

Creating and Innovating for Maine and Beyond

Value:

- Diversity, both inherent and acquired, drives innovation, collaboration, and knowledge creation.
- The social, cultural and economic wellbeing of the state of Maine rests upon research that spans local, national and international contexts.

Goals:

- Build and retain a research community comprised of members who embody the wide range of academic, social, and cultural perspectives necessary to maximize the institution's capacity for innovation and knowledge creation and who have the ability to work effectively in both local and global contexts.
- Remain competitive in current national and international landscape of shifting funding sources. Strengthen ability to access research funding world-wide through demonstration of well-established international research collaborations, connections, and outcomes.
- Build international reputation as a leading partner in research which addresses current global challenges, such as clean energy, health and wellness, educational access and equity and sustainable development.

Strategies:

- Develop a comprehensive strategic plan for internationalizing UMaine's research program including:
 - Increase international mobility of graduate researchers and faculty
 - Recruit and retain research faculty with international or cross-cultural backgrounds
- Create an inventory of current international collaborations across departments, and find areas for synergy or further development

- Provide incentives through tenure and promotion protocols and/or seed money for researchers engaging in successful international collaborations
- Develop or strengthen “knowledge centers” comprised of faculty and staff who have expertise in creating international partnerships or cross cultural competencies necessary to work effectively at international level
- Maximize J-1 Exchange Visitor Program to bring visiting researchers to campus from abroad
- Devise PR strategy to highlight UMaine’s current engagement in international research programs with emphasis on underlying benefits of this research to the state of Maine (such as climate change)

Indicators:

- Increased number of international partnerships
- Increase in impact of researchers (measured by # of citations of publications)
- Increase in productivity of researchers (measured by # of publications authored and co-authored)
- Effective communication to key stakeholders, such as state legislators, how/why international research is vital to the survival of our local communities