

Establishing New Resource Centers at The Rockefeller University

While the processes for creating scientific resource centers at the University have varied widely over the decades, the current centers were established with the common purpose of supporting the Laboratories and with the goal of meeting at least one of the following conditions:

- Reduction of overall institutional costs through centralizing services allows the University to reduce overall institutional costs
- Reduction of duplication of equipment and expertise
- Provision of services that are not available commercially or that are prohibitively expensive from commercial sources
- Recruitment and retention of personnel with specific technical expertise
- Continuity of key services or products
- Facilitation of collaboration between researchers.

As current technologies mature and new ones emerge, it is very likely that the University will wish to establish new resource centers. In evaluating whether or not to pursue new centers, the University should seek to balance the potential benefits of running a centralized resource center against the amount of funds and space available to run the centers. Any proposals for new resource centers will be developed by the Office of Research Support, working with the Vice President of Scientific and Facility Operations, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Vice President for Finance, and members of the faculty.

A proposal for a new resource center should address the following:

1. Identification of need
 - Technologies
 - Potential users (RU, Tri-Institutional, other institutional users)
 - Volume of use
2. Alternatives
 - Other institutional sources
 - Commercial sources
 - In lab sources
 - Provision by existing center(s)
3. Business plan
 - Start up costs (renovations, equipment)
 - Operations costs (first three years)
 - Expected recovery
 - Administrative oversight
4. Identification of funding
 - University operating budget
 - Granting opportunities
 - Gifting opportunities
 - Tri-Institutional agreements
5. Identification of space
6. Identification of members for Scientific Advisory Committee
7. Recruitment of personnel

Completed proposals will be submitted to the President for consideration.