Chapter 5.5: Supporting Federal Research

Context – Starting Points

Objective: Continue to maintain and grow our research programs that are funded by federal agencies resulting in a stronger academic and research enterprise.

Goal: Continue to increase federally funded research in the college.

Strategies

• Continue to build on the strengths of existing faculty and their research,
• Continue to identify strategic areas for federal funding opportunities,
• Continue to diversify the base of federal agencies that fund our research,
• Continue to identify and develop cost sharing beyond limited internal resources,
• Continue to connect faculty to opportunities that address and focus on national and global challenges and needs,
• Actively participate in collaborations that can yield strategic partnerships and competitive advantages on federal contracts and grants,
• Continue to increase the number of net new faculty in the College of Engineering,
• Hire new faculty with the motivation and skills required for success in the federal research funding environment,
• Continue to work cooperatively with the Division for Research including the Office of Sponsored Programs, Council of Research Associate Deans, Colorado State University Research Foundation (CSURF), and CSU Ventures,
• Continue to improve and expand our research infrastructure and capabilities,
• Provide support to aid faculty working to expand their research activity levels,
• Improve mentoring activities within the college to enhance the success of less experienced faculty submitting federal research proposals.
• Consider incentives for faculty engaged in significant levels of federally funded research,
• Improve current system of informing faculty of federal funding opportunities – especially in multidisciplinary areas,
• Develop mechanisms to attract senior federal research officials that might be interested in research positions where they can strengthen some of our existing research programs.

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Metric

- Federal research expenditures/T-TT faculty member
- Number of federal proposals/T-TT faculty member
- Total funding for federal proposals/T-TT faculty member

Targets

- Increase average federal funding/T-TT faculty member from average of FY09, FY10 and FY11, relative to growth of research funding in the federal budget.
- Increase the number of faculty submitting research proposals to federal sponsors from average of FY09, FY10, and FY11
- Increase the number of faculty with federally supported research programs in excess of $250,000 per year from average of FY09, FY10, and FY11.