LSUHSC - School of Medicine in New Orleans

Research Space Policy

- All research units with active laboratory research programs are assigned research space on a flexible basis in accordance with the Research Space Policy of the School of Medicine. Research units, for the purposes of this policy and the annual research space analysis, are those specific entities allocated research space by the Dean; research units may be departments, centers, or programs recognized by the School of Medicine, such as the Alcohol Research Center and the Neuroscience Center.
- 2. The amount of research space assigned to a research unit "flexes" depending on the overall productivity of the unit and commitments that are made by the school in the context of the recruitment of faculty or the development of new or expanded programs.
- 3. The Dean controls all space for the School of Medicine. The Dean delegates authority for administration of assigned space to the director of a research program, a department head, center director, or program director. To what extent possible, the development of interdisciplinary programs, center collaborations and shared instrumentation facilities is encouraged by geographical space assignments.
- 4. The Dean is not directly involved in the assignment or reassignment of space within a research program unless an irresolvable conflict arises. To minimize such conflict, the Dean encourages all leaders of research programs provided with research space to use the school benchmarks in the assignment of laboratories and other research space to individual investigators.
- 5. All research involving animals is conducted in the Clinical Sciences Research Building (CSRB), the Medical Education Building (MEB), the LSU Lions Research Building (Lions), and the Louisiana Cancer Research Center.
- 6. The annual research space productivity or density analysis is based on data from the "closed" School of Medicine fiscal year financial ledgers on research expenditures. The space analysis includes MTDC/sq ft, IC/sq ft, and TC/sq ft, and other statistics including number of active grants and grant submission rates.
- 7. Expenditures from patient drug studies are excluded from this analysis, as are funds obtained through <u>intramural programs</u> and state consortia agencies or organizations.
- Annual assessment of research space productivity includes all research space; space is categorized in accordance with the federal definitions used in the A-21 reporting methodology.
- 9. The primary institutional indicator of research space density will be TC/sq ft, with the school benchmark being at \$350/sq ft, based on research grants requiring laboratory and dedicated animal care space. Those units with values <u>below this performance</u> standard are subject to space reallocation. Rolling 3-year averages are considered in the process of annual review, but with specific large investigator or institutional awards, more agile space adjustments may be required.
- 10. Space for clinical/translational, population research and equipment grants will be assessed and assigned on a case-by-case basis.
- 11. Other secondary measures of productivity include MTDC, IC, grant submission rates, percentile scores on grant submissions, research publications, and literature citation data.
- 12. For the purposes of the annual research space analysis, accountability of research space density is considered to be within a research unit if the research funding is expended within

that space assigned to that unit. However, departmental and other reports are generated on an annual basis to track departmental success in attracting extramural funding.

- 13. When a research unit hires a new faculty member who is a funded investigator, research space is assigned to the new faculty member based on the metrics established above. The department/center/program metric data might indicate a need for additional research space for that research unit and the unit leader will outline the need in writing to the Dean.
- 14. When a research unit hires a new faculty member who does not yet have extramural funding, and the unit has not saturated its research density, based on the school benchmarks, the unit will accommodate the new faculty member without a request for additional space. If the research density is saturated for that unit, the unit leader will outline the space need in writing to the Dean. The leader of the research unit is accountable for monitoring the success of junior investigators, allowing for a reasonable assessment period before holding the individual to institutional benchmarks for research space density.

Definitions (as the abbreviations appear in the text):

- 1. MTDC: Modified Total Direct Cost, includes all total costs except equipment and other minor incidentals.
- TC: Total Cost, includes all direct costs, including exclusions for MTDC, and indirect cost recovery.
- 3. Sq ft: square feet.
- 4. IC: Indirect Cost.