

Division of Research Strategic Plan: Executive Summary

The UNLV Division of Research (DOR) has completed a comprehensive strategic plan, a product of collaborative efforts, to enhance research, scholarly, and creative endeavors in alignment with UNLV's Top Tier 2.0 goals and the overall research mission of UNLV. The DOR initiated the process to address challenges and promote growth; the plan emphasizes expanding academic and research opportunities for faculty and students while ensuring research integrity and ethical conduct. As UNLV emerges as a doctoral university with very high research activity, research-driven educational experiences are critical to achieving the goals.

Vision and mission statements underscore the commitment to equity, inclusion, and social impact through diverse scholarly and creative activities. Values such as academic freedom, integrity, safety, collaboration, and equity guide the DOR's endeavors. Strategic alignment with UNLV's overall mission is emphasized, with the DOR facilitating research support services across multiple units. Collaboration with centers, institutes, and core laboratories will enhance research capabilities and impact.

The planning process from January 2023 to June 2024 involved critical analysis and input from multiple stakeholders. The resulting strategic plan outlines clear goals, objectives, and key performance indicators to evaluate progress. Long-term action plans will guide the initiatives outlined in the document, contingent upon funding and evolving priorities.

Each unit within the DOR has defined strategic objectives, critical tasks, and performance metrics. The Office of Sponsored Programs focuses on stewarding sponsored projects and enhancing training opportunities for grants and contracts. The Office of Clinical Trials promotes growth through emerging therapies, industry engagement, and infrastructure development for future health initiatives. The Office of Research Integrity ensures ethical conduct and compliance in research, while the Office of Research Infrastructure enhances research productivity through facilities and safety. The combined roles of all of these units are critical in building the University research enterprise, research administration, and the ability of faculty and students to achieve their scholarly goals.

Communication efforts aim to educate stakeholders about research impact, while initiatives in research infrastructure focus on supporting faculty needs and enhancing research capabilities. Collaboration with the Office of Economic Development strengthens ties between research and economic growth, promoting the translation of scholarly endeavors into marketable products and services.

The strategic plan positions the DOR to advance UNLV's research mission and foster innovation while maintaining a commitment to integrity, diversity, and excellence. Regularly scheduled reviews will ensure alignment with evolving priorities and continued relevance over time.