

Research  
&  
Scholarly Activity  
Strategic Plan

**ATSU 2016-2020 Strategic Plan**  
**ATSU Mission**

**ATSU Mission:** A.T. Still University of Health Sciences serves as a learning-centered university dedicated to preparing highly competent professionals through innovative academic programs with a commitment to continue its osteopathic heritage and its focus on whole person healthcare, scholarship, community health, interprofessional education, diversity, and underserved populations

**ATSU Vision:** THE PREEMINENT UNIVERSITY FOR THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS

- Leading innovator in health professions education
- Superior students and graduates who exemplify and support the University's mission
- Osteopathic philosophy demonstrated and integrated (i.e., whole person healthcare)
- **Pioneering contributions in healthcare education, knowledge, and practice**

**ATSU Core Institutional Values:**

- Innovation
- Whole person healthcare
- **Scholarship**
- Leadership in community health
- Diversity

**ATSU Core Professional Attributes:**

- **Critical thinking**
- Cultural proficiency
- Interprofessional collaboration
- Interpersonal skills
- Social responsibility

**Six ATSU Strategic Plan Themes:**

1. Education Excellence
2. **Continued Commitment to Scholarly Activity**
3. Cultural Proficiency, Diversity, and Inclusion
4. New and Expanded Partnerships
5. Effective Branding and Marketing
6. Fiscal Health, Affordability, and Compliance

## **Theme 2: Continued Commitment to Scholarly Activity**

### **CONTRIBUTING TO KNOWLEDGE, HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONS, AND SOCIETY**

We are a teaching and learning university that values scholarly activity supportive of our heritage, mission, and vision. ATSU is fortunate to have a strong foundation of faculty and student scholarly activity.

Scholarly activity at ATSU encompasses Boyer's<sup>1</sup> definition allowing participation from all interested faculty. Forms of scholarly activity include scholarship of teaching and learning, engagement, discovery, application, and integration.

Scholarship of teaching and learning is the process whereby conditions relating to both instruction and learning are studied in a systematic manner based on results of previous studies.<sup>2</sup> Scholarship of teaching helps learners transform and extend the knowledge they possess.

Scholarship of engagement is a response to local community needs provided by the expertise of faculty where results are then utilized to solve community problems.<sup>3</sup>

The most recognizable form of scholarship is that of discovery. In scholarship of discovery, faculty are expected to pursue knowledge for its own sake.

Scholarship of application focuses on applying results of previous scholarship, both within and outside of academia, leading to new knowledge.

Scholarship of integration requires an understanding of an interdisciplinary approach and synthesis of information from a variety of sources.<sup>4</sup>

### **Goals and Objectives:**

Goal 1: Contribute to healthcare education, knowledge, and practice through all forms of scholarly activity.

- Increase support and promotion of scholarly activity among faculty.
- Encourage student engagement in both faculty-guided and independent scholarly activity.
- Establish partnerships providing additional resources for scholarly activity.
- Increase recruitment and retention of faculty with a strong potential for securing extramural funding.

Goal 2: Maximize sponsored program funding and sources.

- Increase number and percent of faculty applying for and receiving external and internal funding, in the context of federal/external support levels.
- Establish an enhancement fund for new external grants received.

1. Boyer, Ernest L. *Scholarship Reconsidered: Priorities of the Professoriate*. A Special Report. Princeton, NJ: The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, 1990. Print.

2. Meyers, Renee A. *Guidelines for Human Subject Research Participants in Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Research: UWS Leadership Site for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning*, 2007. Web. 05.30.14 [http://www4.uwm.edu/sotl/steps\\_to\\_success/uplead/LS-IRB-white-paper-dec7.pdf](http://www4.uwm.edu/sotl/steps_to_success/uplead/LS-IRB-white-paper-dec7.pdf).

3. Commission on Community-Engaged Scholarship in the Health Professions. *Linking Scholarship and Communities: Report of the Commission on Community-Engaged Scholarship in the Health Professions*. Seattle: Community-Campus Partnerships for Health, 2005. Print.

4. Hofmeyer, A, Newton M, and Scott C. *Valuing the Scholarship of Integration and the Scholarship of Application in the Academy for Health Sciences Scholars: Recommended Methods*. Health Research Policy and Systems, 2007. Web. 05.30.14 <http://www.health-policy-systems.com/contents/5/1/5>.

ATSU Strategic Plan public weblink: <https://www.atsu.edu/about-atsu#strategic-plan>

## **A.T. Still Research Institute**

**Purpose:** Consistent with the tenets of osteopathic medicine, the mission of the A.T. Still Research Institute is to advance whole person healthcare and wellness through development and support of premier clinical and translational research.

**Goal:** The goal of the Still Research Institute is to explore and advance the scientific evidence base of osteopathic medicine and associated health professions within A.T. Still University.

### **Objectives:**

1. Establish an infrastructure and culture that promotes interprofessional research relevant to whole person healthcare.
2. Support clinicians, scientists, and students in conducting clinically-relevant research.
3. Facilitate the dissemination and translation of research outcomes via publications, teaching, and conferences.
4. Collaborate with strategic external research centers/entities, both nationally and internationally.
5. Provide research training and mentoring to develop preeminent clinician researchers.
6. Develop ideas and prioritize research within the affiliated healthcare community promoting synergy within the changing environment.
7. Focus research and become preeminent in selected clinical research areas.

