

# Research Enhancement Program and Beyond

This presentation is an overview of motivations and strategies to help  
Research Enhancement Program applicants leverage their proposal  
to seek external funding



*The rising STAR of Texas*

# The REP and External Funding Processes

The REP process intentionally mimics the external submission process to provide some experience in proposal preparation and project execution.

- Guideline Requirements (rules, format, evaluation criteria)
- Concept Development (Fundable Idea)
- Team Building (project roles and responsibilities, dynamics)
- Literature Survey (only the most relevant)
- Proposal Writing (well-defined sow, organization, clearly written)
- Budget Development (commensurate with sow, justification)
- Project Timeline (management)
- Online Application (time stamp, hard deadline)
- Panel Review (evaluation rubric, feedback for improvement)
- Research Compliance Approvals (IRB, IACUC, IBC)
- Project Execution (preliminary results, modifications to original ideas, re-budgeting, dissemination, etc.)
- Terminal Report (accountability, reporting outcomes)
- Leverage to other funding (Developing concept for external funding)
- Broader Impacts (Personal, Societal and Institutional Benefit)

# Why is Texas State Interested in Leveraging REPs?

- The REP is an extremely successful program from the standpoint of supporting scholarship, providing student learning opportunities and faculty productivity (papers, books, recitals, exhibitions, conference proceedings and presentations, and much more.)
- As Texas State transitions from an Emerging Research University to an R-1 University, one strategy to sustain this trajectory is to more effectively leverage the ideas, energy and outcomes of the REP from ALL DISCIPLINES to increase broader participation in the externally funded research.

# REP, NRUF and R-1

## The University Strategic Plan/Research Strategic Plan

<https://universityplan2023.avpie.txstate.edu/Division-Plans-/Academic-Affairs-Plan.html>

<https://www.txstate.edu/research/about-us/strategic-plan.html>

*Goal 3: Achieve significant progress in research and creative activity as measured by national standards*

### ➤ **What is NRUF?**

Emerging Research Universities may become eligible to receive National Research University Funding via the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

### ➤ **Carnegie Classification**

Texas State's current classification is Doctoral, High Research Activity or R-2 . Our goal is to upgrade that status to Doctoral, Very High Research Activity or R-1.

### ➤ **NSF Higher Education Research and Development Survey**

Based on FY18 Total R&D Expenditures of over \$64M, Texas State is in the top quartile of U.S. Higher Education Institutions #177 out of 915 universities.

# Emerging Research University Profile

- Offer a wide range of baccalaureate and masters degrees
- Serve a student population within and outside of the region
- Committed to graduate education through the doctorate degree in targeted areas of excellence
- Award at least 20 doctoral degrees per year
- Offer at least 10 doctoral programs
- Enroll a minimum of 150 doctoral students
- Have restricted research expenditures in excess of \$30 million dollars

\*ERU status enriches all students' educational experience by providing opportunities to participate in cutting-edge research and to work closely with faculty mentors.

\*Faculty Perspective-The institution you chose to launch your academic career has strengthened and elevated its reputation and profile in higher education within Texas and Nationally.



# NRUF Criteria

## Mandatory Criteria

- Emerging Research University
- Restricted Research Expenditures

## Optional Criteria (must meet 4 of 6)

- Endowment Funds
- Doctor of Philosophy Degrees
- Freshman Class of High Achievement
- Institutional Recognition of Research Capabilities and Scholarly Attainment
- High-Quality Faculty
- High-Quality Graduate Education

# Faculty Benefits From Leveraging REP

- **Engaging in the peer-review proposal process**-Challenges faculty to be at the forefront of their disciplines and to communicate ideas to experts in a clear and succinct manner
- **Evidence of sustained scholarship**-Funded proposals provide an alternative record of success in scholarship and enables future work
- **Demonstrates added depth in scholarship**-funded proposals can supplement your record of publication and indicates activity other than publications, presentations, etc.)
- **Enhances external review of tenure package**-faculty at other institutions can comment on published works supported by external funds
- **Acquisition of resources**-depending on academic discipline, funded projects maybe necessary to acquire personnel, materials, equipment, data, etc. to conduct research
- **Recognition**-eligibility for some national recognition awards are predicated on outcomes of external funding (e.g. Presidential Career Awards, National Academies, others)
- **Summer salary, incentives and Recovered F&A (IDC)**-external funds can be used to pay summer salary, supplant (buy out) E&G funds during the long semesters to become eligible for incentives and received recovered F&A funds

# Challenges to Leveraging the REP

- Assigned workload does not allow time to develop proposal or conduct scholarship
- Funding is not required to conduct scholarship
- Tenure/Promotion and Merit policies in some departments and colleges are silent on funded research activities (i.e. proposals)
- Need administrative support to find funding opportunities, develop budgets, manage awards, submit reports, etc.



# General Strategies for Leveraging REP

- Define your role-Principal or Co-Investigator
- Identify a potential sponsor-Federal, State, Private
- Know your sponsor-funders have specific missions so may need to broaden or generalize REP concept to make your proposal relevant. List how your project directly relates to the funder's priorities using their language
- Develop a whitepaper-be prepared to “pitch” your idea
- Contact program officer-inquire about fit and gain other insights
- Know your support team-Research Coordinators, Associate Dean for Research, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs are all ready to provide guidance and service

# Administrative Assistance

## College Associate Deans of Research

Applied Arts	Dr. Doug Morrish
Education	Dr. Ting Liu
Fine Arts & Communication	Dr. Joey Martin
Health Professions	Dr. Arzu Ari
Liberal Arts	Dr. Aimee Roundtree
McCoy Business College	Dr. Todd Jewell
Science & Engineering	Dr. Paula Williamson

## Research Coordinators

Applied Arts	vacant
Social Work	Michele Dziadik-Willingham
Education	Maggie Hutchins-Wagner, Rebecca Torres
Fine Arts & Communication	Matthew Winn, Lisa Westerbeck
Health Professions	vacant
Liberal Arts	Jessica Schneider, Meredith Williams
McCoy Business College	Yvonne Natoli
Science & Engineering	Yuvon Robin, Maria Beltran-Rodriguez
Graduate College	Andrea Hilkovitz, Brian Smith
LBJ Inst	Stacey Bennett
Meadows Center	Ryan Spencer

# Office of Research and Sponsored Programs Support Services

<https://www.txstate.edu/research/>

Walt Horton-Chief Research Officer, [weh21@txstate.edu](mailto:weh21@txstate.edu), 245-2314

Michael Blanda-Assistant VP for Research, [mb29@txstate.edu](mailto:mb29@txstate.edu), 245-2314

Strategic Research Initiatives (SRI) provides opportunities and support to researchers to increase the number and quality proposals submitted to external sponsors. Evy Gonzales, Director, [eg13@txstate.edu](mailto:eg13@txstate.edu), 245-2314

Pre-Award Support Services supports the University community in proposal development through value-added, high-quality service and professional partnerships with Principal Investigators (PIs) in order to facilitate world-changing research. Kay Beauchamp, Director, [sb45@txstate.edu](mailto:sb45@txstate.edu), 245-2102

Post-Award Support Services provides good fiscal management practices for the administration of externally funded sponsored programs at Texas State University during the lifecycle from establishment to closeout. Marivel Alvarez, Director, [ma17@txstate.edu](mailto:ma17@txstate.edu), 245-2102

# Office of Research and Sponsored Programs Support Services

Research Integrity and Compliance (RIC) serves the Texas State research community by ensuring that all research and scholarship is conducted in an ethical and responsible manner. Sean Rubino, Director, [sdr98@txstate.edu](mailto:sdr98@txstate.edu), 245-2314

Research Records and Systems Support provides information technology solutions and support for grant and contract administration functions in the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs. Yongxia Xia, Director, [ys11@txstate.edu](mailto:ys11@txstate.edu), 245-2314

Methodology, Measurement and Statistical Analysis provides both pre- and post-award support for investigators seeking expertise in the design, analysis and publication of research at the highest level. Larry Price, Director, [lp11@txstate.edu](mailto:lp11@txstate.edu), 245-9654

# Successful Leveraging Outcomes

- Engaged in process to explore conversion of REP proposal!
- Prepared and submitted an external proposal!!
- External proposal was funded!!!

# University Policy and Procedure Statements Related to Research

- ❖ UPPS 02.02.01 Applying for Sponsored Programs
- ❖ UPPS 02.02.02 Sponsored Programs -- Post Award
- ❖ UPPS 02.02.03 Protection of Human Research Subjects
- ❖ UPPS 02.02.05 Animal Care and Use Policy
- ❖ UPPS 02.02.06 Research Cash Advances
- ❖ UPPS 02.02.07 Researcher Conflicts of Interest in Research and Sponsored Program Activities
- ❖ UPPS 02.02.08 Conflicts of Commitment in Research and Sponsored Program Activities
- ❖ UPPS 02.02.09 Email Recruiting of Research Participants
- ❖ UPPS 02.02.10 Export Control Laws and Regulations



# Academic Affairs Policy and Procedures Statements Related to Research

- AA/PPS 03.01.01 Contracts and Grants of an Academic Nature
- AA/PPS 03.01.02 Limited Submissions for Certain Sponsored Programs
- AA/PPS 03.01.03 Applicable Cost Standards for Sponsored Programs
- AA/PPS 03.01.04 Fixed Price Agreements - Residual
- AA/PPS 03.01.05 Fee For Service
- AA/PPS 03.01.10 Start-Up Funds
- AA/PPS 03.01.12 Faculty Incentive Compensation for Externally-Funded Sponsored Programs
- AA/PPS 03.01.13 Addressing Allegations of Misconduct in Academic Research and Scholarship
- AA/PPS 03.01.20 Effort Reporting on Sponsored Programs
- AA/PPS 03.01.21 Cost Sharing on Sponsored Programs
- AA/PPS 03.01.22 Program Income on Sponsored Programs
- AA/PPS 03.01.23 Participant Support on Sponsored Programs (Including Tuition/Fees and Subsistence)