

# Center for Faculty Scholarship Strategic Plan Initiative

## **Embrace high-quality research, scholarship, and creative activity**

- The importance of scholarship to be woven through the appropriate university communications
- The promotion of research according to the accepted peer-reviewed standards, or other external validation, as applicable to each discipline in collaboration with the academic departments that represent the disciplines
- Systematize opportunities to recognize and celebrate the achievement (publication and/or reception) of faculty having received external (of the university) grants, and fellowships
- Support initiatives for developing research partnerships with faculty from other universities as well as community partners
- Obtain university-wide external funding to increase the visibility and support of research and creative endeavors of students, faculty, and professional staff
- Expand internal Research Grants used to leverage larger external grants
- Expand internal Research Grants to complete smaller research projects
- To the extent permitted by financial assets and enrollment numbers, create graduate and undergraduate workers to provide assistance to faculty initiating research agendas, and who otherwise would not have access to student assistance

## **Infrastructure**

- Maintain regular and formal exchanges between the Grants office and the Provost's office to reinforce strategies that promote and support research, including but not limited to facilities
- Continue to strengthen the IRB and IACUC structure and procedures
- Maintain at minimum existing grant office and support infrastructure to assist faculty in securing and executing state, regional, and national grants and contracts
- Establish access to a searchable grant database available to all faculty

## **Professional Development**

- Institutionalize a peer-mentoring model for publications support (such as assistance in technical writing, and manuscript review)
- Ensure that all new faculty orientation programs include an in depth discussion of Fitchburg State's research program, and include a presentation from grants office

- Establish a series of workshops on research design, publishing and grant-writing
- Establish an annual workshop to inform research participants of policies for IRB and IACUC compliance. All research training workshops should be digitally recorded and posted on AA website

### **Promotion**

- Recognize, publicize, and reward the scholarly works and creative accomplishments of faculty and students
- Create an effective, up-to-date, and user-friendly website that communicates to the public the successful scholarly, research and creative activity occurring within the university
- Work collaboratively with the research office, Deans and chairs to build and strengthen identified interdisciplinary programs, facilitate projects with interdisciplinary collaboration, and promote their value in both internal and external communications

### **Increase interdisciplinary research and dialogue**

- Hold regular, interdisciplinary events that promote dialogue among faculty and departments, and recognize collaborative work within Fitchburg State
- Facilitate outreach and work with faculty from other universities in order to develop joint opportunities for students and faculty members

### **Strengthen and develop linkages between faculty research expertise and regional needs and demands**

- Explore joint initiatives with the various Social and Economic Development projects to seek collaborative and applied research opportunities in key areas

### **Promote and enhance research and scholarly activities that provide transformative experiences for all students**

- Reconstitute an undergraduate research program led by the AA, and which includes a research journal, a fund for student research fellowships and a colloquium for students and faculty to link and share their research interests
- Start a graduate research program, which includes a fund for student research fellowships, and a colloquium for students and faculty to link and share their research interests