Our vision

VCU will be widely recognized for highly creative transformative innovation through collaboration across traditional boundaries, advancing the student experience, and improving lives while tackling societal grand challenges.

Our goals

VCU will clearly establish our unique strengths:

• Contributions to global change
• Diverse and inclusive research culture
• Sustainable, scalable and nimble research infrastructure

Our future

As part of Quest 2028, we will achieve:

Top 50
US research university ranking

>$400M
per year in external awards

~$500M
per year in research expenditures

Up 3-5%
in federal research awards

Up 5-10%
in clinical research

Up
in patents, licensing, partnerships, and start-ups
Largest single-year VCU direct investment in research and innovation at ~$10M through engagement of faculty, staff and students in projects under the following strategic funding initiatives:

~$1M Quest Fund; ~$1.5M Accelerate Fund; ~$3M Breakthroughs Fund; ~$0.5M Commercialization Fund; $5.5M Higher Education Equipment Trust Fund; ~$0.1M Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Fund

**Enriching the human experience**
VCU leverages creativity and excellence in innovation to solve problems across the globe by leveraging transdisciplinary knowledge creation, applications in technology, and, transformations in creative practice. We apply creative expression, critical analysis, and, advancements in knowledge and technology to enhance individual quality of life and social infrastructure.

**Optimizing health**
We will harness our strengths in basic research, personalized medicine, public health and innovations in medicine to address health disparities that lead to optimized health for all. We use trans-, multi- and interdisciplinary approaches at scales from molecules to populations in search of new ways to preserve and restore human health.

**Achieving a just and equitable society**
We will develop a national model for transforming diversity, equality and inclusion in research and scholarship into measurable, societally relevant outcomes. We commit to identifying injustices and finding solutions to the most difficult social problems to build a better world, recognizing that change begins with us.

**Supporting sustainable energy and environments**
We will bring about the convergence of technological innovation and sustainability to solve society’s critical energy and environmental problems. We create evidence-based solutions that contribute to a better future in a rapidly changing natural world.