



**College of Osteopathic Medicine
Research Strategy 2020**

“The time will come when diligent research over long periods will bring to light things which now lie hidden.. There will come a time when our descendants will be amazed that we did not know things that are so plain to them... Many discoveries are reserved for ages still to come, when memory of us will have been effaced”

- Seneca

Des Moines University Research Vision

Des Moines University will be a cultivator of distinctive faculty and student researchers who discover and disseminate new knowledge.

The University's Four Main Focus Areas

After an analysis of Des Moines University's strengths, publications, presentations and needs on campus, the Office of Research has named its four areas of research emphasis:

- 1) **Movement science** – The study of human movement from basic mechanical to clinical interventions across the entire patient lifespan.
- 2) **Pedagogy in the health sciences** – The science of educating health care professionals using best practices and innovative approaches.
- 3) **Cardiovascular sciences** – The underlying causes and best interventions of the pathologies in the heart and blood vessel wall that contribute to cardiovascular disease.
- 4) **Public health** – The science of protecting and improving the health of communities through research for disease and injury prevention and the overall science of human health and well-being.

The College of Osteopathic Medicine Additional Focus Areas

In addition to the University's Four Main Focus Areas, the College of Osteopathic Medicine has an additional Three Focus Areas of research emphasis:

- 1) **Osteopathic Principles and Practice** – The study of osteopathic manipulative medicine, nutritional sciences, wellness and preventive medicine, and holistic care strategies.

- 2) **Clinical Care** – The study of medicine and therapies aimed at improving the current clinical practice through evidence based medicine.
- 3) **Administration, Policy, and Leadership** – The study of administrative tools, policy implementation, and leadership methods to improve the quality and delivery of healthcare.

While DMU will focus on these areas, it in no way lessens the value or ability to do any other type of research at the University.

Strategic Goals

Des Moines University's College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM) will increase its contribution to research and scholarly activity by 25% over the next 5 years, with increasing grants, publications, presentations, and scholarly contributions.

The College of Osteopathic Medicine will increase its strategic research partnerships by partnering with the other colleges within the university, as well as outside colleges and institutions in order to combine resources to make the research grants and contributions more competitive.

The College of Osteopathic Medicine will complete a feasibility study within the next three years on the potential of adding a PhD in Biomedical Sciences.

Within the next three to five years, the College of Osteopathic Medicine will fund and allocate more enabling resources (statistician, grant writer, equipment) to enhance the effectiveness of the research and scholarly pursuits within the college.



Advocacy and Implementation

- 1) **People** – The College of Osteopathic Medicine will replace any retiring or leaving basic science faculty that currently have no research lab or research obligations with faculty that have a lab or research component in order to increase the productivity and research activity of the university. The COM will also actively seek clinicians with experience in conducting clinical research in order to foster increased collaboration and research in the clinical divisions.
- 2) **Space** – The College of Osteopathic Medicine will actively work with the Vice President of Research to plan for the appropriate amount of space and hardware used in research endeavors of the faculty.
- 3) **Finances** – The Dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine will contribute a significant portion of the start-up capital for new faculty in order to promote faculty research.
- 4) **Time**- The Dean will allocate protected research time, in collaboration with the department Chairs, to both basic science and clinical faculty as appropriate, in order to foster and promote faculty research.
- 5) **Culture**- The Dean will actively encourage and promote the performance of research in order to establish a culture of education, teaching, service, and research at the university.
- 6) **Mentorship**- The COM Faculty will act as research mentors to students and actively participate in the Masters in Science in Anatomy, Masters in Science in Biomedical Sciences, and research scholars programs.



**DMU MENTORED STUDENT
RESEARCH PROGRAM**