



**Policy Title:** Research and Scholarly Activity  
**Functional Area:** ACADEMIC

**Status:** Approved  
**Effective:** June 25, 2020  
**Approved by:** SOM Leadership Council  
**Policy Contact:** Office of Research and Innovation  
 Office of the Dean  
**Responsible Office:** Office of Research and Innovation  
**Last Reviewed/Updated:** 12/01/2017

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**Purpose:** The purpose of this policy is to explain University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine (UIWSOM) strategic plan for research development and support.

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### Policy Statement

- 1) **Description:** All research, education and service activities at UIWSOM are established on the principles of social accountability, which is defined as "The obligation of a medical school to direct its education, research and service activities towards addressing the priority health concerns of the community, region and/or nation that they have a mandate to serve".<sup>1,2</sup> UIWSOM is located in South San Antonio amid medically underserved areas. UIWSOM has demonstrated its commitment to research by: 1) developing a strategic plan for research and scholarly activity; 2) allocation of scholarly activity time in its faculty adequacy model; 3) developing a research budget which includes seed money and supports learner travel; 4) creation of an Associate Dean position to direct research in collaboration with the Research and Scholarly Activity Committee (RSAC). More information about research and scholarly activity at the UIWSOM can be found on the Office of Research and Innovation website: <https://osteopathic-medicine.uiw.edu/research-innovation/index.html>
- 2) **Primary goal**
  - a) Implement the UIWSOM's strategic plan for the development and support of research and scholarly activity focusing on mission related research per Boyer's Model of Scholarship in the following areas:
    - i. **Community engagement:** Develop population health and translational research that directly benefits local communities.
    - ii. **Education:** Develop, initiate and assess transformational models of education and training for learners with a focus on social accountability.
    - iii. **Partnerships:** Establish interdisciplinary educational and research partnerships regionally, nationally and internationally.
    - iv. **Develop a translational research continuum using the T0 – T4 classification system suggested by the Institute of Medicine in 2013 (T0 = Basic Research; T1 = Translation to Humans; T2 = Translation to Patients; T3 = Translation to Practice; T4 = Translation to Communities).**
- 3) **Secondary goal**
  - a) Encourage, facilitate and support the participation of faculty, staff and learners in collaborative research and scholarly activity consistent with the UIWSOM mission: research that directly benefits local communities through funding in the following target areas:
    - i. Osteopathic (OMM, OPP)
    - ii. Population health and community engagement
    - iii. Progression from basic biomedical to translational research and to clinical trials
    - iv. Medical education
  - b) This goal will be accomplished by:
    - i. Faculty, staff and learner development and mentoring efforts.
    - ii. Instituting and supporting programs to support faculty research (Faculty Seed Grant Research Award), learner research (Learner Research Award) and learner travel (Learner Travel Award).
    - iii. Development of infrastructure by establishing core facilities and shared equipment resources.

- 4) Participants
  - a) UIWSOM faculty
  - b) UIWSOM staff
  - c) UIWSOM learners
  - d) Fellows and residents participating in UIWSOM GME programs
  - e) Community partners
  
- 5) Resources
  - a) Faculty, staff, and learner participation.
  - b) Leadership support for faculty, staff, and learner participation in research.
  - c) Funding to support programs that facilitate and stimulate research and enhance infrastructure.
  - d) The RSAC has been established as a standing committee whose composition is detailed in the Supplemental Faculty Handbook (<https://osteopathic-medicine.uiw.edu/docs/somfacultyhandbook2019.pdf>, pg. 14-15). The RSAC is charged with the implementation of the research and scholarly activity strategic plan through a range of initiatives that create an enabling environment for research and scholarly activity such as:
    - Encourage, facilitate and support faculty, staff, and learner participation in research and contribution to scholarship in OMM and OPP and in the fields of the basic biomedical sciences, clinical medicine, medical education.
    - Provide faculty development and mentoring efforts to enhance research capacity (e.g., symposium on database mining).
    - Liaising with the UIW Office of Research & Graduate Studies and its Office of Research Development, and the UIW Grants Office to promote and advance scholarly activities in support of the UIWSOM Mission.
    - Develop and administer programs designed to support research of faculty, staff and learners.
    - Overseeing the planning of scholarly events (e.g., seminars; UIWSOM Research Day).
    - Providing advice and guidance to the UIWSOM Dean on programs and projects that impact the scholarly environment.
  
- 6) Procedures
  - a) RSAC review process for proposals to support faculty, staff and learner research and travel. (Granting of Research and Scholarly Activity Support Process Document).
  - b) RSAC post-award monitoring of progress of funded research projects (Post-Award Monitoring of Support Process Document).

1. Accreditation of Hospitals and Medical Education Institutes-Challenges and future directions, WHO, EMRO: Cairo.
2. World Federation for Medical Education Global Consensus for Social Accountability of Medical Schools.  
<http://healthsocialaccountability.sites.olt.ubc.ca/files/2011/06/11-06-07-GCSA-English-pdf-style.pdf>