Information Item

AAC – 5 Update on Research and Engagement

Background Information

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

Since FY 2015, there has been a steady annual increase in the total amount of grants and contracts awarded to our faculty from external sponsors. There has been a 28.6% increase in the total dollars awarded from FY 2015 to FY 2019. This trend continues into FY 2020 as there was a 16.6 % increase over first quarter totals for FY 2019 and the September award totals exceeded the monthly total for any month in previous fiscal years since 2015.

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>7-1-19 to 9-30-19</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SUBMISSIONS</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Amount</td>
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<tr>
<td>AWARDS</td>
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In addition to exceeding our annual goal of a 5% increase in funding, we exceeded our other research target. As you may remember, we also are targeting increasing our health-related funding by at least 10% over a three-year rolling average. The three-year rolling average has
climbed to $19,453,639 for FY2019, which puts us up by another 15% since the previous year. Our cumulative rolling average is up by 46% since our baseline of 2016.

**Selected Highlights of FY19**

The large increase this quarter is due, in part, to four large and prestigious awards. UNCG’s SERVE Center was refunded to operate the National Technical Assistance Center for the Homeless awarded from the U.S. Department of Education with a 5-year $6.2 million award. SERVE was also awarded a 5-year, $15.6 million grant to operate the Region 6 Comprehensive Center. This grant will provide high quality capacity-building technical assistance as well as develop and sustain evidence-based practices to K-12 education systems in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia to ensure college and career readiness, address issues of equity and disproportionality, and support the region’s lowest performing schools. A third $6.1 million grant was awarded to the School of Education to partner with Rockingham and Surry school districts to improve teacher training.

If you look across the 5-year funding period, we have received $32.9 million in new education funding this quarter which is a testament to our reputation for collaborative partnerships, research, and translating research into practice in this field. Besides the dollar value, the impact on the teachers and students is substantial.

The fourth award is the prestigious 3-year, $1 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to support the adaptation and implementation of proven organizational and systemic change strategies to support and advance women and women of color in STEM. Under the leadership of principal investigator, Provost Dunn, the ADVANCE team will use a data analytic approach, coupled with focus group data and incorporating evidence-based practices, to increase the representation and advancement of women in academic science careers, thereby contributing to the development of a more diverse STEM workforce. While the focus of the grant is to address various aspects of STEM academic culture and institutional structure that may differentially affect women faculty and academic administrators, UNCG views this grant as an opportunity to enhance our commitment to a diverse professoriate across the disciplines.

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Dana Dunn  
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor