The Rutgers Office for Research

Michael E. Zwick, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President for Research

Updated: September 14, 2023
LEADER IN THE STATE
• First in New Jersey and 64th nationally on Forbes’ list of 500 best large employers in America
• 6,000+ acres across New Jersey
• 900+ buildings spanning 30 million+ square feet
• 300+ research centers and institutions
• 29 decanal units
• 40+ research cores

INCLUSIVE AND DIVERSE
• Among the most ethnically diverse campuses in the nation and Big Ten
• 67,620 students representing all 50 states and over 120 countries
• 23,600+ full- and part-time faculty, full- and part-time staff, and international scholars

RESEARCH UNIVERSITY
• $900+ million in sponsored awards funding annually
• $12M in licensing revenue annually
• ~4,000+ sponsored awards annually
• ~1,600 PIs receiving awards annually
• 1,197 active issued worldwide patents
• 100+ active startups
COMMUNITY
The ideal of a beloved community

EXCELLENCE
The relentless pursuit of academic excellence

COMMON GOOD
Serving the common good
Our Vision
The Rutgers Office for Research seeks to be the most innovative and trusted research office among all research universities, empowering faculty, students, and staff, to achieve excellence.

Our Mission
Rutgers’ Office for Research supports the research, scholarship, and creative endeavors of ALL Rutgers faculty.
Our Values

RESPECT
We are transparent and collaborative, treat everyone with dignity and respect, and give every person a voice and opportunity to succeed.

SIMPLICITY
Our services must be as easy to understand and use as possible.

COLLABORATION
We partner and convene to achieve shared goals for the common good.

EXCELLENCE
We strive to be effective, efficient, and innovative in all we do.
Always Improving

COMPLETED
✓ Reorganized the department to maximize effectiveness and reduce overall cost
✓ Consolidated the department support functions to reduce cost
✓ Restructured the IRB to increase turnaround time and service
✓ Provided new data and analyses
✓ Developed and implemented new policies (F&A and Patent)
✓ Implemented operational efficiencies in Animal Care (6,000 cage increase, only 6 additional FTEs)
✓ Launched eCOI+ reducing faculty burden by more than 15,000 notifications per year
✓ Implemented AI to reduce needed headcount in Research Contract Services
✓ Hosted successful visits by OLAW, USDA, and AAALAC
✓ Achieved full AAHRPP accreditation
✓ Raised millions annually in external funding to offset the lack of RCM subsidy
✓ Established a core services strategy and Universitywide Core Services unit
✓ Developed a capital plan to replace aging Animal Care equipment
✓ Launched RAPSS phase 2
✓ Launched AI use in Animal Care vivaria

PLANNED
✓ Integrate pre- and post-award functions
✓ Launch of the first-of-its-kind Rutgers Digital Vivarium
✓ Launch of the PI checkbook
✓ Launch of eIRB+
✓ Launch of eCOI+ phase 2
✓ Launch the NJ Innovation Hub Incubator
✓ Launch new faculty-friendly, department-wide website
✓ Implement AI in IRB
Office for Research

Senior Vice President for Research
Michael E. Zwick
Senior Vice President

José M. Román
Vice President

Jeetendra Eswaraka
Vice President

Marika Dunn
Executive Director

Deborah Perez-Fernandez
Executive Director

Vincent Smeraglia
Executive Director

Todd Slawsky
Assistant Vice President

Research Administration

122 Staff
Research and Sponsored Programs (Pre-Award)
Research Financial Services (Post-Award)
Research Contract Services
Research Regulatory Affairs
Policy and Training
Funding Notification and Dissemination
Management of Busch Award Program

Universitywide Core Services

129 Staff
Regulatory Compliance/IACUC
Centralized Controlled Substances Program
Veterinary Services
Supports Core Software: iLab
Supports Rutgers Core Services
Oversee Integrated Research Cores: 22 Animal Vivaria; Molecular Imaging; Pathology; Genome Editing; Zebrafish; RBL

Research Relationships

2 Staff
Develop Universitywide Research Partnerships
Coordinate Universitywide Research Intelligence

Technology Transfer

17 Staff
Manage Intellectual Property
Manage the Marketing of New Technology
Facilitate Licensing of Technologies
Agreement Compliance

New Ventures

5 Staff
Establish New Start-Ups
Provide Mentorship for Entrepreneurs
Establish and Operate the Hub Incubator

Finance and Administration

32 Staff
Research Finance
Research Human Resources
Research IT
Data, Analytics and Business Intelligence
Research Communications
Department Administration

José M. Román
Vice President

Jeetendra Eswaraka
Vice President

Marika Dunn
Executive Director

Deborah Perez-Fernandez
Executive Director

Vincent Smeraglia
Executive Director

Todd Slawsky
Assistant Vice President

RUTGERS OFFICE FOR RESEARCH | 8
Universitywide Research Partnerships

- Seek new and manage existing relationships.
- Develop strategies to engage external stakeholders in Rutgers research.

