

RESEARCH

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Research Division has a bivalent mission: to facilitate the research, scholarly, and creative endeavors of faculty, staff, and students; and to translate research and creative activities into a positive impact on the region.

PROGRAM INFORMATION:

The Office of Research facilitates research, scholarly activities, and creative endeavors for all disciplines of the University faculty, staff, and students. The Office also facilitates the transfer of knowledge from research and creativity to support economic development and improve the quality of life in the region.

It is well established that the educational mission of WKU leads to a positive impact on the lives of our students in terms of their quality of life and economic opportunities. A core mission of the Office of Research is to facilitate this impact at the macro level to the region, the commonwealth and beyond.

The Office of Research, in support of the WKU mission and vision, provides leadership and support for programs, opportunities, and activities designed to:

- Promote the research, scholarly, and creative activities of students, faculty, and staff;
- Facilitate the garnering of extramural funding from federal, state, and local sources;
- Support the Division of Development and Alumni Relations in obtaining private research funds;
- Provide grant opportunities to support a comprehensive research agenda;
- Promote the research and creative activities of students;
- Promote innovation and technology transfer of faculty, staff and students; and
- Support the WKU Quality Enhancement Plan theme, “Engaging Students for Success in a Global Society.”

The Office of Research supports the educational mission of WKU, encouraging students and faculty alike to participate in the discovery process. The Office also supports the key mission of WKU in improving the quality of life including contributing to economic development. The Office of Research has a key role in increasing the reputation and impact of WKU. The Office holds firmly to WKU’s tradition of student centeredness and its vision of becoming “A Leading American University with International Reach.”

ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION:

University departments reporting to the Vice President for Research include the Office of Sponsored Programs, the Office of Compliance, the Center for Research and Development, as well as university-level centers for research and outreach.

GOALS/ANTICIPATED PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:

The Division of Research, working together with other WKU units, is responsible for leading, coordinating, and advancing the University commitment to research endeavors. To this end, the main focus of the Division will be to involve faculty, staff, and students in significantly increasing the research productivity of WKU. Specific goals for the division include increasing:

- The production of publications, books, performances, and creative products;
- The number and quality of research proposals;
- The success rate for proposal funding by faculty and staff;
- The number and amount of externally funded research grants awarded to WKU;
- The number of research faculty, scientists and other scholars working at WKU;
- Innovation by faculty and students;
- The involvement of faculty and students in translational research;
- The number of companies started by faculty staff and students; and
- The local, national, and international positive impact of WKU.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

	2011-12 Revised Budget*		2012-13 Proposed Budget	
	<u>Pos. Unrestricted Budget</u>		<u>Pos. Unrestricted Budget</u>	
<u>Educational and General</u>				
Personnel/Fringe Benefits	23.0	2,725,303	22.0	2,734,695
Operating Expenses		4,179,672		3,620,501
Student Aid		35,000		35,000
Capital Outlay		221,447		219,947
Total Expenditures		7,161,422		6,610,143
<u>Educational and General</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Restricted Budget</u>		<u>Pos. Restricted Budget</u>
Operating Expenses		21,470,000		20,950,000
Student Aid		400,000		400,000
Total Expenditures		21,870,000		21,350,000

*For comparison purposes, the 2011-12 Revised Budget figures have been adjusted to reflect University reorganization.