

2019-2020: Water Resources Center

Definition of Unit

Providing Department:

Water Resources Center

Department/Unit Contact:

Jeff Schaeffer/Amy Hill

Mission/Vision Statement:

Mission:

The mission of the Center for the Management, Utilization, and Protection of Water Resources is to support state and federal agencies, communities, and industry in solving water quality, biodiversity, and water security problems and advancing scientific understanding of all aspects of water science and engineering through basic and applied research. Center researchers study aquatic biodiversity and ecology from genes to ecosystems; address water quality challenges and develop better treatment technologies; and implement state-of-the-art technologies and tools for watershed sciences, modeling & simulation, data acquisition and geospatial analysis. The Center provides a strong water resources research infrastructure at Tennessee Tech by supporting faculty research, training and mentoring of future water professionals, and serving the citizens of the state of Tennessee.

Goal 1

Define Goal:

Increase recognition of the Center and its associated faculty through invited presentations, refereed publications, and other promotion initiatives. Produce a minimum of eight refereed publications per year and present at a minimum of 20 professional, regional, national or international meetings per year.

Intended Outcomes / Objectives:

Objective 1.1. Produce a minimum of eight refereed publications per year.

Objective 1.2. Make a minimum of 20 professional regional, national or international meeting presentations per year.

Action Plan: Through refereed publications, continued external funding, focused research, and participation in professional organizations, associated faculty obtain state, regional and national recognition.

DRILL DOWN-----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Assessment: Faculty Evaluations and Annual Reports

Frequency of Assessment:

Annually

Rationale:

Annual faculty achievement reports contain information on scholarly works. This information is compiled and analyzed annually.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Results Goal 1

Results:

This fiscal year, Center researchers produced 13 refereed publications and made 40 presentations.

Attachments:

Goal 2

Define Goal:

Increase externally funded research.

Intended Outcomes / Objectives:

Objective 2: Increase externally funded research, which addresses the diverse water-related problems in Tennessee, the nation and the world. Toward this goal, the Center strives to increase external funding to 100% of state appropriations.

Action Plan: Strategic focus areas have been established by Center faculty and faculty associates. A portion of Center funds is being invested in selected high-return, research focus areas. Priority for the remaining research funds will be given to projects with potential to secure additional related external funds. The Center annually supports faculty who seek external research funds by: reviewing proposals prior to their being sent off campus; providing travel funds to support PIs meeting with agency program directors to discuss research opportunities; keeping faculty informed about research opportunities; bringing faculty together to develop interdisciplinary research proposals; and providing essential matching funds and student research support. The Center is working with the university administration to keep Tennessee's Congressional delegation informed about research findings and new emerging areas of research.

Goal 3

Define Goal:

Increase the number of graduate students supported by the Center.

Intended Outcomes / Objectives:

DRILL DOWN-----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Assessment: Tracking Number of Graduate Students Supported

Frequency of Assessment:

Annually

Rationale:

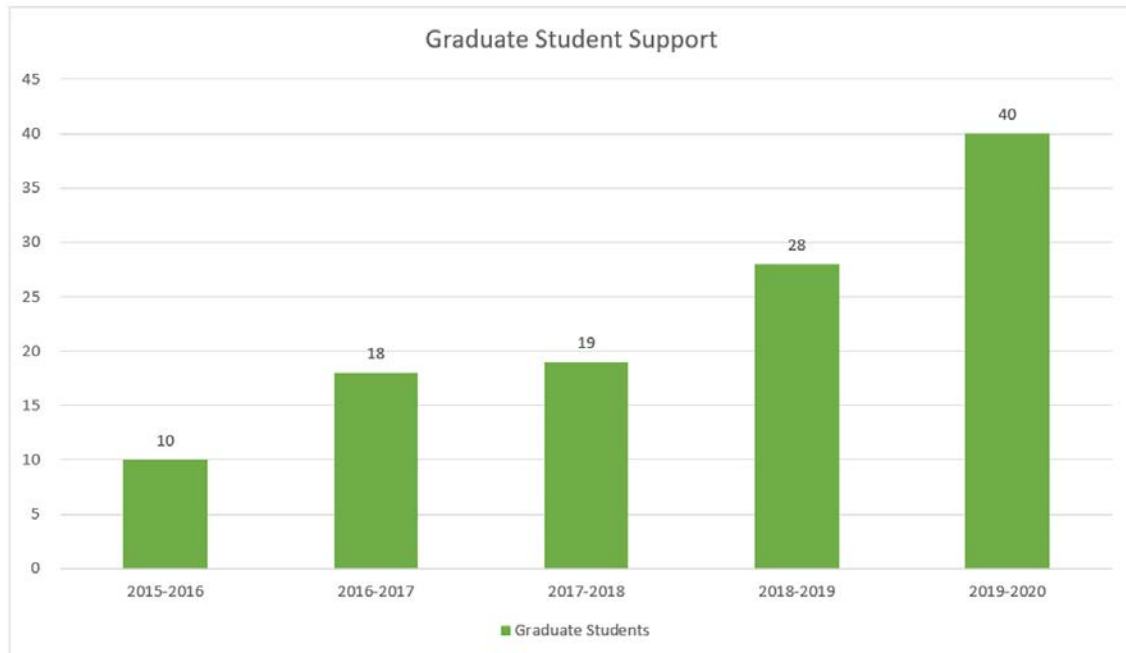
The Center will continue to increase its initiative to support graduate students in their environmental science/engineering related research. Annually, the Center will assess how many students have been supported.

