Strategic Plan Goal Steward Progress Report
Research in Action

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Context:

The Research in Action goal can be divided into two parts: a global goal of advancing our commitment to research and scholarship, and the more specific goal of developing emphasis in some strategically defined areas. Based on informal campus input to date, we have identified some key questions that will be important in our work this year.

The first question raised is, “What does Research in Action really mean in the context of a university with a broad scope of scholarly work?” The description of this theme provides some insight into the breadth possible with this goal:

Marquette is increasingly recognized for the collaborative research and scholarship undertaken by our faculty and students. Research at Marquette has a strong sense of purpose and action, whether it is through the extension of knowledge beyond existing boundaries, the development of solutions to the world’s most pressing problems or the search for answers to life’s deepest questions.

However, it will be important to continue the dialogue about what the theme means so that individual scholars can see how their work contributes to Research in Action.

Additional questions that have been raised are focused on the process for identification of strategically defined areas and the resulting implication for support of those areas, as well as those working outside of the these areas. Addressing these questions will be built into the campus work on the goal.

Finally, it is important to note there are connections between all of the goals and the work on Research in Action will need to be coordinated with stewardship of our other goals.

Activities in progress to implement or advance the plan goal:

Objective: Achieve “High Research Activity” Carnegie Research Classification.

Tactic: Prepare a summary of Marquette’s performance in areas identified within the Carnegie classification metrics. (The summary is available on the Research in Action progress report page on the strategic plan website.) A list of the data used to determine Carnegie research classifications is available on the Carnegie Foundation website.
**Tactic:** Work with the Office of the Comptroller and the Office of the Vice Provost for Research to continue the process of improving reporting of the university’s research and development expenditures to the National Science Foundation, focusing on the upcoming FY13 report.

**Objectives:** Define and grow areas of greatest research potential. Grow scholarly collaboration across disciplines and research that addresses community and world problems.

**Tactic:** Since this goal will require close collaboration with all academic areas across campus, a clear action plan is needed to ensure everyone is moving forward together. A draft 2013-14 stewardship plan has been developed with a tentative timeline for the entire year, and can be found on the Research in Action progress report page on the strategic plan website. This plan was shared with the Deans Council, University Board of Graduate Studies and the Committee on Research in August 2013, and will be updated with feedback from the campus community.

**Activities planned to implement or advance the plan goal:**

Next two months:

- Educate the campus community on the metrics associated with the Carnegie Basic Classification.
- Identify and collect additional metrics related to the university’s performance in research and scholarship.
- Discuss how to identify strategically defined areas of research via a transparent and collaborative process.

Additional details on longer range activities can be found in the draft stewardship plan found on the Research in Action progress report page on the strategic plan website.