



# BAYLOR

U N I V E R S I T Y

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## OFFICE OF THE VICE PROVOST FOR RESEARCH

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## ABOUT THE OVPR

The [Office of the Vice Provost for Research](#) provides support to faculty members from all academic units to advance their research and scholarship. In addition to helping faculty members seek external funding, the office provides a number of other services to the research community, including pre- and post-award services, partnerships and collaborative agreements with external entities, compliance oversight and assistance with issues related to intellectual property and technology transfer. Please feel free to reach out to our office with questions about any aspect of research and scholarly activities.

## FACULTY DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL FUNDING

The OVPR offers financial support to promote research and scholarly efforts of Baylor faculty across all academic units.

### RESEARCH GRANTS

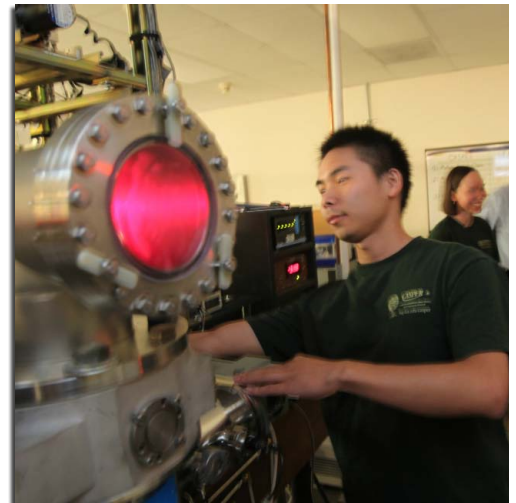
[Faculty Research Investment Program](#) - designed to leverage internal funding by providing seed money to establish or re-direct research programs to make faculty more competitive for external funding. These grants are externally peer-reviewed.

[Young Investigator Development Program](#) - designed to leverage internal funding by enhancing the ability of newly-appointed faculty (within their first four years of appointment) to successfully compete for external research funds. These grants are externally peer-reviewed.

[Arts and Humanities Faculty Research Program](#) - designed to stimulate research, scholarship and creative activities in the arts, fine arts, humanities and education, where external funding is often unavailable.

[University Research Committee](#) - distributes funds for the support and development of projects and programs promoting faculty research and scholarship and strengthening efforts to secure external funding for their work. These grants are peer-reviewed by the URC committee.

[Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Achievement \(URSA\) Small Grant Program](#) - expands opportunities for research participation by undergraduate students in active faculty/student collaborative learning relationships.



### RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT

[Faculty Travel Assistance Grants Program](#) - provides tenured/tenure-track faculty and funded principal investigators with matching funds to help defray the cost of travel to promote or support the development of new or expanded research programs at Baylor.

[Principal Investigator Research Investment Program](#) - provides faculty with limited support (up to \$10K) to address specific issues in critiques of major (>\$100K) external proposals.

[Internet2 Discovery Grant Program](#) - seed grants designed to encourage faculty to utilize the capabilities of Internet2, the leading-edge network access to the national research community, enabling revolutionary internet applications and ensuring the rapid transfer of network services and applications.

[VPR Colloquium Support](#) - provides funding and logistical support to help bring major national and international speakers to campus. In most cases, program provides travel funding and an honorarium.

[Conference Support Program](#) - provides seed money and logistical support to attract major regional, national or international conferences.

[Postdoctoral Support Program](#) - provides 12-month postdoctoral research fellowships for Ph.D. granting departments. Initial appointments are funded for one year, with a second year extension allowed for successful fellows.

## OTHER OVPR SERVICES

**Information Mining/Limited Submissions** - assists faculty in identifying external resources to support their research activities. The OVPR also maintains a site use license that allows faculty to tailor funding searches and alerts to their specific needs through the online COS Funding Opportunities database.

**Proposal Development** - assistance to faculty in developing strategies to obtain external funding, in selecting potential funding programs and in developing proposals that address specific requirements of funding agencies.

**Project Management** - technical support to faculty and senior administrators in the development of multidisciplinary institutional applications. OVPR serves as the primary point of contact for development and management of relations with potential commercial research partners.



## UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY ACHIEVEMENT

[Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Achievement \(URSA\)](#) URSA was initiated in 2007 by the OVPR to expand undergraduate participation in research and scholarly activities campus-wide. URSA is led by a steering committee comprised of faculty and administrators from across campus.

URSA programs and services include URSA Scholars Week, the URSA Small Grant Program, and URSA Writing Awards. The [URSA website](#) also provides a portal to information about on- and off-campus scholarly opportunities for undergraduate students.

