

Importance of Research: Letter for *The Alexandrian* 2024

Given the Alexandrian's focus on student research, Editor Lukas Ducker asked Chancellor Hawkins about the importance of research for our University. Thank you, Dr. Hawkins, for taking the time to answer and sharing your thoughts!

The following is from Dr. Hawkins.

September 8, 2023 the Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE) formally approved TROY as a doctoral institution. This was a landmark in the historic evolution of Troy University.

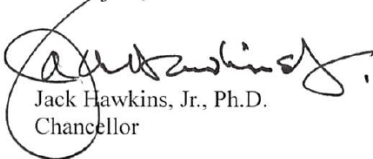
For students, this role change adds value to every TROY degree awarded previously and to be awarded in the future. Doctoral status also creates research opportunities for faculty and students while offering broader service to the community. In fact, it is foundational to Troy University's next evolutionary step: re-classification as a Research University!

Teaching, public service and research are the lifeblood of any university. Our goal is for TROY to continually push the envelope of human understanding and knowledge about the world around us. As Socrates said, "Education is the kindling of a flame, not the filling of a vessel."

At TROY, we want our students to light the fires of intellectual pursuit. Our goal is to develop leaders who continually seek answers and solutions to the problems and mysteries of the world. As we continue to build our capacity as a research university, I encourage TROY students to take advantage of the opportunities available to them and to become world changers.

The best days for TROY University lie ahead, and the journey is just beginning.

Go Trojans,



Jack Hawkins, Jr., Ph.D.
Chancellor