 to track and promote university-community engagement, and efforts are ongoing to collect and communicate this information as a resource to campus and community constituents.

The University established an Office of Workforce Development to collaborate with business and industry to contribute to workforce and economic development in the region. An Advisory Task Force on Workforce Development also was established and a survey was distributed to all UToledo faculty and staff to identify current and planned workforce activities. Survey respondents reported approximately 29 workforce development activities currently underway at UToledo, including partnerships with the East Toledo Family Center, Lucas County Jobs and Family Services, Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo Repertoire Theatre, Toledo Public Schools, Jeep, Dana Corporation, First Solar and many other for-profit and nonprofit organizations in the region.

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs is working with the Office of Government Relations to survey faculty involvement in community projects.

A new leadership appointment was made for the Jack Ford Urban Affairs Center with the goal of increasing the University's profile in relation to engagement with the community and region.

OCTOBER 2017

The University has created a new Office of Workforce Development and established a Task Force on Workforce Development and an Advisory Board. A survey of workforce development initiatives currently underway, or planned, at UToledo will be administered in November 2017 to all faculty and administrators on both campuses to assist with assessment and planning.

GOAL 3: REINVENT AND REINVEST IN RESEARCH PROCESSES TO IMPROVE PRODUCTIVITY.

OUTCOME: Carnegie Classification for UToledo's Research Activity and Graduate Programs to Hold at R2

NOVEMBER 2019

Ongoing.

MAY 2019

During the 2017-18 academic year, external research awards increased by 21% compared to the previous year, with 326 external research awards and approximately \$46.7 million in external funding. In addition, new awards increased by 40%, from \$19 million to \$27 million.

The National Science Foundation report regarding fiscal year 2019 research expenditures has not yet been released.

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs identified three additional areas of research excellence at UToledo, spotlight areas of unique research distinction, areas of emerging research excellence and areas of future research excellence.

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs is investing in research support infrastructure to enhance the productivity of faculty researchers.

NOVEMBER 2018

During the 2017-18 academic year, external research awards increased by 21% compared to the previous year, with 326 external research awards and approximately \$46.7 million in external funding. In addition, new awards increased by 40% from \$19 million to \$27 million.

The Office of Research and Sponsored Program is in the process of implementing plans for five identified areas of research excellence at UToledo.

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs is investing in research support structure to enhance the productivity of faculty researchers.

With the support of University Libraries and the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, in May 2018, the UToledo President and Provost recognized 26 faculty across the University who were selected for their outstanding contributions in scholarly and creative activity during the past three years.

MAY 2018

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs is working with the University's Division of Technology to evaluate RFPs/ proposals for the implementation of a new comprehensive electronic research administration system to enhance the productivity of faculty researchers (pre-award and post-award technology).

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs hired new staff to support the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee and the Institutional Review Board.

Planning is underway to hire new staff to support post-award function and compliance (including external control).

OCTOBER 2017

Office of Research and Sponsored Programs team is working on an RFP for a complete and robust research systems suite of tools to enhance the productivity of faculty researchers.

OUTCOME: Investment In Research Support Infrastructure

NOVEMBER 2019

UT Toledo Research Compliance has addressed controlled substance use in research with the development of a new policy, as well as a dedicated website for controlled substances and dangerous drugs with standard operating procedures and forms.

Major revisions were made to the protection of human subject in research policy and was signed on Aug. 19, 2019.

Minor revisions were made to the compensation for treatment of injuries to subjects in covered commercially sponsored clinical trials policy, which was signed Aug. 19, 2019.

Major revisions were made to the institutional biosafety committee policy, which was approved by the Research Council in August 2019.

An additional staff member was hired to assist with Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) and Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) programs.

The Human Research Protection Program continues to revise office procedure statements and to create standard operating procedures. This includes the in progress activity of streamlining and improved tracking of multi-institutional collaborative research with human subjects studies. One means of communicating revised procedures with faculty, staff and students using human subjects is the newly created Institutional Review Board (IRB) email list.

The Human Stem Cell Research Oversight (HSCRO) Committee was established in August 2019. The committee serves as a subcommittee of the Institutional Biosafety Committee to provide oversight for human stem cell research, per the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Guidelines for Human Stem Cell Research and the National Research Council's Guidelines for Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research.

