FY 2014
University of North Carolina Wilmington
Sponsored Programs and Research Compliance
Annual Report
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 Research Park and the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, we are entering a period of substantial growth in partnership development, entrepreneurship, biotechnology research, and translation.
UNCW Research Highlights

- Proposals submitted in FY14 totaled 270 – a 12% increase over FY13
- Proposals requested $93,148,532 in FY14 – a 122% increase over FY13
- FY14 research awards totaled more than $6.6M
- Five year contract and grant expenditures continued to decline
- 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
- John Morrison received a $1.6M Moore Foundation grant to build a nanosatellite
- Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies in Identity Sciences (I3S) received $1M in funding from Department of State (largest grant from Department of State in UNC system history)
- Southeast Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association (SECOORA) re-funded for $300K
## Grant and Contract Activity

### UNCW Five Year Research Award and Proposal History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010(^1)</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013(^2)</th>
<th>2014</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Awards</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Awarded</td>
<td>$19,394,782</td>
<td>$36,260,057</td>
<td>$10,272,858</td>
<td>$13,958,574</td>
<td>$9,925,357</td>
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<td>Number</td>
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<td>209</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>159</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Proposals</strong></td>
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<td>Requested</td>
<td>$68,376,561</td>
<td>$55,144,084</td>
<td>$54,729,445</td>
<td>$61,200,860</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number</td>
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<td>231</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Research</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenditures</td>
<td>$18.3M</td>
<td>$23.1M</td>
<td>$22.6M</td>
<td>$19.7M</td>
<td>$19.2M</td>
<td>$14.65M</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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1 NIST Grant for MARBIONC
2 End of Aquarius Grant, Sequestration, Loss of PIs
Research Revenue
Facilities & Administrative Indirect Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009-10</td>
<td>$2,481,861</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010-11</td>
<td>$2,474,509</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>$2,149,163</td>
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<td>2012-13</td>
<td>$1,740,818</td>
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<td>2013-14</td>
<td>$1,296,989</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014-15 (estimated)</td>
<td>$1,100,000</td>
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</table>
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
- Proposal competition has increased
- Declining F&A affects internal research investment
Grant and Contract Growth Strategies #1

- Enhance “Proposal Development Services” in SPARC Office
  - Grow number of proposals to 300+ in three years
- Engage with external entities for proposal enhancement and development
  - 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 were completed in 2014. The initiatives encompassed:

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.
For More Information Contact:  
Office of Research Services and Sponsored Programs

Panda Powell, MBA, CRA  
Director of Sponsored Programs  
Email: powellp@uncw.edu  
Phone: (910) 962-3167

Ron Vetter, PhD  
Associate Provost for Research and Dean of the Graduate School  
Email: vetterr@uncw.edu  
Phone: (910) 962-3224