

**SWOT ANALYSIS REGARDING RESEARCH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA**  
**Results of Focus Group Session –APRIL 19, 2011**

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***Attributes of The University of Montana helpful in “supporting and growing research”***

- Quality research programs as evidenced by publications in top journals, research funding
- New leadership in key positions has resulted in STRONG new positive momentum
- Several areas of research distinction...Health & Human Performance, B-med...
- Great fundamental research capable of generating translational activity for new therapies...
- Existing partnerships with St. Patrick Hospital – four institutes

***Attributes of The University of Montana harmful in “supporting and growing research”***

- Lack of communication with key regional research partners
- Strong programs lack succession plans
- Challenges identified in the 2011 Research Strategic Plan
- Lack of corporate relations, and subsequently privately funded research
- Limited coordination among key areas of “core” facilities

***Attributes of Montana helpful in “supporting and growing research”***

- Strong regional synergy in the life science area, GSK, Rocky Mtn Biologicals, St. Pats, Community...
- Young companies (particularly in clean tech) emerging in the region, and interested in engaging with the University’s research programs
- Growing government understanding of research’s ROI in the state of MT
- Lifestyle to attract top quality people to join the University

***Attributes of Montana harmful in “supporting and growing research”***

- Limited industry presence in the state of MT, lack of a true technology cluster
- Research funding becoming more competitive, on a downward trend
- Limited research collaborations among higher education institutions within the state of MT
- Limited access to IP counsel within the state
- Lack of a state-wide messaging campaign regarding the benefit of research and technology transfer to the average tax payer