The Office of Research Services’ mission is to promote, facilitate, and support research, scholarship, teaching, creative activities, and innovation that are conducted by DePaul University faculty, students, and staff, and are consistent with the university’s mission.

OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES

1. INCREASE EXTERNAL FUNDING
2. CREATE HIGH IMPACT TRAINING AND EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITIES
3. ENHANCE SUPPORT FOR INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, AND COMMERCIALIZATION
4. CULTIVATE AN INNOVATION & RESEARCH CULTURE
5. EXPAND AND ENHANCE STUDENT RESEARCH SUPPORT
6. EMBED DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION INTO THE FUTURE OF RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION
7. IMPROVE BRANDING AND COMMUNICATION
STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: INCREASE EXTERNAL FUNDING

a. Provide training and encourage grant submissions for external research and creative inquiry projects

b. Promote college-specific funding opportunities through various communication strategies

c. Influence college-specific release time for faculty to write grants and manage grants upon funding

d. Promote the University Research Council Competitive Course Release Program to encourage grant writing

e. Hire grant writer focused on large strategic initiatives in collaboration with Academic Affairs and Colleges

f. Develop matching mechanisms between funding opportunities and research teams and collaborators

g. Strengthen partnership with Division of Advancement to promote philanthropic and corporate funding opportunities
a. Keep abreast of the grant management and research protection training programs

b. Provide instructional presentations on research methodology, grant management, compliance, and grant writing

c. Create learning communities that include new faculty and Principal Investigators (PIs) to provide a setting for fostering rich opportunities for training, education, and mentoring

d. Support professional development of ORS staff through participation in webinars, workshops, and conferences
STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: ENHANCE SUPPORT FOR INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, AND COMMERCIALIZATION

a. Promote and support the Research & Innovation Leadership Fellowship Program
b. Design a full-time position (i.e., Director of Technology Transfer, Commercialization and Social Impact)
c. Embed technology transfer metrics in data collection, reporting and information dissemination
d. Design workflows for Intellectual Property (IP) protection, invention disclosure, technology transfer, and commercialization
e. Create formal partnerships with external and internal stakeholders to fully leverage the emerging entrepreneurial ecosystem within and outside of DePaul
f. Design and deliver education, training and coaching programs aimed at enhancing technology transfer and commercialization
g. Optimize Academic Growth and Innovation Fund (AGIF) to fully leverage the potential of AGIF awardees to pursue commercialization
a. Organize events to promote collaboration and innovation, such as Innovation Day and Lunch & Learn series

b. Design, develop, and implement metrics and data analytics tools to measure research, creative activities, and innovation outcomes and impact

c. Embrace innovative practices for outcomes and impact dissemination within and outside DePaul

d. Cultivate a research administration community bringing together staff members from various offices at DePaul that support research
STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5: EXPAND AND ENHANCE STUDENT RESEARCH SUPPORT

a. Facilitate student research community building by promoting opportunities for student research at all levels and organizing "Big East" like research competition annually.
b. Design and develop analytical tools to track student involvement through sponsored projects and/or enrollment in research/creative activity related courses.
c. Expand support of the University Research Assistantship Program (URAP) to leverage external funding opportunities available for undergraduate students.
d. Promote grant writing and career preparedness to senior level PhD students in partnership with faculty mentors.
e. Participate in regional and national student research organizations such as the Chicago Area Research Symposium (CAURS) and the National Council for Undergraduate Research (NCUR).
f. Partner with the Division of Advancement to identify philanthropic organizations, corporations and donors to create "name/brand" student research scholarships.
STRATEGIC PRIORITY 6: EMBED DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION INTO THE FUTURE OF RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION

a. Proactively respond to changes in technology to support ORS and the research community

b. Create and maintain documentation of processes and training materials as they relate to technology use for faculty and college budget managers in partnership with other units supporting research

c. Evaluate current business processes and technology to create a more seamless and user-friendly experience for faculty and staff (e.g. Blackbaud reporting, eProtocol system, and ORS web-based proposal review system)

d. Participate in University committees focused on technology acquisition, strategic planning, and budgeting
STRATEGIC PRIORITY 7: IMPROVE BRANDING AND COMMUNICATION

a. Partner with the University Marketing and Communications Division to effectively equip faculty, staff and students be the University brand ambassadors

b. Disseminate research, creative activities, and innovation accomplishments through enhanced communication, such as award alerts, University research website, Research Catalyst newsletter, research magazine, and annual report

c. Increase knowledge about the Office of Research Services, its role and the breadth of resources it provides to faculty, students and staff as the heart of the research, creative activity, and innovation enterprise