
UND SMHS Strategic Plan Individual Unit Report for 2021

GOAL 4 for **Biomedical Sciences**

LEARNING

One UND Strategic Plan Goal 4: *Enhance discovery at a level consistent with most research-intensive universities (Carnegie R1) Goal by 2022, (\$60) million-internal and external funding sources.*

UND SMHS Strategic Plan Goal 4: *The SMHS will enhance basic, clinical, and translational health sciences discoveries while focusing on its stated purpose “of discovery of knowledge that benefits the people of this state and enhances the quality of their lives.” The SMHS will support Goal 4 by increasing its extramural funding by 5% per year based on a three-year rolling average.*

1. Describe if/how your unit has addressed this goal.

The Biomedical Sciences Department has fostered the discovery of knowledge most tangibly in terms of grant proposal submissions, extramural grant funding, and publications. These metrics are tracked bi-weekly or monthly via PubMed, eRA Commons, and data provide by UND's Grants & Contracts office and the Blue Ridge Institute for Medical Research. The department had \$11,272,250 in extramural support last year with 90% of faculty with research effort >20% having some extramural support. This equated to a number 2 Blue Ridge ranking for the department out of all Biomedical Science departments in the country. Our 3-year rolling average increase was 15.4% over last year.

2. Describe how your efforts are being assessed.

Comparing current data and figures to those of previous years in the form of graphs and charts illustrate areas of successes and can identify areas that need improvement.

3. Describe how your unit analyzed these data and what assessments were determined.

A summary Excel document was created that holds the current state of data including grants submitted, which faculty are submitting grants, grants awarded, graduate student information, and department publications. This document is updated bi-weekly and sent to the Chair for review. The Chair can use these reports when making department decisions required to address the department specific strategic plan-derived goals or coming up with new strategies for increasing the research enterprise.

4. Describe how your unit will implement any further changes and what barriers may exist.

To increase grant submission numbers, the department introduced a grant-writing group to help faculty members in proposal preparation. Last year this was supported by the SMHS and opened up to a broader group of potential grant writers within the CTR network. This effort had some success. It is ultimately up to the faculty member to complete a grant submission in the program. Faculty participated in the SMHS supported grant writing program but we struggled to convert to submitted grants. The department invested in software subscriptions that facilitate publication/grant submission such as GraphPad Prism, BioRender, Grammarly, Adobe Pro, and Endnote and supports manuscript and grant professional editing services for PIs and their labs.

PROVIDE A RATING OF YOUR PROGRESS ON THIS GOAL: x On Track;  Delayed; 
Behind