

June 20, 2024

Dear Faculty,

The Office of the Senior Vice and Provost and the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs are pleased to announce a new Postdoctoral Training and Development Policy, which takes effect on July 1, 2024. The policy represents a structural framework for the postdoctoral experience at OU, underscoring our commitment to developing early-career scholars.

Since its establishment in 2020, the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs has collaborated closely with stakeholders from across campus while simultaneously benchmarking the national landscape related to policy and the postdoctoral training experience. This has culminated in a policy framework tailored to meet the specific needs of the OU research community.

Key elements of the policy are:

- Centralization of the appointment process for postdoctoral researchers through the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs
- Establishing a formal definition of postdoctoral researchers at OU
- Establishing frameworks for postdoctoral researcher compensation and evaluations
- Establishing expectations surrounding the mentoring relationship

The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs, housed within the Graduate College, is committed to ensuring a smooth transition and implementation of the policy. To this end, the office will provide comprehensive guidance documents and template offer letters. Liz Karr, incoming Senior Associate Dean of the Graduate College and Office of Postdoctoral Affairs, is also readily available for consultations on all matters related to postdoctoral researchers at the University. You can contact her at <a href="mailto:lizkarr@ou.edu">lizkarr@ou.edu</a>.

Thank you for your support in training our next generation of scholars.

Cheers,

André-Denis G. Wright, Ph.D.

Senior Vice President and Provost (Norman campus)