ACACIA RESEARCH CORP Form SC 13G January 23, 2012

January 20, 2012

Securities and Exchange Commission 450 Fifth Street NW Washington, DC 20549

RE: Schedule 13G

Acacia Research Corp.
As of December 31, 2011

Gentlemen:

In accordance with Section 13(d)(5) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, attached please find an amended Schedule 13G for the above named company showing beneficial ownership of 5% or more as of December 31, 2011 filed on behalf of Eagle Asset Management, Inc.

Very truly yours,

Damian Sousa Vice President Chief Compliance Officer DS:dlv Enclosures

cc: Office of the Corporate Secretary
Acacia Research Corp.
500 Newport Center Drive, 7th Floor
Newport Beach, CA 92660

Securities Division NASD Financial Center 33 Whitehall Street New York, NY 10004

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

Schedule 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.)*

Acacia Research Corp.

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock (Title of Class of Securities)

003881307

(CUSIP Number)

Check the following box if a fee is being paid with this statement ______. (A fee is not required only if the filing person: (1) has a previous statement on file reporting beneficial ownership of more than five percent of the class of securities described in Item 1; and (2) has filed no amendment subsequent thereto reporting beneficial ownership of five percent or less of such class.) (See Rule 13d-7.)

*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

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CUSIP NO. 003881304

13G

- NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
 S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON
 Eagle Asset Management, Inc. 59-2385219
- 2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* (A) _____
- 3 SEC USE ONLY
- 4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

State of Florida

NUMBER OF 5 SOLE VOTING POWER
SHARES 2,705,088
BENEFICIALLY 6 SHARED VOTING POWER
OWNED - - AS OF DECEMBER 31 2011 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
BY EACH 2,705,088
REPORTING 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
PERSON WITH

- 9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 2,705,088
- 10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*

[____]

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 6.30%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

ΙA

*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

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Item 1(a) Name of Issuer:

Acacia Research Corp.

Item 1(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executing Offices:

500 Newport Center Drive, 7th Floor

Newport Beach, CA 92660

Item 2(a) Name of Person Filing:

Eagle Asset Management, Inc.

Item 2(b) Address of Principal Business Office:

880 Carillon Parkway

St. Petersburg, Florida 33716

Item 2(c) Citizenship:

Florida

Item 2(d) Title of Class of Securities:

Common Stock

003881307

Item 3
Type of Reporting Person:

(e) Investment Adviser registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisors $\mathop{\rm Act}\nolimits$ of 1940

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Item 4 Ownership as of December 31, 2011

(a) Amount Beneficially Owned:

2,705,088 shares of common stock beneficially owned including:

No. of Shares: 2,705,088

(b) Percent of Class: 6.30%

(c) Deemed Voting Power and Disposition Power:

(i) (ii) (iii) (iv) Deemed Deemed

to have to have

Deemed to have Deemed

to have Sole Power Shared Power

Sole Power Shared Power to Dispose to Dispose to Vote or to Direct to Direct the to Vote to Vote Sole Power Shared Power to Dispose to Disposition I or to Direct the Direct the Disposition Disposition

Eagle Asset 2,705,088 ----2,705,088

Management, Inc.

Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class:

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following.

Item 6 Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person:

N/A

Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary which Acquired Item 7

the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company:

N/A

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Identification and Classification of Members of the Group: N/A Item 8

Item 9 Notice of Dissolution of Group: N/A

Item 10 Certification:

By signing below I certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired for purpose of and do not have the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of such securities and were not acquired in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having such purposes or effect.

Signature

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: January 20, 2012 EAGLE ASSET MANAGEMENT, INC.

Damian Sousa Vice President Chief Compliance Officer

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