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SIGN UP for Research Listservs

The Office of Research Administration now provides two weekly e-newsletters.

One, issued on Fridays, details research funding opportunities. The other, sent on Tuesdays, provides other news regarding research such as updates to policies or new programs offered on campus.

If you would like to join one or both listservs, please visit: ora.ra.cwru.edu/spiderweb/oraSubscriptions.cfm.

The respective titles of the emails are: **Research Funding Opportunities** and **CWRU Research—News and Updates**.



RESEARCH MATTERS

MESSAGE FROM
THE VICE PRESIDENT
FOR RESEARCH



ROBERT H. MILLER, PHD

I am pleased to report on the progress we've made since our last newsletter.

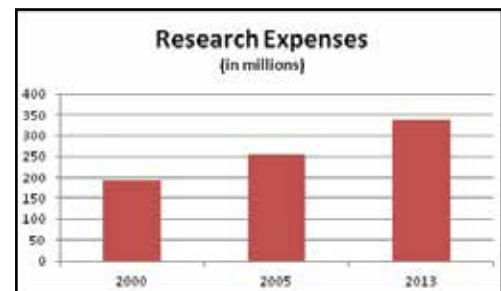
- **SPARTA:** First, I am proud to say that the launch of the new pre-award grants and contracts system, Sparta, has been a huge success. We have received a great deal of positive feedback about the ways in which Sparta streamlines proposal submission and increases transparency about the status of research grants and contracts.
- **Research Productivity:** Total externally-funded research dollars awarded to CWRU in FY 2013 was \$362.9M, of which \$287.6M came from federal sources.

While this represents a decrease from previous years, I am gratified by our continuing successes. The overall decrease in federal awards can be attributed partly to the end of the stimulus funds from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) as well as the sequestration cuts.

There is good news, however. Funding from industrial sources went up last year. Our efforts to diversify the portfolio of research support paid off with \$17.2M awarded from corporate sponsors, an 18% increase.



The most important figure to track, from the perspective of our activities and rankings, are dollars spent on research. In FY2013, we spent \$338.1M. This represents funding from all sources including federal, state, local, and private entities. To provide context, CWRU spent \$193.0M and \$255.2M in 2000 and 2005, respectively.



Also a great source of pride, our discoveries are getting to the marketplace. In FY 2013, there were 223 New Invention Disclosures and 36 licenses completed - engagements with industry partners that represent the successful promotion and commercialization of CWRU-developed intellectual properties. The Technology Transfer Office processed 487 Material Transfer Agreements (MTAs), the highest volume ever. We also generated five new companies from discoveries on campus.

CWRU's New Director of Export Control and Privacy Management



Last summer, CWRU created a new position, Director of Export Control and Privacy Management, filled

by Lisa Palazzo. The Director is charged with maintaining oversight of university activities relating to federal export control regulations. These laws affect a broad range of CWRU's activities such as research involving international collaborators both overseas and on U.S. soil, shipping items to international entities, purchasing products from international vendors, and international travel. The office will also maintain oversight of CWRU's policies and procedures relating to the privacy of, and access to, sensitive information. Reporting to the University Chief Compliance, Export Control & Privacy Officer, Boyd Kumher (Office of General Counsel), the Director is in the process of formalizing a university-wide export control compliance program. For export control compliance-related questions, call Lisa Palazzo at 368-5791, or Boyd Kumher at 368-0833.

Research ShowCASE 2014 Save the date!

The Office of Research and Technology Management and SOURCE (Support of Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors) are pleased to announce that Research ShowCASE will be held on Friday April 18, 2014 from 9 am to 3 pm.

This year, the event will combine for the first time the Spring undergraduate research symposium, Intersections, and the graduate research event. Hundreds of researchers, scientists and scholars will come together for a day of collaboration, creativity, and innovation. It will truly be a day to celebrate research at CWRU.



Exhibits of real-world applications, critical insights, and creative and intellectual activities will be on view for students, faculty, staff, alumni, business and industry leaders and the community, highlighting the full range of faculty, postdoctoral, undergraduate and graduate research at CWRU.

Research ShowCASE is a free public exhibit and is held in Veale Convocation Center.

RESEARCH @ CWRU:

A BOOT CAMP FOR INVESTIGATORS

This fall, the Office of Research Administration began offering a new research orientation program just for faculty. The 90-minute session is designed to help new (or new to CWRU) researchers navigate the university's research funding and regulatory compliance processes. Research Administration staff members explain the university's internal procedures, and attendees receive a binder of helpful information to take away from the presentation.

While new faculty members were specifically invited to attend, we welcomed all faculty to these sessions. In the fall, we hosted over 70 participants and were encouraged to continue offering the program. This winter, we will hold two more Research Boot Camps on Wednesday, January 29 and Tuesday, February 11. Additional summer and fall dates will be announced at a later date.

Registration for the Spring Boot Camps can be completed online at: <https://research.case.edu/education/onlinecalendar.cfm>.

Sparta UPDATE

Research Tracking + Administration

Sparta, the new electronic system designed to make it easier and faster to complete and submit research-funding proposals and contracts, launched October 21st, beginning a five-month, phased-in roll-out that started with the School of Dental Medicine. All schools except the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) and the School of Medicine are now using Sparta; CAS and Medicine are set to launch in early 2014.

Once all schools and management centers have transitioned to using Sparta, it will be used exclusively to submit grant proposals and initiate contracts. The Spiderweb and PADS online systems will continue to function for other purposes.

Since the launch in October, we have successfully submitted numerous proposals to Grants.gov. In addition, several non-federal awards have been routed and submitted to sponsors using the new system.

One of the many welcome advantages of Sparta is that Internal Prior Approval System (IPAS) requests are now routed and approved through the system, eliminating paper flow between many offices. Real-time status updates of IPAS requests also are available in Sparta.

"This system will bring our research support infrastructure into the 21st century," said Suzanne Rivera, associate vice president for research in the Office of Research and Technology Management. "We have a world-class research enterprise, and now it will have a state-of-the-art proposal management system. Users will really appreciate the way Sparta allows real-time tracking of their research grants and contracts."

Training will continue to be offered through the Office of Research Administration, both in-person and online.

For more information on the process, visit research.case.edu/Prop_Dev/Sparta/.