

WEST VIRGINIA SCIENCE AND RESEARCH COUNCIL

July 2011

Annual Report on Strategic Planning to Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability

The West Virginia Science and Research Council met on June 16, 2011 and reviewed preliminary recommendations from staff to consider a review and update of Vision 2015, The West Virginia Science and Technology Strategic Plan. As provided by statute, the Science and Research Council adopted Vision 2015 as the state's science and technology research plan until a new plan is developed and adopted. Although no specific revision dates were prescribed, the statute requires Council approval of any modifications.

The June 16 Council meeting resulted in approval of a series of regional meetings to seek comment on the plan, assess its current level of achievement, and make recommendations for new goals and objectives to be considered by the Council in plan revisions. The first phase consists of staff assessment of outcomes and metrics in achieving the goals prescribed by the original plan. This phase is currently underway and will be completed by mid-August 2011. The second phase will consist of strategic planning meetings on the campuses of Marshall, West Virginia and West Virginia State universities during August and September 2011. These meetings will review metrics and solicit improvements from lead scientists, research administrators and technology businesses in the region with an eye on goals for the next decade. Finally, all recommendations will be presented to the Science and Research Council for consideration in final plan revisions at the October 2011 quarterly meeting. Upon approval, a revised plan will be forwarded to the Legislature.

Significant progress on many areas within the strategic plan has been achieved. Challenges remain and some metrics remain unmet, but the vision of research and innovation being a driver of West Virginia's new, diverse and prosperous economy is finding a level of success.

Progress is best shown in the graph accompanying this memo as it pertains to Goal Number 6: "Double competitive funding from federal agencies every five years."

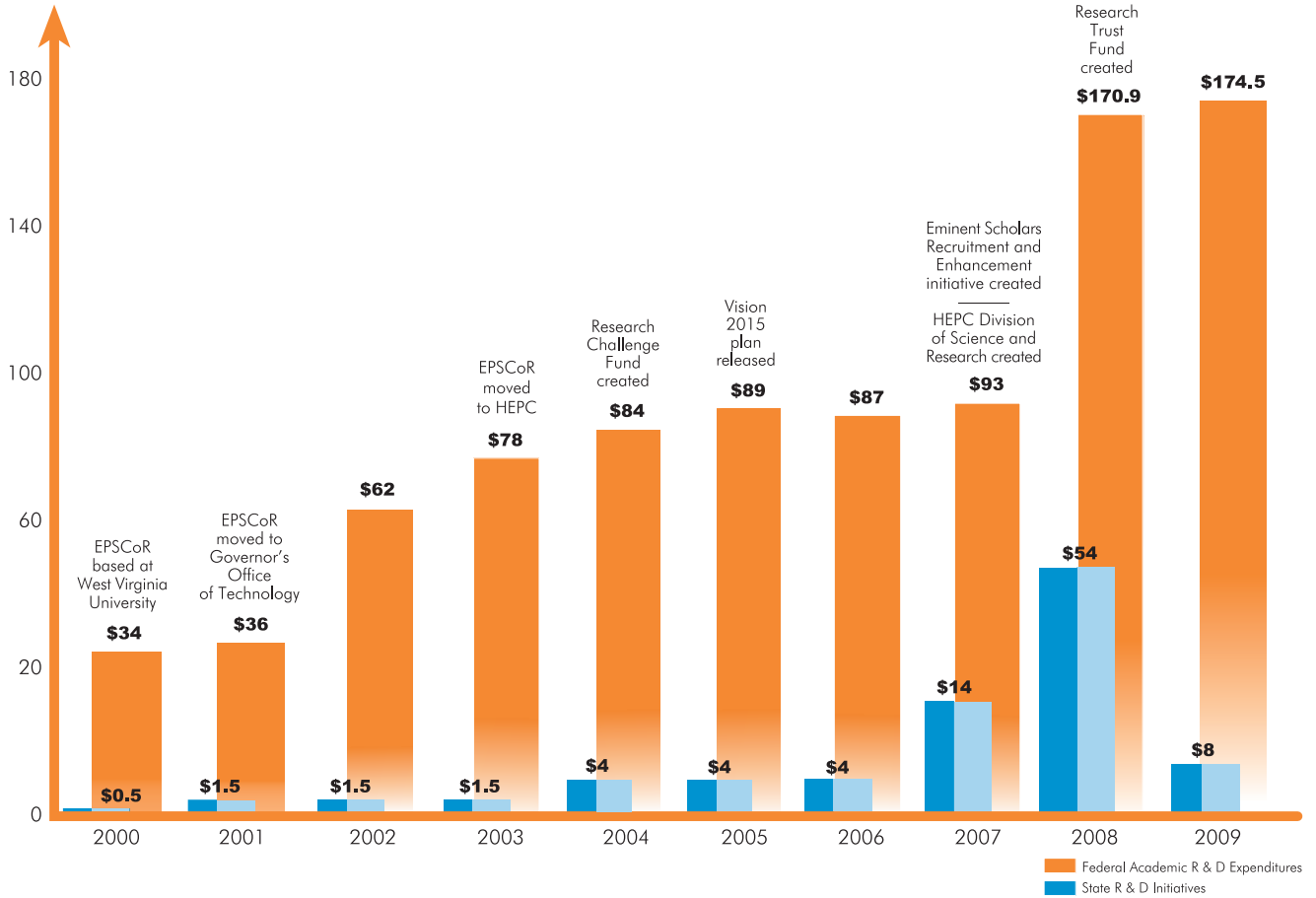
Background

The Science and Research Council was created in 2009, West Virginia Code §18B - 18B-1 to:

- increase the capacity of the state and state institutions of higher education to attract, implement and use cutting edge, competitive research funds and infrastructure;
- provide expertise and policy guidance in science and research to the state;
- encourage research collaboration among public and private institutions of higher education and the private sector;
- promote education at all levels in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics; and
- provide recommendations to the HEPC and state policy makers regarding science and research initiatives, activities and investments.

VISION 2015, The West Virginia Science and Technology Strategic Plan

Status of Goal No. 6: Double Competitive Funding from federal agencies every five years



Detailed assessments of Vision 2015's fifteen other goals are underway and will be reported later in the year, along with revisions to the Strategic Plan approved by the Science and Research Council.