



**Academic Affairs Committee
April 9, 2019**

Information Item

AAC – 6 Update on Research and Engagement

The Office 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

Awards are tracking ahead of last year by 4.9%. The largest increase thus far this year has been in awards from foundations and from nonprofit organizations. The number of submissions is up but the overall request for dollars is slightly lower. In general, the percentage of faculty seeking external funding is up with good interest by our newest faculty hires.

	7-1-18 to 2-28-19		7-1-17 to 2-28-18	
	Number	Amount	Number	Amount
SUBMISSIONS	322	\$98,316,176	289	\$101,524,397
AWARDS	Number	Amount	Number	Amount
	185	\$27,696,465	165	\$26,383,535

Highlights of Scholarly Excellence

In January, the selection of UNCG’s Junior and Senior Research Excellence Awards were made. This is the university’s highest honor for scholarly productivity. Both honorees have outstanding records as teachers/mentors as well as scholars.

The Junior Research Excellence Award winner is Dr. Risa Applegarth. Dr. Applegarth is an Associate Professor in English and an affiliated faculty member with the Women and Gender Studies program. She has been selected for other awards including UNCG’s Mary Settle Sharp Award for Teaching Excellence (2016) and the College of Arts and Sciences Senior Teaching award (2016), as well as the Conference on College Composition and Communication’s Outstanding Book Award in 2016. Her research and teaching interests include rhetorical history and theory, genre theory, women’s rhetoric, and scientific and professional discourse.

The Senior Research Excellence Award winner is Dr. L. DiAnne Borders, Professor and former Chair of the Counseling and Educational Development department. Dr. Borders holds the Burlington

Industries Excellence Professorship and has been recognized for her teaching and research including the Clinical Supervision Award from the Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (2018), UNCG's Outstanding Director of Graduate Study Award (2018) and the Distinguished Senior Research Scholar Award from the School of Education in 2014. Her career has been dedicated to enhancing the practice of clinical supervision through her research on supervisor training, through her professional leadership as Editor of the Clinical Supervisory and her contributions on multiple taskforces on supervision professional standards. You will recognize Dr. Borders as the UNCG Faculty Marshal and Mace Bearer.

One of our 322 awards this year is *our first major award from the Mellon Foundation*. The award will strengthen and transform humanities education and research for students, faculty, the broader campus and Greensboro communities. Entitled "Transforming Undergraduate Education at a Minority Serving Institution: Integrating Interdisciplinary Research Across the Humanities," the grant funds will be used to reinvent the University's humanities programs in three distinct ways: 1) course redesign to integrate undergraduate research skill development; 2) faculty-student research collaborations focused on interdisciplinary, community-engaged work; and 3) enhanced career preparation and professional development for humanities students. *Dr. Joanne Murphy, Associate Professor of Classical Studies*, serves as the principal investigator on the grant, and will partner with humanities faculty across campus to implement new initiatives. The program will also build on current initiatives of UNCG's Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creativity Office and the Humanities Network and Consortium, and is supported by the Office of Sponsored Programs and the Office of Research and Engagement.

Dr. Christopher Rhea, Associate Professor and Associate Department Chair for Research in the Department of Kinesiology, was awarded a patent for his work related to virtual reality training to enhance physical rehabilitation. More specifically, the invention relates to employing virtual reality platforms to enhance movement, and rehabilitation, extending this methodology to patients with a variety of locomotor disorders due to structural or neurological insults. Dr. Rhea's research has been funded by the NIH, Department of Defense, US Navy, and Women's Football Foundation.



Dana Dunn
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor