1. Centers and Institutes and similar groups and organizations form useful devices for organizing faculty and staff from different disciplines to focus on teaching, research, and/or service in an area of common interest. Centers and Institutes should be justified on the basis of their contributions to specified missions of research and service and by their relationship to instructional programs at the institution.

2. The term "Center" or "Institute" generally refers to an organized, non-departmental unit; it may or may not have external or state funding and a separately identified budget; it usually has a formal administrative structure headed by a director. Centers and Institutes have varied missions, and with few exceptions do not award degrees. Differences among these kinds of units usually are related to their degree of permanence and the level of commitment to them by the institution or the System.

3. Each institution shall ensure that its Centers and Institutes comply with applicable institutional and System-wide policies. Those Centers which receive federal funds must, in addition, ensure compliance with federal policies, in particular those regarding the conduct of research.

4. The establishment of a Center or Institute that is multi-institutional shall require the approval of the Chancellor.

5. The establishment of a Center or Institute that is administratively separate from an institution shall require the approval of the Board of Regents.

6. Each institution shall develop policies and procedures for the establishment and monitoring of Centers and Institutes. These policies and procedures shall be filed with the Office of the Chancellor.

Replacement for: BOR VII-6.00 and VII-6.01