



NC STATE UNIVERSITY

Innovation Task Force 2: Research

Working Timeline

- Identifying topics (June 3, 10, 17)
- Developing findings and recommendations (June 24, July 1, 8, 15)
- Writing and review (July 22, 29)
- Report due (Aug 2)

Post COVID-19 Innovation Task Force on Research
Co-Chairs: Genevieve Garland and Alyson Wilson

Charge: Improve university effectiveness within research and innovation by 1) leveraging “lessons learned” over the past year; and 2) identifying potential adaptations at the university level that may hold potential for improving future performance, effectiveness, and operations.

Potential Focus Areas: Our initial task is to identify 3-5 areas where the task force would like to develop recommendations. Here are a set of initial ideas to start the discussion.

- In coordination with the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs, develop recommendations for guidelines on how to quantify impacts of COVID-19 on research and its subsequent impact on retention, promotion, and tenure.
- What research development resources could best support the campus community (e.g., seed funding, post-COVID bridge funding, professional development, workshop, travel support, networking).
- What support would be valuable for early career faculty and researchers? Is there a need for specific post-COVID mentoring?
- What could be provided to support the establishment of research connections, collaborations, and communities?
- What are the issues around research space immediately post-COVID? What should research spaces look like moving forward?
- What issues face laboratory-based research post-COVID and longer term?
- What issues face non-laboratory-based research post-COVID and longer term?
- What communications around budgets and university financials would support research planning for faculty and staff?
- What issues should be addressed around workload rebalancing post-COVID and longer term?
- Are there strategic research investments that could support faculty recruitment and retention?

Deliverable: Each task force is requested to provide a formal written report to the steering committee and Chancellor by August 2, 2021. The report should contain proposed actions that the university should enact to ensure long-term success. Actions may consist of policy changes, new procedures and/or guidelines, new technology, and new training. For all actions, the report should:

- Define goals and scope (if necessary, define pilot(s) and/or phased approach).
- Clearly articulate vision and guiding principles.
- Identify baseline metrics and outcome metrics.
- Define a roadmap and timelines for each goal.
- Identify resources needed and obstacles anticipated.
- Provide a reporting and communications plan. Include communications plan to support culture change - communicate clear goals, aligned purpose and demonstrated values.