## OFFICE OF SPONSORED PROGRAMS

The [Office of Sponsored Programs \(OSP\)](#) supports Baylor faculty in the acquisition, performance and administration of projects and programs funded from sources outside the university. The OSP is the central point of coordination for grants, contracts and other agreements from government agencies, private industry and nonprofit sponsors. Sponsored programs coordinators are assigned by academic unit rather than by funding agencies, to facilitate development of a close working relationship with faculty and research staff.

**Pre-Award Services** - interpretation of sponsor guidelines; determination of eligibility; budget preparation; assistance with proposal preparation; institutional approvals; proposal submission.

**Award Acceptance** - negotiation of terms and conditions; account set-up; review of sponsor requirements and any special terms and conditions with individual principal investigators.

**Post-Award Services** - coordination with PIs and with Baylor financial service units to monitor financial transactions and meet sponsor reporting requirements; invoicing grant and contract accounts; approval of project modifications (e.g., re-budgeting, project extensions, changes in project scope or key personnel); project closeout.

## COMPLIANCE

The OVPR monitors all university research activity to ensure that it is conducted in accordance with federal, state, local and institutional policies and guidelines. Compliance responsibilities include management of and technical support to federally mandated compliance committees, implementation of specific federally and/or institutionally mandated research policies and procedures, and interface with other university offices when compliance implications of research activities necessitate additional institutional review.

### RESEARCH COMPLIANCE COMMITTEES

**Institutional Review Board (IRB)** - responsible for reviewing and monitoring all university research involving human subjects, and for ensuring the protection of participants in classroom, research and laboratory activities at/ or connected with Baylor.

**Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)** - responsible for ensuring the proper care, use and treatment of animals in research and education, and that animal experiments are conducted in accordance with the highest scientific, humane and ethical principles.

**Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)** - responsible for reviewing and monitoring all university research that involves recombinant DNA, infectious agents, and other biohazards, ensuring that all regulatory requirements are met by the university and by individual investigators.

**Radiation Safety Committee (RSC)** - monitors compliance ensuring safe use of all radioactive materials and radiation equipment used by faculty, staff, and students.

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

The OVPR manages the process of identifying and disclosing innovative discoveries, securing patents or other appropriate legal protections, and negotiating licensing agreements with industry. The OVPR coordinates the roles of all participants in the technology transfer process, including faculty, other administrative offices, and outside consultants retained to assist the university in the technology transfer process. In addition, OVPR staff prepare and negotiate nondisclosure and material transfer agreements on behalf of faculty

**Nondisclosure Agreements (NDA)** - agreements that stipulate conditions under which Baylor shares confidential research information with other nonprofit or for-profit organizations for purposes of exploring mutually beneficial research and/or commercial relationships.

**Material Transfer Agreements (MTA)** - stipulate conditions under which proprietary biological materials may be provided to or accepted from other nonprofit or for-profit organizations to facilitate research or to seek commercial applications for research technologies.

For more information on NDAs or MTAs, contact [Lisa McKethan](#), Director of the Office of Sponsored Programs.

## BAYLOR ADVANCED RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Baylor Advanced Research Institute (BARI) functions as an ‘umbrella institute’ to provide a catalyst for creating new and emerging research clusters, interdisciplinary programs and industrial collaborations. BARI serves to organize, strengthen and expand industrial/academic partnerships, engaging Baylor faculty and students in collaborative research opportunities with high tech industries and by providing Baylor start-up companies with technical assistance to create financially stable high-growth enterprises. These potential partnerships not only give Baylor faculty and students valuable research exposure and experience, but also provide an economic stimulus to the local community.

## CENTRAL TEXAS TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH PARK

The Central Texas Technology and Research Park (CTTRP) has been established to develop, promote and market science and engineering technologies, university research and advanced technology training and workforce development. The Park is a collaboration among the following partners: Baylor University, Texas State Technical College, McLennan Community College, McLennan County, City of Waco, City of Bellmead, Waco-McLennan County Economic Development Corporation, Bellmead Economic Development Corporation, Waco Industrial Foundation, Heart of Texas Council of Governments, and Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce.

Baylor Research and Innovation Collaborative (BRIC) - Located at the site of the General Tire industrial plant, the BRIC will serve as the anchor and first step toward establishment of the CTTRP.

The BRIC will bring together in one physical location:

- University Research
- Industry
- Workforce Development
- Shared space for research, economic development and educational symposia and meetings



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