



Annual Assessment and Evaluation Report
2004 – 2005

Research and Economic Development

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Brief Overview of Department/Program(s) or Unit

The Division of Research & Economic Development (DORED) administers and manages research and sponsored programs as well as technology transfer and commercialization for the University. Headed by the Vice Chancellor for Research & Economic Development, the division is made up of the Vice Chancellor's management team, the Office of Sponsored Programs, the Office of Technology Transfer and Outreach, the Office of Compliance and the Office of Research Services. The Division coordinates interdisciplinary funding opportunities among the University's colleges and schools and assists in transforming research into marketable economic opportunities.

I. Strategic Plan [This should be the current strategic plan for the department where the program(s) being assessed and evaluated reside(s) or the unit].

A. Vision

DORED's vision is to see North Carolina A&T State University recognized as a premier, mainstream research institution through enhanced faculty participation and superior quality of research, and to transition and transform more of our research for economic development into new products and jobs.

B. Goals/Objectives

Goal One:

Establish a University policy for establishing and maintaining research centers and institutes

Objective:

Enhance viable centers- eliminate inactive ones

Outcome Achieved:

A new Centers and Institutes policy was established and approved by the Board of Trustees, December 2004.

Assessment Measurements:

There are currently 14 centers/institutes listed on the Division of Research’s website.

Assessment Procedures:

Each existing center/institute was asked to complete an application to maintain the status of being a center/institute.

Administration of Assessment Procedures:

The Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development
Council of Associate/Assistant Deans

How findings from assessments data were used to improve the unit:

It was determined that some centers/institutes (based on the applications received) may duplicate efforts. The Council of Associate/Assistant Deans in conjunction with the Vice Chancellor for Research/Economic Development and the Deans will review to determine if those with duplication should/can be combined or eliminated.

Goal Two:

Improve interdisciplinary teamwork in all areas

Objective:

Recruit faculty to work in one of the eight interdisciplinary research cluster areas

Outcomes Achieved:

The Research Council and Council of Associate/Assistant Deans (CAAD) assisted in the strategizing of eight core research clusters, which cross disciplines. Those areas are: Public Health; Biotechnology, Bio and Food Sciences; Advanced Materials & Nanotechnology; Computational Science & Engineering; Leadership & Community Development; Information Sciences & Technology; Transportation & Logistics; and Energy & Environment. Clusters have developed white papers, which are open to feedback from other faculty members via Blackboard, whose research ties into the area. Those faculty members collaborate on joint proposals.

Assessment Measures:

Number of teams functioning in clusters
Number of grants secured

Assessment Procedures:

Review of cluster meeting notes and grant awards

Administration of Assessment Procedures:

Director of Research Services
Vice Chancellor for Research & Economic Development

How findings from assessments data were used to improve the unit:

Based on feedback from faculty members, the cluster areas will be refined to better reflect broad research interests of faculty at the University and to better focus research efforts.

Goal Three:

Increase the percentage of faculty participating in research and writing proposals

Objective:

Increase the number of proposals submitted to funding agencies by three percent

Outcomes Achieved:

As of April 2005 the University submitted 372 proposals totaling \$ 175,201,455. This represents a seven (7) percent increase in the dollar amount requested.

Assessment Measurements:

Number of proposals submitted

Assessment Procedures:

The grants administrators recorded the proposals submitted each day and tallied the total each week.

Administration of Assessment Procedures:

Director of Sponsored Programs

How findings from assessments data were used to improve the unit:

The Director of Sponsored Programs used the findings to target agencies where the most growth had occurred. In collaboration with the Director of Research Services, more funding opportunities will be pulled from those areas.

Goal Four:

Increase A&T's research collaborations with funding agencies/corporations

Objective:

Increase the number of visitors from funding agencies and businesses to the campus

Outcomes Achieved:

Strategic partnerships have been developed with several agencies/corporations including, but not limited to, the Environmental Protection Agency and Lockheed Martin.

Assessment Measurements:

Number of visits to campus each month by funding agencies and/or corporations

Assessment Procedures:

Calendar and log of visits by funding agencies and/or corporations

Administration of Assessment Procedures:

The Vice Chancellor for Research & Economic Development, with assistance from the Special Assistant, recorded monthly visits for collaboration and to raise visibility.

How findings from assessments data were used to improve the unit:

Based on collaborations resulting from the visits, other corporations and funding agencies were targeted for visits to the campus.

Goal Five:

Expand efforts in economic development

Objectives:

Develop, leverage and nurture strategic partnerships in the public and private sectors

Outcomes Achieved:

An Associate VC for Economic Development and Outreach was hired February 1, 2005.

Assessment Measurements:

New partnerships achieved.

Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) executed and signed.

Assessment Procedures:

Monthly review of MOUs

Administration of Assessment Procedures:

VC for Research & Economic Development

Associate VC for Economic Development/Outreach

How findings from assessments data were used to improve the unit:

The VC for Research/Economic Development evaluated findings, and met with Economic Development/Outreach staff on a continuous basis to discuss where best to focus efforts.