Information Item

AAC - 5  Update on Research and Engagement

The Office of Research and Engagement provides support and strategic direction to faculty, staff, and students for research and creative endeavors resulting in scholarship, innovation, community, and economic engagement leading to knowledge, student, and regional transformation.

External Funding

The investments made in supporting research and engagement continue to pay off. We continue to increase both submissions and awards. There was a 3.63% increase of 15 proposals over FY 17, as well as 7.34% increase of $10,190,440 requested.

With respect to awards, we exceeded our target with award dollars increasing by $4,130,784 or 12.76%. The number of awards increased slightly and the overall amount per award increased. Federal funding increased by 28% with state contracts increased by 17.2%. Federal funding now represents almost 54% of our total awards compared to 48% last year. Almost all units/departments increased their external funding.

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<th>7-1-17 to 6-30-18</th>
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<tr>
<td>SUBMISSIONS</td>
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Another goal was to increase health-related funding by 10% over a three-year rolling average. Our target this year was $16,906,666 and we exceeded that by 11.8% with health-related funding at $18,907,810.
Innovation and Commercialization

LaunchUNCG is our umbrella initiative housing the NC Entrepreneurship Center, our Innovation Partnership Services Offices that covers tech transfer activities, and the Greensboro NSF funded I-Corps program (https://launch.uncg.edu/). Activities supported by LaunchUNCG in FY18 included:

- Over 20 events, engaging more than 125 entrepreneurs and business leaders on and off campus, attracting more than 3,200 attendees, including students, faculty and the public.

- The 7th annual *UNCG Entrepreneur Day* on October 31, 2017 where 53 entrepreneurs spoke in 60 classes to nearly 2,800 students in one day.

- Launch of the NSF grant supported program, *Greensboro NSF I-Corps Site*. In Year 1, 23 teams of students, faculty, alumni and/or an entrepreneurial mentor were trained in customer discovery, business model canvas, product/market fit and performed potential customer interviews to determine suitability of their project ideas. Several of these teams continue to work on their projects after cohort completion, with results including product sales, prototype development, and additional grant funding.

- Six patent applications filed or converted.
  1. *Non-Aromatic Difluor Analogues of Resorcylic Acid Lactones* – 12/4/17 (U.S. National Phase)
  2. *Methods and Compositions for Inducing Hygienic Behavior in Honey Bees* – 1/5/18 (U.S. National Phase)
  4. *A New Method for Obtaining Human Mast Cells from Adipose Tissue for Autologous Transplantation Applications* – 6/20/18 (PCT)
  5. *A New Method for Treating Solid Tumors through the Use of Tumor-specific IgE Bound to Autologous-derived Human Mast Cells* – 6/29/18 (PCT)

- One trademark granted. *MyPlayBook™* – 10/24/17

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Dana Dunn
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor