SCIENTIFIC TECHNICAL SERVICES
STRATEGIC GOALS
Mission, Vision, Values, and Objectives

Our mission is to:

☐ Help faculty, undergraduate and graduate students solve scientific and engineering challenges through access to centralized technical resources, training, and expertise.

Our vision is to:

☐ Foster creativity, enhance problem-solving, and promote a culture of innovation at Western.

Our values are:

☐ Service: An innovative and responsive approach to supporting the evolving scientific and technical needs of the Western community.
☐ Quality: Comprehensive and state of the art capabilities, including instrumentation, expertise, custom fabrication, service and repair.
☐ Accessibility: Centralized and university supported resources that enable enhanced teaching and scholarship opportunities at Western.
☐ Student Focus: Experiential learning through faculty-student collaborative scholarship and technical skills development for graduate and undergraduate students at Western.

Our objectives are:

☐ Resources: The resource objectives of STS are to:

☐ Secure adequate base funding to support the following needs:

☐ Operating budget for staff training, outreach, laboratory and shop supplies and repairs and replacement costs not covered by service contracts.
☐ Support for a part-time STS Director and dedicated faculty involvement in accordance with organizational objectives.
☐ Expand staffing to meet increasing user demand due to growth in STEM enrollment, research-active faculty and instrument sophistication.
☐ Service contracts for major new instrumentation.
☐ Secure periodic one-time funding for acquisition or replacement of major scientific instrumentation.
☐ Secure and maintain sufficient dedicated space for offices, the Instrument Center and the Machine, Electronic and Fabrication Shops.
Strategy: The strategic objectives of STS are to:

- Promote a coherent and efficient campus-wide approach to the acquisition, maintenance and use of major scientific and technical resources.
- Continue classroom support and respond to increased demand for student access.
- Review and continually update usage policies for STS-managed scientific and technical resources.
- With the support of the Western Foundation, develop external partnerships to increase resources available to STS users by facilitating gifts.
- Work with University Communications and Marketing team to develop an outreach strategy to increase on- and off-campus visibility.
- Ensure adequate and suitable space to serve the current and expanding needs of STS.

Organization: The organizational objectives of STS are to:

- Restore leadership by creating a part-time STS director position.
- Assemble a STS advisory council led by an independent and compensated chair that includes the STS director and diverse stakeholders, for the purpose of STS advocacy and strategic direction, and for reviewing, implementing, and overseeing STS program development.
- Address current staffing issues:
  - Replace imminent retirees and support transitions with ample overlap of incoming and outgoing staff.
  - Re-establish the electronics technician position.
  - Create additional technical staff positions in the Instrument Center and in the Shop.
  - Explore the possibility of shared STS/departmental positions, to increase the breadth and depth of expertise.
- Increase investment in staff training relevant to current and emerging needs to ensure continued state of the art capabilities.