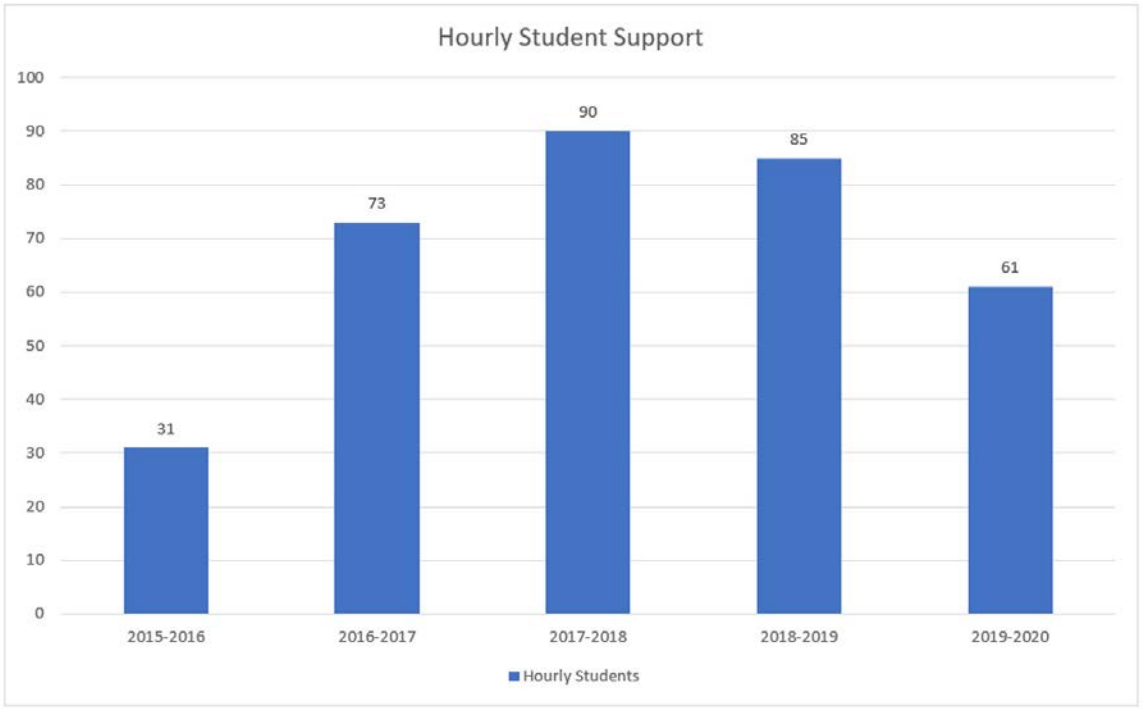
RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Results Goal 3

Results:

The Center supported 40 graduate students this year, a 43% increase from the previous year, as well as 61 hourly students, a 28% decrease.





Attachments:

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Assessment: Tracking Number of Graduate Students Supported

Frequency of Assessment:

Annually

Rationale:

