

Internal Governing Policies

#48 - Research

Approved: August 6, 1997

Monitor: Vice President for Academic Affairs

The University endorses the principle that the search for new truths and the expansion of knowledge through research are among its important functions. Research is essential to professionalism in university teaching, as well as to the recognition of the quality of the University, its academic departments, and its faculty.

An indispensable prerequisite to academic research is the freedom of all investigators to select, in their field of competence, the problems which they wish to study and to have complete freedom to make public the results of their work.

Subject to the availability of funds, the University supports this policy, by:

1. providing funds for continued growth and development of library reference resources and other library materials;
2. providing reassignment of duties for faculty members actively engaged in approved research;
3. providing funds for research equipment and facilities;
4. providing opportunity for faculty members to attend professional meetings in accordance with existing travel regulations; and
5. continuing a University Research Fund for special support of research at the University.

The Provost is responsible for the administration of the research program. The Provost is assisted in this administration by the Director of Research and Sponsored Programs. The program is composed of two major categories: one is concerned with externally funded projects and the other is the internal research program which is supported with state and local funds.

External Research Program

The External Research Program has as its primary responsibility the facilitation of research support from external sources. Services offered by the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs include the following:

1. providing faculty and staff with information concerning resources available for externally funded research;

2. assisting with the preparation and review of proposals in accordance with the University policy on [Grants and Contract Proposal Approval](#);
3. negotiating and processing the proposal; and
4. general supervision of the project, in accordance with University policy, once funds have been awarded.

The University will generally not enter into any contract for externally funded research which would restrain its freedom to disclose the existence of the contract, the identity of the sponsor, or the purpose and scope of the proposed research.

Appropriate legal and humane care and supervision of human and animal research are imperative to the University. Toward this end, both human subjects and animal care committees have been established. These committees are chaired by the Director of Grants and Sponsored Programs.

Internal Research Program

Research opportunities in the Internal Research Program include:

1. sabbatical leaves, which are governed by the [EIU/UPI Collective Bargaining Agreement](#),
2. research assignments which are approved by the Provost on the recommendation of the Department Chair and Dean,
3. summer research assignments which are approved by the Provost after review by the Council on Faculty Research and the Director of Research and Sponsored Programs, and
4. line item grant awards to faculty members, awarded on a competitive basis after review by the Council for Faculty Research.