### **Research Centers:**

The Institute has three research centers including the **Center for Research in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine**.

### **Mission**

The Center for Research in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine mission is to advance the use of objective feedback methods in educational programs that train learners in the performance of diagnostic and therapeutic manual skills.

### **General Areas of Research**

- Assessing Palpation Skills of Osteopathic Medical Students and Clinicians
- Developing and offering programming that incorporates objective measures of palpation within osteopathic curricula to increase the accuracy and validity of palpatory diagnosis and treatment

### **Longterm Goals**

- Pilot training programs with local faculty and residents using instrumentation, models, and procedures established within the Center's research program.

- Training a pool of national clinical D.O. researchers who can document the reliability and accuracy of their palpatory skills.
- Pilot training programs with groups of undergraduate students to utilize methodologies and models as objective feedback during OMM skill development.
- Develop similar training programs at other osteopathic medical schools.

Center for Research in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine weblink:

<https://www.atsu.edu/research/about/crome.htm>

### **ATSU-Department of Research Support**

A.T. Still University's Department of Research Support is a university-wide resource, available for all faculty members, fellows, and residents affiliated with ATSU. The Department of Research Support includes staff with experience in biostatistics; scientific writing; and research development, coordination, and management. ATSU's Department of Research Support has a strong track record of assisting and directing campus research events and studies.

Strategic Plan of the Division of Research, Grants, and Information Systems to Support Research and Scholarship at ATSU 2015 - 2020

The overarching aim of this plan is to promote excellence in health care and educational research/scholarship thereby achieving preeminence as a health science university.

The three strategic priorities of this plan include:

1. Develop an effective, University-wide, integrated and integral research and scholarship governance structure.
2. Build academic and scholarship capacity in the health professions (that includes all forms of scholarship).
3. Further develop and enable individual research and scholarly activity and specifically develop interdisciplinary and translational research.

Strategic Plan for Research, Grants, and Information Systems:

[https://www.atsu.edu/pdf/Division\\_of\\_Research\\_Grants\\_and\\_Information\\_Systems\\_Strategic\\_Plan.pdf](https://www.atsu.edu/pdf/Division_of_Research_Grants_and_Information_Systems_Strategic_Plan.pdf)

## **ATSU-Sponsored Programs**

A.T. Still University's Sponsored Programs team advances ATSU's mission, strategic directions, and priorities through the acquisition of extramural grant awards that support innovative research; service outreach, training, and educational projects; and related health-care delivery initiatives.

**Purpose:** Sponsored Programs serves all ATSU schools, programs, and campuses, providing customized assistance to administrators, faculty, staff, and trainees (with faculty sponsorship) in proposal development, post-award implementation, fiscal monitoring, and compliance. Extramural funding allows the University to investigate, demonstrate, and/or implement innovative scholarly ideas focused on clinical and basic science research, health professions education, service delivery, and community outreach.

**Goal:** The goal of Sponsored Programs is to secure extramural federal, state, foundation, and other public/private funding to develop and implement innovative scholarly activity and thereby help elevate ATSU as a pre-eminent health sciences university.

### **Objectives:**

1. Identify and evaluate highly compatible funding opportunities for ATSU leadership and faculty.
2. Assist project leaders with proposal development, including grant planning, budget preparation, and quality assurance reviews.
3. Negotiate award acceptance terms and act as University-wide, centralized clearinghouse for all grant activity.
4. Monitor grants for programmatic and fiscal compliance throughout the grant's lifecycle.
5. Assist project leaders with programmatic and fiscal report preparation/submission to funders.

Learn more about ATSU Sponsored Programs:

[https://www.atsu.edu/sponsored\\_programs/](https://www.atsu.edu/sponsored_programs/)



**ATSU-KCOM Research and Scholarship  
Strategic Plan**

Strategic Goal I.B: Promote and commit to the expansion of knowledge through research and scholarly activity.

Strategic Initiatives/Action Items:

1. Participate in University Research Committee (Interdisciplinary Research Committee-IRC) to advise the dean on College research and scholarship.

Performance Measure: Assign and charge faculty committee on research.

Performance Target: Annually review committee assignment and activities.

Responsible Authority: Faculty representatives; Dean; Vice President for Research, Grants and Information Systems.

Current Status: 5 KCOM faculty members are current members of the IRC.

2. Recognize faculty research and scholarly activity through the ATSU website and the annual faculty evaluation process.

Performance Measure: Maintain and update research and scholarship webpage. Review annual faculty activity reports for research and scholarly activity.

Performance Target: Annually review.

Responsible Authority: Associate Dean for Curriculum; Department Chairs.

Strategic Goal II.B: Create and sustain an academic environment that promotes innovative programs and scholarly activities.

2. Promote and develop student learners who are knowledgeable about scientific research components and the applications of evidence-based practice.

Performance Measure: Number of curriculum offerings pertaining to scientific research components and the applications of evidence-based practice. Number of students engaging in research opportunities.

Performance Target: Promote the inclusion of learning objectives related to research components and evidence-based practice.

Responsible Authority: Associate Dean for Curriculum; Curriculum Committee.