

**The University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Board of Trustees
Academic Affairs Committee
May 1, 2018**

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

Award dollars are up by \$4,366,961 or 16.8% compared to this time last year, with the lion's share of the increase due to our garnering of federal awards. Our request for dollars is also up \$10,102,890 compared to last year. At this point, we are on track for meeting our goal of increasing awards by at least 5%.

Awards and Submissions

| | 7/1/2017 to 3/31/18 | | 7/1/16 to 3/31/17 | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| SUBMISSIONS | Number | Amount | Number | Amount |
| | 312 | \$97,127,565 | 312 | \$107,230,455 |
| AWARDS | Number | Amount | Number | Amount |
| | 181 | \$30,295,743 | 186 | \$25,928,782 |

Selected Highlights

The 2018 Research Excellence Awards were recently awarded. The ***Senior Research Excellence Award goes to Stuart Dischell, Professor of English***. He is the author of *Good Hope Road*, a National Poetry Series Selection, *Evenings & Avenues*, *Dig Safe*, *Backwards Days* and the forthcoming *Children with Enemies*. His poems have appeared in *The Atlantic*, *Agni*, *The New Republic*, *Slate*, *Kenyon Review*, *Ploughshares*, and anthologies including *Essential Poems*, *Hammer and Blaze*, *Pushcart Prize*, and Garrison Keillor's *Good Poems*. A recipient of awards from the

National Endowment for the Arts, the North Carolina Arts Council, and the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, he teaches in the MFA Program in Creative Writing.

The ***Junior Research Excellence Award goes to Dr. Mitch Croatt, Associate Professor and Department Head in Chemistry/Biochemistry.*** His research focuses on the design and development of new reactions that provide core structures of medicinal leads utilizing either novel access to reactive intermediates or unexplored cycloaddition components, including medicinal chemistry projects as well as the conversion of renewable resources into fuels and chemical feedstocks. His previous awards include UNCG's James Y. Joyner Alumni Teaching Excellence Award; the Young Academic Investigator Award from the American Chemical Society's Division of Organic Chemistry, the Candace Bernard and Robert Glickman Dean's Professorship, and a prestigious Career Award from the National Science Foundation.

On April 19th, ***UNC Greensboro and Guilford County were officially recognized as the newest member of the MetroLab Network,*** a network of 37 regional city-university partnerships focused on bringing data, analytics, and innovation to local government. MetroLab Network was launched in September 2015 as part of the White House's Smart Cities Initiative.

MetroLab Network's city/county-university partnerships are relationships in which the university serves as a research and development arm, and the city or county serves as a test-bed for technologies and data-driven approaches. Faculty members and students gain access to real-world laboratories to develop and test tools and programs that utilize information technology, data analytics, sensing, and more. Cities/counties benefit from their technical expertise, leading to solutions that reduce the cost of infrastructure and services, make cities more sustainable and resilient, and improve citizens' quality of life. We were recognized for our innovative application of expertise to issues of health and wellness and community vitality. This is part of UNCG's growing portfolio of big data/informatics/analytics initiatives. We will be NC's 3rd MetroLab along with UNCC/Charlotte and NCSU/Raleigh.

With an investment of resources, the office launched a search for a new position, an Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and Engagement. After a competitive search, we are pleased to announce that ***Dr. Kimberly Littlefield will join the office as the first AVC for Research and Engagement.*** Dr. Littlefield has a Ph.D. in Physiology and Biophysics from the University of Illinois and currently holds the position of Assistant Vice President for Research Communication, Development and Learning at the University of South Alabama where they have an average of \$60 million in funded research annually. Prior to that she served in several leadership positions including

Director of the Center for Cell Dynamics at the University of Washington Friday Harbor Laboratories. Dr. Littlefield will join our team Fall 2018.



Dana Dunn
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor