Executive Summary:

Sponsored research and grants have been challenging over the past year with continued uncertainty of the budget at both the federal and state levels. Although the budget climate remains unclear, there is reason for optimism as UNCW researchers continue to submit proposals for external funding in record numbers. UNCW has also undertaken several initiatives over the past year to improve its internal processes and procedures that will hopefully pay dividends in the future.

The report highlights research award and proposal statistics, some financial highlights, grant and contract growth strategies being undertaken, and efforts to expand translational research activities on campus. With the addition of the new marine biotechnology building at CREST South and the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, we are entering a period of substantial growth in partnership development, entrepreneurship, biotechnology research, and translation.
Proposals submitted in FY13 totaled 241 – a 4% increase over FY12
FY13 research awards totaled more than $9.25M
Five year contract and grant expenditures remain flat
Marine Biotechnology Building at the CREST Research Park (http://uncw.edu/CREST)
- Opened in November 2013
- Unique 69,000 ft² facility houses both UNCW and public entity researchers
- NIST ARRA stimulus funded matching grant of $14.9M
Shellfish Research Hatchery operations continue to evolve and grow
NIH grant proposals submitted equal to $3.6M
Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies in Identity Sciences (ISIS) received funding from Department of Defense (Army), FBI, and Oak Ridge National Lab for research in the field of biometrics. Total funding for the ISIS research team was $1.5M with nine awards in FY13
### Grant and Contract Activity

#### UNCW Five Year Research Award and Proposal History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010¹</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013²</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Awards</strong></td>
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<td>Awarded</td>
<td>$19,394,782</td>
<td>$36,260,057</td>
<td>$10,272,858</td>
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<td>Number</td>
<td>212</td>
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<td><strong>Proposals</strong></td>
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<td>Requested</td>
<td>$68,376,561</td>
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<td>$54,729,445</td>
<td>$60,799,885</td>
<td>$44,646,422</td>
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<tr>
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<td>216</td>
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<td><strong>Research Expenditures</strong></td>
<td>$18.3M</td>
<td>$23.1M</td>
<td>$22.6M</td>
<td>$19.7M</td>
<td>$18.15M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ NIST Grant for MARBIONC
² End of Aquarius Grant, Sequestration, Loss of PIs
Source of Funds FY13

Sponsor Type
- Federal (50%)
- State & Local Government (31%)
- Business & Industry (1%)
- Nonprofit Organization (2%)
- Institutional Funds (15%)
- All other sources (1%)

Top Federal Agencies
- NSF (31%)
- NOAA (29%)
- ED (9%)
- NIH (8%)
- DoD (8%)
- Interior (6%)
- DoJ (4.5%)
- Other (4.5%)
State of Research

Strengths

- Two successive years of increased proposal submissions
- Greater than 200 open awards
- Increase in proposal development efforts

Challenges

- The number of awards have dropped noticeably
- Federal funding landscape remains challenging (sequester and budget issues have delayed and decreased awards)
- Proposal competition has increased
- Declining F&A affects internal research investment
Grant and Contract Growth Strategies #1

- Enhance “Proposal Development Services” in the Office of Research Services
  - Grow number of proposals to 300+ in three years
- Engage with external entities for proposal enhancement and development (e.g., Hanover Research)
  - Develop 2-3 proposals, enhance 4 proposals yearly
- Develop “Foundation and Corporation Research Funding Team”
  - Double proposal submissions to non-federal sponsors in 3 years
- Increase internal support for proposal development efforts including travel support to meet sponsors
- Incentivize F&A generating grant proposals
- Provide incentives for faculty to develop larger proposals emphasizing new research directions and those that involved interdisciplinary research teams working through intra-institutional collaborations or with researchers at other institutions and private entities
Grant and Contract Growth Strategies #2

- Update Research web site (news, events, proposal resources)
- Enhance faculty grant workshops
- Review staff capabilities and provide training as needed
- Engage Faculty Senate Research Committee
- Expand grant submission, tracking and support software capabilities (i.e., RAMSeS)
- Explore innovative funding approaches (e.g., crowd funding for research)
- Improve management and monetization of Intellectual Property (IP)
- Develop processes for direct business investment through new UNCW commercialization model
- Explore commercialization opportunities through CIE and MARBIONC
Commercialization Opportunities: New Facilities to Support Translational Research

- Collaborative business space for entrepreneurs to work together and nurture high-growth ventures
- Flexible office space for lease
- Actively recruits new businesses and helps to launch startup companies in the region
- Supportive environment through education and mentorship opportunities for entrepreneurs and UNCW faculty and students

Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship
Opened September 5, 2013
Commercialization Opportunities:
New Facilities to Support Translational Research

- Biotechnology research, development, and business space
- Flexible modular lab space for lease
- Open collaborative research community
- More than 80 established researchers from MARBIONC and UNCW science departments

Marine Biotechnology Building at CREST Research Park
Opened November 18, 2013
Research and Intellectual Property

An important suite of policies, procedures, and organizational structures to optimize the creation and translation of faculty-generated scholarship will be completed in 2014. Initiatives being undertaken include:

1) Organizational (a restructured Office of Innovation and Commercialization) and policy changes (a revised Intellectual Property Policy) supporting the intellectual property/translation capacity in the university;

2) Development of internal processes to link the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIE) and the Marine Biotechnology Building; and

3) Operational modifications to the CREST Myrtle Grove campus to support its expanded translational activities and align its facilities and program management procedures with those of the main campus.
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