

Research and the *Next-Gen K-State* strategic plan: Investing in Faculty, Facilities, and our Future

Remarks by David Rosowsky, Vice President for Research

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When I arrived at K-State in 2021, I made it a point to be out of the office as much as possible, visiting with faculty individually and in groups, touring labs and field stations, and learning about the amazing work being done by K-State researchers – listening and *hearing*.

I heard loud and clear what the faculty's highest priorities and greatest needs were. We set out right away to respond to those needs, to lower barriers, enable efficiency, and support research and scholarship across the university. We invested in equipment, facilities, and transdisciplinary research. We streamlined processes and we improved our tracking and reporting efforts. We launched two innovative new programs to support faculty, the Game-Changing Research Initiation Program (or GRIP) and the Pathway to Commercialization (or P2C) program, investing nearly \$4M in 2023.

With the launch of the university's new strategic plan comes more exciting investments, commitments, and initiatives to support and grow our research enterprise. Underpinning the strategic plan is a bold research growth plan that will direct new resources to the most promising areas, teams, and partnerships. We also are announcing significant new investments in research, core facilities, and the hiring of new faculty.

Our aspirations are bold. Our goals are ambitious. And our commitments (and our investments) are significant. It all starts with our *Next-Gen K-State* plan. We are committed to investing in high-quality, high-impact research that benefits Kansas and Kansans – that serves the state, the nation, and the world. We are committed to enabling faculty success and achievement in research and scholarship at the highest levels.

As the university for Kansans, we will leverage our land-grant heritage and mission to connect research and discovery to teaching and learning, to outreach and engagement, and in service to Kansas and to Kansans.

Whether on our campuses, in the Edge District, or in our 105 counties across Kansas, K-State research will animate and drive the four pillars of the *Next-Gen K-State* Opportunity Agenda: community health and well-being, sustainability, global food security and biosecurity, and enabling technologies.

I am excited for the years ahead, with clear and bold vision, a university-wide commitment to elevate and invest in research at K-State, and the great team in the Office of Research that will help make it all possible, meeting your needs and supporting your work.

Next-Gen K-State is about the future, OUR future. And the research growth that we achieve together will help to position us not only as a leading land-grant university for the next century, but as an exemplar of how to work together to connect teaching, research, and service. One K-State.

Ad Astra.