Coordinate Universitywide Research Intelligence

- Manage efforts to identify intelligence through research relationships.
Research
Administration

José M. Román
Vice President,
Research Administration

122 FTEs

UNIVERSITY-WIDE APPLICATIONS

RAPSS
eCERT
eIRB
eCOI+
Pivot
InfoReady

Research & Sponsored Programs (Pre-Award)
• Guides faculty through proposal review, submission, and award setup including subawards
• Provides educational programs for faculty and staff
• Policy development and training

Research Financial Services (Post-Award)
• Performs central financial accounting and reporting for sponsored research
• Provides post-award administration support for sponsored programs and other restricted funds
• Coordinates effort certification processes

Research Regulatory Affairs
• Assists research faculty, administrators and staff comply with local, state and national laws and regulations
• Promotes the responsible conduct of research through education, training and certification

Research Contract Services
• Reviews, drafts and negotiates all research-related material transfer agreements, data use agreements, nondisclosure agreements (NDAs, CDAs), and all research contracts

3,500+ Award Submissions Annually
8,000+ Active Awards Managed
6,800+ IRB Reviews Annually
2,000+ Contracts Executed Annually

RUTGERS OFFICE FOR RESEARCH | 10
Universitywide Core Services

Regulatory Compliance
• Institutional Animal Care and Use (IACUC) Administration
• University-wide Controlled Substances Program
• All facilities are USDA-registered and accredited by AALACi and comply with all relevant government regulations

Comparative Medicine
• Husbandry and facility operations for $85M in sponsored research
• Daily Veterinary Care of all animals
• 21 animal facilities across all three campuses
• Offer a variety of surgical and non-surgical services

Specialized Animal Core Services
• Genome Editing Core Facility
• Gnotobiotic Facility
• In Vivo Research Services
• Zebra Fish Facility
• Two ABSL-3 facilities (ICPH and RBL)

Support University-Wide Core Services
• Focuses on improving Core Services by managing software that tracks usage of core services
• Coordinates equipment requests from across the institution
• Provides equipment grants to purchase new equipment, vouchers to encourage research use of University Core Services, and offers limited matching funding for equipment grant awards

Manage Universitywide Cores
• Molecular Design and Synthesis
• Molecular Imaging Core
• Research Pathology Services
Technology Transfer

Intellectual Property
- Transition of research to commercial viability
- IP process and timelines
- IP-related compliance and protection

Licensing
- Evaluates Notice of Inventions
- Performs industry outreach
- Negotiates agreements

Compliance
- Performs agreement compliance
- Collects and distributes licensing revenue

17 FTEs

Debra Perez-Fernandez
Acting Executive Director, Innovation Ventures

170+ Invention Disclosures Annually

80 Licensing Agreements Signed Per Year

800+ Total Agreements in Portfolio
New Ventures

Vincent Smeraglia
Executive Director, New Ventures

5 FTEs

New Ventures

• Supports faculty startups
• Manages TechAdvance & HealthAdvance commercialization funding
• Seeks opportunities to enhance the start-up ecosystem.

100+ Start-ups Launched
Finance
Responsible for the management of the department’s budget and finances and ensures compliance with all university business policies and procedures.

Research Analytics & Systems
Source of universitywide research-related data and includes data integrity, metrics that support data-informed decisions, developing dashboards, and assisting and/or leading the construction, upgrading, and integration of research-servicing systems.

Human Resources
Manages the employee life cycle, including onboarding, development, and performance management. Provides consultation to management on strategic staffing plans, career paths, job design and compensation, and labor relations.

Research Comms & Marketing
Raises the visibility and profile of Rutgers research and brings its impact to life for key audiences through internal and external communications, media relations, digital channels, advertising and marketing.

Information Technology
Provides desktop support, develops and/or manages systems and processes for research operations.

Executive Director, Finance & Administration
Todd Slawsky
32 FTEs

RUTGERS OFFICE FOR RESEARCH | 14
Office of Advanced Research Computing

A Collaboration Between Office for Research and the Office of Information Technology

Sponsored Project and Consultative Support
- Assists faculty with developing grants proposals that include advanced computing
- Assists faculty with the analysis of their research data
- Answers faculty questions related to advanced research computing

Manages Advanced Cyber Infrastructure
- Hosts and manages Amarel computing environment
- Hosts and manages RU-NET environment
- Supports research tools related to advanced research computing
- Network and IT support for researchers

Education, Training and Outreach
- Offer computing workshops to researchers

Frank Reda
Acting Associate Vice President, Advanced Research Computing

21 FTEs

4,200+ Amarel Users

$64M+ Grant Dollars OARC Has Helped Secure

1.89 Quadrillion Mathematical Operations Per Second Capacity

RUTGERS OFFICE FOR RESEARCH | 15
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Human Research Protection Program</th>
<th>Export Compliance</th>
<th>Research Integrity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IRB</td>
<td>Export Controls Compliance</td>
<td>Responsible Conduct of Research Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Assurance &amp; Evaluation</td>
<td>VSA &amp; Travel Compliance</td>
<td>Conflict of Interest Compliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reliance and Collaborations</td>
<td>MTA Compliance</td>
<td>Research Misconduct Investigations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRAFT/Pre-review and Exempt Review</td>
<td>Foreign Influence Compliance</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Education and Outreach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Trials Compliance</td>
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Hila Berger
Assistant Vice President, Research Regulatory Affairs
OfR’s Key Research Compliance Functions

Sponsored Award Financial Compliance

- Compliance With Award Agreements
- Effort Certification
- Support With Single Audit

Technology Transfer

- Compliance with Bayh Dole Act
- Licensing Contract Compliance

Rutgers Animal Care

- IACUC
- Controlled Substance Program in Animal Research
- Comparative Medicine Resources
- Research Core Services

Lamar Oglesby
Executive Director, Research Financial Services

Deborah Perez-Fernandez
Executive Director, Technology Transfer

Jeetendra Eswaraka
Vice President, Universitywide Core Services

Jeetendra Eswaraka
Vice President, Universitywide Core Services
Questions and Open Discussion