BECOMING A TOP-TIER GRADUATE RESEARCH UNIVERSITY

The subcommittee met to discuss strategies towards becoming a top-tier graduate research university. The subcommittee considered both the graduate school self-study completed by the Graduate Council and the research strategic plan in draft form from the Research Council. The recommendations of the subcommittee are:

(1) Develop appropriate measures to evaluate and quantify research and creative scholarship (RCS) and to use those measures in allocating funding and resources. Specifically, the university budget model under development should include metrics that correctly incorporate RCS and graduate program importance to the vision of becoming a top-tier graduate research university. These metrics should be unit-defined RCS outputs that constitute productivity within the unit’s field of endeavor and recognize the resources necessary to achieve those outputs.

(2) Realize that becoming a top-tier graduate research university requires including this vision during faculty hiring, tenure and promotion, support for graduate programs, construction, renovation, space allocation and during development of fund-raising goals for the university. Support for graduate students includes the number of GA/TA lines and competitiveness of graduate stipends and 12-month stipends in some disciplines. Support staff within the Graduate School is also a critical need.

(3) Recognize and reward faculty achievement in RCS.

(4) Publicize faculty and student achievements in RCS locally and nationally.

The funding for the financial commitments to becoming a top-tier graduate research university can come by ensuring that additional monies realized through success in both research and graduate enrollment growth be retained in the Office of Research and the Graduate School.