

President's Task Force on Administrative Infrastructure
for the Research Enterprise

March 24, 2006

The purpose of this Task Force will be to evaluate the current administrative infrastructure that supports the research enterprise and make recommendations that will enable researchers to accomplish their goals efficiently using legal and ethical practices and procedures.

Rationale and Charge:

WVU's 2010 Plan contains an ambitious goal regarding the research enterprise, namely to attain \$200M in extramural funding for research and other sponsored programs by the year 2010. The General University, the Health Sciences Center, and the Research Corporation have and will continue to invest considerable resources over the next few years to reach this goal and for the related impact on economic development.

The institution's external funding has doubled since 1999. This growth in research activities has pushed the limits of the capacity of the current support infrastructure. It is reasonable to ask:

- What is the appropriate support infrastructure to accommodate the expected further increases in grant and contract activities, and technology transfer?
- Do we have the appropriate business systems in place to support best practices on campus?

I am appointing this Task Force to review the administrative infrastructure functions serving the research enterprise and recommend ways to accommodate the expected growth. Areas for study include:

- Proposal, award and close out processing, procurement,
- Grant management,
- Research accounting,
- Human resources and payroll,
- Asset management, and
- Facilities and space management.

The Task Force should identify strengths and weaknesses in the above administrative infrastructure functions and make recommendations for ensuring efficiency and coverage of needs. Staffing and organizational issues should be addressed.

Further, the Task Force should examine ways the WVU Research Corporation can be utilized as a vehicle to carry out its charter of supporting and advancing the research and economic development missions of WVU.

I have asked Provost Lang to meet with the Task Force to deliver its charge. The Task Force should work expeditiously and strive to issue its report by mid-September.

Task Force Members:

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