

Wayne State University School of Medicine Research Strategic Planning: Year 1 “Measures of Success”

It has been a year since the Research Strategic Planning Report was presented to the Dean and to the SOM Faculty Senate. Since that time we have developed operational plans to implement five of the six workgroup reports (Program Project Grants awaits development) and established a liaison with the SOM Research Committee to provide monthly reports of progress on the plan. To compliment these efforts to implement and communicate progress, we would like to briefly report progress to date especially to those who worked as members of our six workgroups.

Also of note is a strategic review of SOM graduate programs. This initiative is underway addressing biomedical science (core and system courses), translational science, science careers, recruitment of graduate students, training grants and fellowships, and mentoring.

We will preface each workgroup report with a restatement of our “Measures of Success”.

Research Administration

Research Administration Overall “Measures of Success”

1. Researcher satisfaction with administrative support on proposal submission and management.
2. Accuracy and timeliness of current research account balances and projected year end account balances
3. User-friendly data entry for patient entry on clinical trials with accurate, timely and compliant reporting
4. Availability and utilization of research and faculty data bases to support grant preparation and in identifying potential collaborators

Accomplishments to date:

- Expand staff including a Director, Manager and Grant and Contract Administrators to assist SOM departments in grant preparation
- Establish Tips & Tools to assist departmental administrators on pre- and post-award management
- Establish a research database of SOM grants/contracts/awards
- Work with other WSU units to maintain and expand OnCore, SciVal
- Establish tutorials on Banner, eProp and Dashboard
- Develop content for SOM Research Administration web page including guidelines and flow chart for proposal submission

Key accomplishments awaiting completion:

- Establishment of a SOM Research Administration website

Core Facility

Core Facility Overall “Measures of Success”

1. Clear and widely visible designation of Core Facilities
2. Timely and accurate reports of Core Facility's accessibility, utilization and cost/revenue reports
3. User satisfaction surveys of Core Facilities' access, quality and costs
4. Annual reports of research support reliant upon Core Facilities

Accomplishments to date:

- Worked collaboratively with OVPR to report recommendations of the SOM Research Strategic Plan on Core Facilities to the Huron Consulting Group which has lead to
 - Funding and current recruitment of a University wide director of University Cores and a financial officer dedicated to core funding and pricing
 - Expansion of the University Core Committee
 - Development of a standardized method of budgeting and establishing costs of core facilities adopting methods developed by KCI
 - Development of a consensus definition and list of University Cores
- Worked collaboratively with DCATs to present university cores in a interactive website with links to each core's webpage and access to OnCore for scheduling and pricing
- Developed a proposal for a voucher program for new faculty to access cores as part of a recruitment package

Key accomplishments awaiting completion:

- Establish an internal funding rationale for the proposed voucher program
- Expansion of OnCore for scheduling, pricing and billing of core services
- Developing a Core Website
- Advance a rationale and means for sustaining cores including consideration of differential pricing and evaluation of research value of core services

Faculty Development

Faculty Development Overall "Measures of Success"

1. Annual formal review of a department's mentoring program as part of the chairperson's review
2. Annual review of faculty mentoring process for individual faculty members
3. Semi-annual "check-up" of research progress of faculty with research support > 40%
4. Increasing number of faculty on the Clinician Scholar track
5. More MDs on the tenure track

Accomplishments to date:

- Worked collaboratively with Faculty Affairs to add research content to the Departmental Faculty Development Liaison Program especially awareness of funding opportunities and researcher toolkits
- Supported the establishment of a research clinicians scholar track

- Convened (and hold monthly meetings with) a group of Associate Chairs for Research (one representative from each department) to work directly with faculty on research issues
- In collaboration with OVPR and through the Associate Chairs for Research, develop programs for grant review prior to grant submission, especially for junior faculty

Key accomplishments awaiting completion:

- Completion of ongoing graduate program strategic planning especially with reference to mentoring and faculty guidance of graduate student concentrations in translational research and non-traditional career opportunities
- Evaluation of mentorship including a database tracking PhD graduates careers

Translational Research

Translational Research Overall “Measures of Success”

1. Increased faculty awareness of translational research support services
2. Increased number of translational research proposals submitted
3. Translational research proposals involve more collaboration across departments
4. Increased funding from the Vanguard Health System supporting translational research

Accomplishments to date:

- Further implementation of OnCore including discussions to coordinate OnCore with DMC’s clinical information system
- Hosting of clinician & engineer meeting to develop collaborative proposals addressing clinical problems
- President's Research Enhancement Program: Collaborative Research Program among Engineering/Physical Sciences and Health Science Faculty
- Discussions with DMC to reduce and consolidate costs of clinical trials

Key accomplishments awaiting completion:

- Increase emphasis on translational science in graduate training
- Stabilize the medical and administrative and economic positions of the two CRC’s
- Consider best means to consolidate and expand the academic presence of translational science in the SOM (clinical trials, epidemiology, biostatistics, health promotion, health policy, behavioral interventions)
- Host a meeting of clinicians and behavioral scientists to address effective patient management

Biomedical Innovations

Biomedical Innovations Overall “Measures of Success”

1. Increased submissions of biomedical innovations for licenses and patents
2. Increased submissions from faculty of commercial opportunities to the biomedical innovations office for review
3. Increased revenues from biomedical innovation
4. Increased awareness of philanthropic opportunities in the donor community for biomedical innovations

Accomplishments to date:

- Meet with directors of both Tech Town & Front Door
- Regular meetings with SOM development officers

Key accomplishments awaiting completion:

- Replacement of technology development staff in SOM
- Establishment of biomedical innovations website
- Establishment of Technology Development Advisory Board
- Reestablish SOM Business of Biotech Course as part of broader refocusing of graduate studies
- Address valuing of commercialization in P&T considerations

Program Project-Like Grants

Program Project-Like Grants Overall “Measures of Success”

1. Increased submissions of RO1's, K & F awards and T32 awards
2. Applications from multiple qualified groups for intramural PP(L)G-support
3. Submission of 3 to 5 PP(L)G in five years

Accomplishments to date:

- Convene graduate program's strategic planning to consider optimal structure of research foci for graduate studies
- Secure additional funding from OVPR for internal developmental review of proposals involving three or more departments
- Working directly with department chairs to increase grant submissions
- Working with department chairs/faculty of multiple departments to increase “cluster hires”
- Developed and instituted faculty research incentive plan

Key accomplishments awaiting completion:

- Development of an operational plan for program project-like grants