

February 27, 2024

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# Strategic Research Planning Initiative

## Sciences Townhall



COLLEGE *and* GRADUATE SCHOOL  
*of* ARTS & SCIENCES

# Strategic Research Planning Initiative

The initiative will assess our strengths, benchmark our performance, and articulate a vision for what research excellence looks like in A&S, and will recommend specific actions to achieve it and measure progress over the next 5-7 years.

*Expand the impact and size of our research footprint*

# Strategic Research Planning Initiative

Identification of...

- Focal areas for strategic investment
- Changes in practice and resources that enable success in research, scholarship and creative practices

*Expand the impact and size of our research footprint*

# Expand the impact and size of A&S's research footprint

*Broad engagement of faculty across divisions*

- Faculty focus groups
- Survey to (a) determine areas of strength and opportunity and to (b) assess constraints
  - Townhall to discuss survey responses

*How do we get there?*

# Expand the impact and size of A&S's research footprint

## *Survey...*

- 619 A&S faculty invited to take survey
- 51.2% overall response rate
- 59.7% Sciences response rate 😊
- Representative across the ranks

## *How do we get there?*

# Survey Results: Sciences

## Resources: Sciences

### Graduate students/postdocs (2.16)

Highest	Seed money for projects (2.70)
	Flexibility with teaching schedules (3.85)
	Summer funding (4.05)
Lowest	Research/conference travel (4.26)
	Publication fees/work dissemination (5.24)
	Other* (5.75)

## Infrastructure: Sciences

### Pre-award staff support (2.13)

Highest	Increased post-award staff support (2.98)
	Support for Administrative tasks (3.13)
	Assistance with hiring or purchasing (4.31)
Lowest	Identifying grant/fellowship possibilities (4.40)
	Assistance compliance requirements (4.95)
	Other* (6.09)

## Collaboration/Communication: Sciences

### Cohort, mentorship, or residency (2.72)

Highest	Speaker series promoting research/collaboration (3.19)
	Promotion/communication of completed works (3.35)
	Central information for internal funding opportunities (3.62)
Lowest	Availability of interdisciplinary space (4.05)
	Communication about available data sets/equipment (4.65)
	Other* (6.42)

## Equipment/Training: Sciences

### Shared equipment (2.10)

Highest	Increased technical staff (2.62)
	Spaces for research (3.31)
	Funding for data sets (4.33)
Lowest	Media support (4.58)
	Developmental editors (4.95)
	Other* (6.11)

# Focal Areas for Strategic Investment: Sciences

*Looking for your help to build out focal areas for strategic investment!*

# Focal Areas for Strategic Investment: Sciences

- Astronomy/Astrochem/Astrophysics/Astrobiology
  - *Interconnected Universe*
- Neuroscience in changing environments/across disciplines
- Quantum Physics and Computational Biology
- Data Science & Sciences interactions; AI & Biology