



State Council of
Higher Education for Virginia

Setting the Stage for a Discussion of Academic Research

Policy Briefing
January 9, 2012

Virginia R&D Expenditures (NSF data)

R&D Expenditures	FY1998 Data		Most-recent Data	
	Total \$ (Millions)	Rank	Total \$ (Millions) [Fiscal Year]	Rank
TOTAL	4,889	12	9,473 [2007]	13
Industrial	2,693	16	4,840 [2007]	16
All Federal and Other	1,714	4	3,545 [2008]	3
Academic	482	15	1,088 [2009]	14



Recent Initiatives

- 1. Commonwealth Technology Research Fund (CTRF)**
- 2. “Seed Money” Initiative**
- 3. Commonwealth Research Initiative**
- 4. McDonnell Administration**



Return on Investment

- State investment expands research capacity, which aids institutions' ability to recruit faculty and researchers, acquire equipment, target and advance strategic research priorities, and improve students' educational experiences.
- State investment yields more innovation, entrepreneurship, commercialization, and economic development, which benefits Virginia through patents and licenses, job creation, and services to citizens.

Recent Findings

- State support has been erratic over time.
- In per-capita comparisons, Virginia ranks below peer states.
- Top states are more successful in research commercialization and using universities to promote economic development.

Recent Findings

- Increased funding alone is not sufficient. Also important are:
 - Alignment;
 - Supportive state policies;
 - Collaboration; and
 - Sustained commitment.