Deployment of IRB Manager for human subjects research continued with conversion of legacy data and submission of renewals of all Institutional Review Board (IRB) protocols through the IRB Manager software system. Deployment for Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee protocols is underway with submission and review through the system expected in spring 2020, followed by deployment for Institutional Biosafety Committee.

Information Technology staff are analyzing hosting options for InfoEd based on updated pricing, with purchase expected in calendar year 2019.

Analysis of relevant Banner department and faculty salary data for InfoEd is underway to identify data rules and consistency problems.

MAY 2019

IRB Manager was successfully implemented during the 2018-19 academic year for human subjects research. All new IRB (Institutional Review Board) protocols are submitted through the IRB Manager software system.

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs is working with the Office of Information Technology to explore ways to fund and implement InfoEd during the 2019-20 academic year.

An Office of Proposal Development was established to assist faculty with preparation of competitive proposals to external agencies. The office worked with the Senior Director of Research Development to hold grant development workshops on both campuses, with specialized workshops and internal faculty review panels to support the submission of NSF CAREER proposals. The Office of Proposal Development also assisted the College of Engineering with the Write Like an Engineer workshop for graduate students seeking to publish high-quality journal articles.

The Scholars Institute Program in the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs offered workshops to help researchers prepare successful grant proposals and to develop a fundable research program. During the 2018-19 academic year, workshops open to all faculty were held on Health Science Campus to assist medical faculty/professionals, as well as Main Campus. Rocket Innovations participated in both workshops and held many individual meetings with faculty to learn more about their research and new ideas. The goal of these meetings is to assist faculty with the submission and securing of grants and other funding.

Rocket Innovations so far has conducted 15 NSF I-Corps Site programs at UToledo and will continue to do so at a rate of four per year. Faculty members participate in these programs and are assisted with the advance of their technical projects and ideas; provided with training in the development of their research; and assisted with the development of grant and funding submissions.

The Office of Technology Transfer and the Human Research Protections Office held workshops to assist faculty in protecting their intellectual property and provide information on protocols and policies for working with human subjects.

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs worked with the Office of Government Relations to identify and submit high-priority research project ideas to U.S. Congress to enhance areas of research excellence, and to establish research collaborations with national laboratories, including the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in environmental sciences and advanced imaging applications.

In January 2019, the Human Research Protections Program (IRB) put into place policy and procedural changes to conform to the final rule for the protection of human subjects as defined in CFR, Subpart A.

Working with the Research Council, UToledo Research Compliance has addressed dual-use research with the development of a new policy and formation of the Institutional Review Entity.

UToledo Research Compliance has addressed controlled substance use in research with the development of a new policy.

NOVEMBER 2018

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs worked with the Office of Information Technology to evaluate RFPs/proposals for the implementation of a new, comprehensive, electronic research administration system to enhance the productivity of faculty researchers (pre-award and post-award technology). Three vendor finalists were invited to campus, and the committee made a recommendation in May 2018. Final recommendations were that one system (IRB Manager) was to be selected to support compliance programs (for Institutional Review Board research protocols) and another system (InfoEd) was recommended to provide grant development and grant accounting support. Funds were identified to purchase

IRB Manager and, beginning in October 2018, all new IRB (Institutional Review Board) protocols are now submitted through the IRB Manager software system. Legacy data has to be entered in the new system, but renewals and amendments are also to be entered into the new system. The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs is working with the Office of Information Technology to explore ways to implement InfoEd in spring 2019.

Planning is moving forward to hire new staff to support post-award function and compliance (including external control).

There is a need for additional grant writers dedicated to specific colleges to improve grant award success. However, due to lack of funding, this hiring plan was not implemented. Instead of moving forward with this plan, the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs hired an additional part-time grant writer to assist the current grant writer.

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs is working on a plan to create a new office of proposal development to assist faculty with research grant proposals.

An additional staff member was hired to oversee export control issues.

MAY 2018

The Department of Internal Audit and Compliance completed an assessment of the University's research support infrastructure that is currently being reviewed by the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs.

OCTOBER 2017

The Department of Internal Audit and Compliance is conducting a research support infrastructure assessment. Its report will be completed by December 2017. The report will then be reviewed by Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, Information Technology and Grants Accounting department. The information necessary to determine the baseline will be available in spring 2018.