The Research Environment at TAMU-CC

Dr. Luis Cifuentes, Vice President
Research, Commercialization & Outreach
The overriding Momentum 2020 goal is “becoming an emerging research university with unparalleled commitment to every student’s success, closing gaps in achievement, and delivering a robust campus experience.”
Bridge From Potential to Opportunity
Carnegie Classification of Doctoral Universities 2015*

*Using IPEDS Provisional Release Data for 2015
Bridge From Potential to Opportunity
There are few investments with a greater return than federally funded basic scientific research. The federally funded university research that led to the companies highlighted here yielded many other returns along the way. This research advanced our knowledge; primed America’s innovation pipeline; educated future scientists, engineers and doctors; created direct jobs and equipment purchases; and helped build a skilled workforce. Research, and all the benefits that flow from it, help keep America globally competitive.
Teaching versus Research

Teaching-Learning Paradigms

Learning = Teaching + Research
President and Provost

• Articulate vision
• Walk the walk
• Attract great faculty
• Align vision with:
  – Evaluation
  – Tenure
  – Promotion
  – Merit

“Turns out I’ve been talking the walk and walking the talk.”
VPR Role

• Cultivates and maintains a healthy research environment
• Facilitates increased faculty research and scholarly productivity
• Assists provost with new faculty appointments

“It turns out we’ve only got enough money for R or D.”
Research Organization DNA

What is distinct or special about the TAMU-CC Research Environment?
VPR

• Also approves and signs research related:
  – Grants
  – Contracts
  – MOUs
  – MOAs
  – NDAs
Research Capacity

“The ability of individuals, organizations, and systems to undertake and disseminate high quality research effectively and efficiently”

British Department for International Development
Research Resources

- Money
- Space
- Facilities
- Students
obligations in billions of constant FY 2016 dollars

"Other" includes research not classified (includes basic research and applied research; excludes development and R&D facilities). Life sciences are split into NIH support for biomedical research and all other agencies' support for life sciences.

Source: National Science Foundation, Federal Funds for Research and Development series. FY 2015 and 2016 data are preliminary. Constant-dollar conversions based on OMB's GDP deflators. © 2016 AAAS
Interdisciplinary Research
Graduate Studies Funding Continuum

1st Year
Finish classes
Dissertation Work
Post-Doc

Senior Year
Undergrad

Graduate School

Generic Fellowships

Fellowships for Early Grad Students

Dissertation Grants

Academic Research Funding Strategies, LLC
Division of Research, Commercialization and Outreach

Dr. Luis A. Cifuentes  
Vice President for Research, Commercialization and Outreach  
Office: Faculty Center - Room 165  
Phone: (361) 825-3881  
Zip+4: 5844  
Email: luis.cifuentes@tamucc.edu  
View online CV

Dr. Ahmed Mahdy  
Associate Vice President for Research, Commercialization and Outreach  
Office: Faculty Center - Room 164  
Phone: (361) 825-3172  
Zip+4: 5844  
Email: ahmed.mahdy@tamucc.edu

Linda Villarreal  
Senior Executive Assistant  
Office: Faculty Center - Room 161A  
Phone: (361) 825-3881  
Zip+4: 5844  
Email: linda.villarreal@tamucc.edu

Tuan Phung  
Business Coordinator  
Office: Faculty Center - Room 151C  
Phone: (361) 825-3823  
Zip+4: 5844  
Email: tuan.phung@tamucc.edu
Office of Research Development and Commercialization

**Sharmeena Ahmed**  
*Research and Commercialization Analyst*  
Office: Faculty Center - Room 151D  
Phone: (361) 825-2886  
Zip+4: 5844  
Email: sharmeen.ahmed@tamucc.edu

**Cynthia (Cindy) Lyle**  
*Senior Research Development Officer*  
Office: Faculty Center - Room 151B  
Phone: (361) 825-5731  
Zip+4: 5844  
Email: cvnthia.lvle@tamucc.edu

**Dan Riechers**  
*Senior Research Development Officer*  
Office: Faculty Center - Room 151E  
Phone: (361) 825-2823  
Zip+4: 5844  
Email: daniel.riechers@tamucc.edu
Research Development and Commercialization

• Provides various level of support to faculty developing funded research proposals

• Supports cultivation and development of research activity in advance of program announcements

© Original Artist
Research Development and Commercialization

Research development

- Cultivates research in advance of program announcements
- Assists in identifying funding sources
- Provides administrative support for drafting proposals

Proposal preparation

- Assists with preparation of proposal documents
- Interfaces with OSRA
- Assists with budget preparation
- Verifies documentation
- Coordinates submission with TAMU SRS
Office of Community Outreach

Joe Miller
Director of Community Outreach
Office: Natural Resources Center
Room 2204
Phone: (361) 825-5967
Zip+4: 5854
Email: joseph.miller@tamucc.edu
Broader Impacts
Connecting the University to the Coastal Bend Community and Beyond

The potential to benefit society and contribute to the achievement of specific, desired societal outcomes. Explore our B.I. web stories below to learn how our programs are helping to shape the community.

- The Office of Community Outreach engages in the sponsored research life cycle beginning with the proposal development stages in order to understand and support the community engagement opportunities early in the process.
- Outreach provides informed evaluation of broader impact activity plans.
- Outreach supports broader impacts activities with logistical assistance.
- Outreach utilizes its network of community partnerships in order to maximize the local and regional impacts of research.

Flourishing as an Educator and Researcher
Office of Sponsored Research Administration

Dr. Mayra Hough
Director of Sponsored Programs Administration
Office: Faculty Center - Room 163
Phone: (361) 825-3882
Zip+4: 5844
Email: mayra.hough@tamucc.edu
Office of Research Compliance

- Responsible Conduct of Research
- Conflict of Interest
- Export Controls (research related)
- Institutional Review Board
- Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
- Biosafety (Institutional Biosafety Committee – IBC)
Era of Compliance Enforcement

Figure 5: The cumulative number of new federal regulations and modifications to existing regulations has rapidly increased from 1991 to 2012. In addition to these new regulations and regulatory modifications, a further 27 implementation and interpretation changes were identified during this time period. Research institutions receiving federal research funding must maintain compliance with this growing number of regulations.

Research Compliance

• WE ARE ALL RESPONSIBLE
• Ignorance is not an option
• DO NOT assume – ask for guidance
• Contact the Compliance Office EARLY for assistance to reduce the chances of research DELAYS
• You may be held personally liable for compliance violations (civil and criminal)
RCO Office Location
Island University Helps Remove Research Barriers with Open-Access DNA Database

Dr. Christopher Bird, Assistant Professor of Biology at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, started working on an international collaboration with...