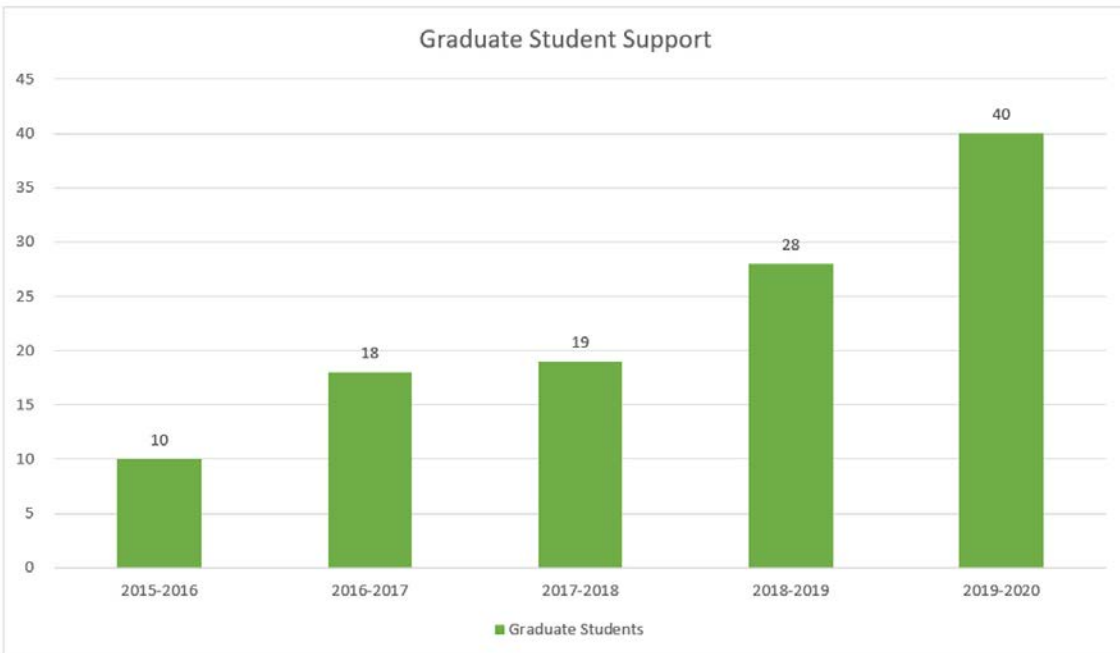
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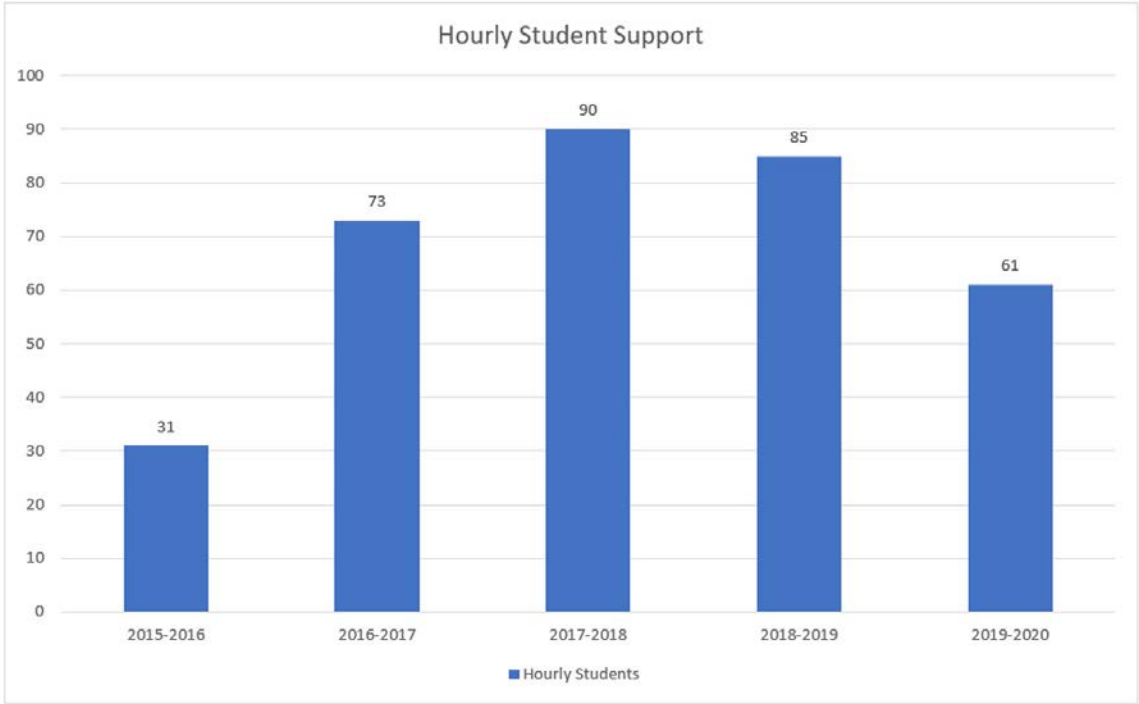
RELATED ITEM LEVEL 4

Results Goal 3

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Attachments: