

## A. Philosophical Statements and Guiding Principles

### 1. The Role of Higher Education Research

The significant role science, technology and other research play in statewide economic development is accompanied by a demand for the scrutiny of publicly funded research, accountability, and attention to the management of ethical, legal, and safety issues associated with academic research. To fulfill this role, HERC directs and oversees the development, implementation, and monitoring of a statewide strategic plan for research in higher education. A statewide strategic plan for research assists in the identification of general research areas that will enhance the economy of Idaho via partnerships between academia, industry, and the public sector. HERC helps facilitate such partnerships.

Board policy related to higher education research is designed to assist the institutions in addressing these areas via appropriate research activities through:

- a. Individual and multi-disciplinary research projects;
- b. Extensive and rapid dissemination of the new knowledge and establishment of knowledge networks which facilitate interaction between public, private, and academic institutions;
- c. Collaborative relationships between academia and varied shareholders outside the academy.

The guiding principles for higher education research in Idaho are:

- a. Maximize impact on the quality of education and economic development as a consequence of Idaho's investment in quality science, engineering, and other research.
  - b. Ensure accountability for the state's investment via demonstrable results.
2. Support of research activities with public funds is valuable because:
- a. research is important in the education of students at all levels.
  - b. research plays an important role in maintaining and enhancing faculty and staff quality.
  - c. academic research contributes to economic development.
3. The development and implementation of a statewide strategic plan for research is a vehicle for ongoing identification of research objectives and performance measures.

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**B. Powers and Duties**

The Higher Education Research Council (Council) is established through the Idaho State Board of Education Governing Policies and Procedures III.W. to provide guidance to the Board in establishing a statewide collaborative effort to drive innovation and economic development throughout the state of Idaho and to implement the Board's higher education research policy.

The Council is responsible for:

1. The creation and implementation of a statewide higher education research strategic plan.
2. The oversight and administration of the use of funds appropriated by the legislature for the mission and goals of the Council:
  - a. to maximize the impact on the quality of education and economic development as a consequence of Idaho's investment in quality science, engineering, and other research;
  - b. to ensure accountability for the state's investment through demonstrable results.

**C. Membership**

Membership of the Council is established by Board of Education Governing Policies and Procedures.

**D. Meetings**

1. HERC shall meet, at minimum, on a quarterly basis either in person or virtually to fulfill its duties. Additional meetings may be held as needed at the call of the Chair. The Chair will conduct each meeting of the Council. In the absence of the Chair, the Chair-Elect may call and conduct each meeting.
2. A quorum of the Council consists of a simple majority of the total sitting members of the Council. A quorum of the Council must be present for the Council to conduct any business.
3. A summary of motions will be generated from each meeting and distributed back to the Council for approval. Once approved, this summary will be kept on record with the Office of the State Board of Education and made available to the Instruction, Research, and Student Affairs Committee and to others, as requested.

**E. Rules of Order**

1. Meetings are conducted in accordance with the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, except that a Council action that conflicts with a previous action takes precedence.
2. An individual member's right to vote may not be transferred or delegated to another person.

**F. Executive Committee**

1. The Council shall have an Executive Committee as defined in Board policy III.W. Higher Education Research.
2. The chair and chair-elect shall rotate between the institutions as follows:
  - a. University of Idaho
  - b. Boise State University
  - c. Idaho State University
  - d. Lewis-Clark State College
3. Council representatives to serve on other boards, commissions, committees, and similar bodies are appointed by the Chair.

**G. Duties of Council Executive Committee Members**

1. Chair
  - a. Presides at all Council meetings, with full power to discuss and vote on all matters before the Council.
  - b. Submits such information and recommendations considered proper concerning the business and interests of the Council.
  - c. Subject to action of the Council, gives notice and establishes the dates and locations of all regular Council meetings.
  - d. Calls special Council meetings at any time and place designated in such call.
  - e. Appoints Council members to all standing and interim committees of the Council.
  - f. Establishes the Council agenda in consultation with the executive committee.
  - g. Serves as chief spokesperson for the Council.
  - h. Accounts for the activities of assigned staff from the Board office related to the Council.
  - i. Together with the other members of the Executive Committee makes minor decisions as needed.
2. Chair-Elect
  - a. Presides at meetings in the event of absence of the Chair
  - b. Performs the Chair duties in the event of the Chair's inability to do so.
3. Non-Institutional Representative
  - a. Represents the interests of the other non-institutional representatives to the Executive Committee.

**H. Committees of the Council**

The Council may organize itself into standing and other committees as necessary. Committee members are appointed by the Chair after informal consultation with other Council members. Any such standing or other committee may make recommendations to the Council, but may not take any action, except when authority to act has been delegated by the Council. The Chair may serve as an ex-officio member of any standing or other committee.

1. Executive Committee

a. Purpose

The Executive Committee is responsible for assisting the full Council in discharging its responsibilities with respect to the management of the business and affairs of the Council when it is impracticable for the full Council to meet and act, and to consider matters concerning the Council that may arise from time to time.

b. Composition

The composition of the Executive Committee is defined in Board Policy III.W. Higher Education Research

c. Responsibilities and Procedures

The Executive Committee shall have such duties, responsibilities, and authority as may be delegated from time to time to the Executive Committee by the Council, and in the intervals between meetings of the Council, the Executive Committee shall assist in directing the management of the business and affairs of the Council. However, the Executive Committee may not undertake any action that must be acted upon by the whole Council. A written record is not kept of the committee's activities, but it shall be the responsibility of the Chair to promptly communicate to all Council members who are not members of the committee regarding information related to the committee's discussions and activities. The Executive Committee reviews and makes recommendations to the Council regarding appointment/reappointment of non-institutional representatives.

**I. Administration of HERC Programs**

Support for the Council and administration of Council sponsored programs will be coordinated by Board staff as designated by the Executive Director.

All programs shall be conducted in compliance with Board Governing Policies and Procedures III.W.