Here at the University of Tennessee, thousands of world-class faculty, staff, students, and postdoctoral fellows are engaged in research, scholarship, and creative work on a daily basis. With a shared commitment to creating a more just, prosperous, and sustainable world for the citizens of Tennessee and communities far beyond, the UT community is creating new knowledge and generating solutions to some of the most challenging issues of our time.

The Office of Research, Innovation, and Economic Development is here to support our community of researchers, scholars, and creatives, from ideation to impact. Our dedicated team is here to help develop competitive proposals and sources of support for seed investments in promising new areas, nurture new and established multidisciplinary communities of scholars, and support and sustain a strong culture of research integrity.

The university’s strategic relationships with corporate, venture, community, non-profit, and government partners help extend the impact of our community’s work across the state and around the world. In collaboration with these partners, we are working to establish Tennessee as a go-to destination for cutting-edge research, innovation, and a skilled workforce.

We understand that a creative, productive, and empowered community of researchers, scholars, and creatives is critical to the university’s future as a world-renowned research institution.

Our team consist of the following areas to provide a level of service and support for the UT community and beyond.

- **Division of Partnerships & Economic Development (DPED)** connects UT faculty, staff, and students with organizations, communities, and individuals who share a commitment to creating a more just, prosperous, and sustainable future through research, scholarship, and creative work. We can help you connect with corporate, non-profit, public, and community partners and collaborators to realize your research, scholarship, and creative work goals.

- **Division of Research Administration (DRA)** is responsible for pre- and post-award administration of UT sponsored programs when awards are received as grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements. Please note that UT’s Foundation Engagement provides support to faculty seeking gifts to support their research, scholarship, and creative work.

DRA staff strive to provide the highest quality of support to faculty, staff, students, and research administrators by facilitating proposal preparation and submission to sponsors; reviewing, negotiating, and accepting awards; managing award actions; providing support for post-award financial administration; and ensuring proposal and award compliance with the policies and regulations of UT and its sponsors.
The DRA team also provides sponsored programs-related training for university researchers and supports the development of material transfer agreements and non-disclosure agreements on behalf of the university.

- **The Division of Research and Innovation Initiatives (DRII)** team supports, nurtures, and invests in the university’s community of researchers, scholars and creatives. The team provides research development services that help faculty pursue promising new lines of inquiry, compete for awards and recognitions, submit high quality proposals, and find promising new multidisciplinary partners. The DRII team also invests in and supports the university’s research cores, works with OIT to support the community’s research cyberinfrastructure needs, and champions the university’s strategic research initiatives and multidisciplinary centers and institutes.
  - Core Facilities
  - Research Development
  - Research Computing
  - Multidisciplinary Research Centers, Institutes, and Initiatives

- **Division of Research Integrity & Assurance (DRIA)** is committed to the responsible and ethical conduct of research. DRIA is responsible for the development and implementation of policies and procedures governing research, scholarship, and creative activity as well as the administrative aspects of research operations. This division promotes the responsible conduct of research, receives and manages allegations of misconduct, and oversees inquiries and investigations.

- **Research Communications** helps to reach the masses and share the stories of research, scholarship, and creative activities. This group offers assistance with:
  - Writing, editing, and creative design projects.
  - Sharing messages via newsletters and listservs.
  - Digital monitor signage
  - Social media guidelines and assistance.

- **Research Informatics** is responsible for providing data relative to the research enterprise including mining information from awards, proposals, expenditures, and publication databases; generating research activity reports; tracking various research outputs and research impact data; analyzing changes in external funding support; and identifying trends in the university’s research performance.

  **Specific responsibilities include**
  - Data querying and data aggregation from the internal sources
  - Standard and ad hoc report generation
  - Data collection from external sources
  - Data analysis and visualization to identify potential trends for use by others in decision-making
  - Data analytics initiatives
- Developing and maintaining procedures to improve accuracy and efficiency of data querying, report generation, and data presentation processes.

- **Finance & Administration** provides financial, administrative and human resources for the VCR and reporting units. In addition to division support, this group processes internal transfers, budget transfers for all internal investments for UTK. UTIA and others as needed.