

Report from the Ad-hoc Faculty Research Committee

Submitted by: Kevin M. Williams, chair

The ad-hoc research committee was formed to work parallel to the Research Council Working Group to advise the Provost on research organizational and administrative structure, to discuss a faculty-driven research mission for WKU, and to seek out input from a broad spectrum of faculty across the campus.

For the past several weeks, the committee has been working to evaluate research resources available to faculty and to determine areas of faculty concern/frustration with respect to research. The members of the committee have reached out to the faculty within their respective colleges and units to gather information regarding what successful research should look like across campus and to determine what resources are needed to conduct research. We are currently working to provide specific, actionable recommendations in four broad areas:

- 1) Strengthening existing internal funding mechanisms to provide more flexibility and support research more broadly across campus
- 2) Recognizing and celebrating all forms of successful scholarship on campus as a foundation for raising the research profile of WKU
- 3) Promoting a committed, transparent plan to increase financial support for research
- 4) Reorganizing research infrastructure to facilitate research productivity