



Core and Affiliate Research Investigator Policy

I. MIRECC CORE AND AFFILIATE FACULTY GUIDELINES

The SC MIRECC offers two types of faculty affiliations with the organization: Core Affiliate and Affiliate. Faculty may be located at any site within VISN 16 but are usually located at anchor sites (Houston, Little Rock, New Orleans and Oklahoma City). The eligibility requirements, benefits, and obligations for each are listed below.

CORE FACULTY are those who have at least part of their salary supported by the SC MIRECC. An appointment as a Core Faculty member must be reviewed and approved by the MIRECC Leadership Council. Core faculty are expected to serve in administrative or research leadership roles in the MIRECC, provide mentoring to other MIRECC faculty, and attend local and key MIRECC-wide meetings organized by MIRECC leadership.

AFFILIATED FACULTY are those who do not receive salary support but who benefit from MIRECC resources in other ways, such as by receiving funding for research or education projects from one of the MIRECC-sponsored programs. Affiliated faculty are expected to attend local meetings at anchor sites.

The essential distinction between Core Investigators and other investigators is that Core investigators receive direct salary support from the MIRECC. Core investigators are also entitled to apply for MIRECC intramural pilot funding.

The following guidelines apply to both **Core and Affiliated Faculty**:

1. **Eligibility.** Faculty must demonstrate appropriate VA affiliation (clinical or research appointment, consultant status, without compensation (WOC) appointment, inter-personnel agreement).
2. **Benefits.** Faculty are entitled to apply for funds through MIRECC-sponsored programs (research pilot studies and education grants) and to apply for other funding opportunities offered periodically through MIRECC.
 - a. Faculty are entitled to receive methods consultation through the MIDAS (MIRECC Implementation Design and Analysis Support) program.
 - b. Faculty may also receive mentoring (e.g., help with grant applications, career guidance, manuscript review) and other assistance.

- c. Faculty may describe the MIRECC as a resource in grant applications and, where appropriate, receive letters of support from the MIRECC Director for the purpose of grant applications.
- d. Faculty may apply to attend grant writing or other training opportunities organized and offered by MIRECC.

3. **Obligations.** In return for these benefits, MIRECC faculty are expected to;

- a. Acknowledge the MIRECC on their CV; and on publications, posters, oral presentations, media interviews and other professional activities.
 - i. VA employment **must** be listed first if the individual has more than 50% VA employment (e.g., VA title, VA Service, South Central Mental Illness Research Education and Clinical Center (MIRECC), City and State) followed by academic title and school affiliation, regardless of how the work was funded or however the topic relates to VA.
 - ii. If the work **is funded** by the South Central MIRECC grant or received MIDAS support, the author should acknowledge support with this statement: *“The research reported/outlined here was supported by the South Central MIRECC.”*
 - iii. If the work **is not funded** by the MIRECC, the author should acknowledge support with specific grant funding information as well as with this statement: *“This work was supported in part by the South Central MIRECC (Grant No. ??).”*
 - iv. For publications, include this disclaimer statement: *“The views expressed in this article are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the views of the Department of Veterans Affairs.”*
- b. Failure to acknowledge VA support or employment may result in the discontinuation of current or future MIRECC support.
- c. Complete a bi-annual activity report describing research and educational activities and products (grants and publications) and return this report to MIRECC administration in a timely way.
- d. Sign a Faculty Agreement prior to receiving support from any MIRECC program (See below.)

II. PROCESS – MIRECC AFFILIATE RESEARCH INVESTIGATORS

Research investigators interested in becoming associated with the VISN 16 MIRECC are encouraged to contact the appropriate MIRECC Associate Director(s):

Co-Director and Associate Director for Education: Michael Kauth, PhD, VAMC Houston, michael.kauth@va.gov, Phone: 713-794-8637

Associate Director for Research: John Fortney, PhD, VAMC Little Rock, FortneyJohnC@uams.edu, Phone: 501-257-1726

Associate Director for Research Training: Mark E. Kunik, MD, MPH, VAMC Houston, mkunik@bcm.tmc.edu, Phone: 713-794-8639

Associate Director for Improving Clinical Care: Pat Dubbert, PhD, VAMC Little Rock, patricia.dubbert@va.gov Phone: 501-257-1937

VISN 16 MIRECC Research Investigator Agreement

Core / Affiliate (please circle one)

The undersigned agrees to the principles articulated in the Core / Affiliate guidelines above, including both the benefits and the obligations of MIRECC faculty members. In particular, the undersigned agrees to acknowledge the MIRECC appropriately and to complete bi-annual activity reports in a timely way. The undersigned understands that failure to comply with this agreement may result in loss of MIRECC Faculty status. The loss of MIRECC Faculty status will be at the discretion of the MIRECC Leadership Council.

Printed Name:

Signed:

_____ Date

Signed:

MIRECC Site Leader*

* No Site Leader: Have a MIRECC Associate Director sign that is the most appropriate to the activities planned.