



**Academic Affairs Committee
April 1, 2025**

Information Item

AAC – 3 Update on Research and Engagement

UNCG Research and Engagement provides strategic direction and guided support to faculty, research staff and students for research, scholarship and creative endeavors resulting in funded grants, contracts, innovation, and community engagement leading to knowledge production, student experiences, public impact and economic prosperity.

External Funding and Trends

The eight months of the FY25 academic year has seen a strong increase in the dollar amount of submissions relative to FY24 at the same time last year. We have had 255 submissions in the amount of \$165,929,133, relative to \$106,074,995 at the same time last year. This is an increase of 56.4% relative to the previous year at the same time. Awards received are \$49,571,986. Last year, awards were \$45,556,743 during the eight months. This reflects an 8.8% increase in awards relative to the same time last year.

	7-1-24 to 2-28-25		7-1-23 to 02-29-24	
SUBMISSIONS	Number	Amount	Number	Amount
	255	\$ 165,929,133	274	\$ 106,074,995
AWARDS	Number	Amount	Number	Amount
	176	\$ 49,571,986	204	\$ 45,556,743

Impact of Executive Orders on UNCG’s Research Grants

Despite the increase in submission and award values to date, the current changes impacting federal agencies regarding grants and contracts being delayed or canceled, will have significant impact on our final year-end. We expect significant reductions in awards and submissions in the last quarter of FY25, mainly because several programs that have traditionally supported our researchers, have been stopped. If the current trend does not reverse before the end of the fiscal year, we anticipate ending this fiscal year with outcomes close to that of FY 21.

Terminated Grants

UNCG had a grant funded by the Department of Education for a Regional Comprehensive Center for a grant of \$2.26 M/Year for 5 years. We were in month 5. The impact is that we are losing \$10.5 M over the next 5 years. On February 19, 2025, we received a termination notice this award. We currently have 20 individuals working on this grant who are impacted. The PI is Dr. Priscilla Maynor, who is a Researcher in the SERVE Center.

In addition, we received cancellation of three other small grants:

A Grant by the Department of Education on which UNCG was a subaward recipient from the Abt Global LLC, titled *Evaluating programs and strategies to improve postsecondary education access and success: A study of strategies to promote access to dual enrollment: Design and Feasibility*. The amount of this award is \$104,295, and we had already spent \$72,323. The PI is Dr. Julie Edmunds, Director for the Early College Research Center in the UNCG SERVE Center.

A Grant by the Department of Education on which UNCG was a subaward recipient from the Research Triangle Institute, titled *Strengthening and Supporting the Educator Workforce Center*, in the amount of \$499,033 was terminated. Funds we will not receive in future years as a result of this termination for this award is equal to \$399,335. The PI on this award is Dr. Melissa Rice.

A Grant by the Department of Education on which UNCG was a subaward recipient from the Florida State University, titled *Regional Education Laboratory Southeast Center*, in the amount of \$509,725 was terminated. Funds we will not receive in future years as a result of this termination for this award is equal to \$302,306. The PI on this award is Carla Garrett.

New Partnerships and Initiatives

UNCG-UNREAL ENGINE PARTNERSHIP: In February 2025, UNC Greensboro held an event to celebrate an Academic partnership with Epic Games, makers of Unreal Engine 3D computer graphics tool and Fortnite, one of the world's most popular video games. UNCG was chosen as one of just 36 U.S. universities and one of just three in North Carolina. This partnership will provide opportunities for UNCG to integrate Unreal Engine technologies into their research and teaching, with the shared goal of increasing exposure to cutting-edge industry standards and raising the bar for interactive media at the University. The Unreal Academic Partnership is a recognition by Epic Games, the producer of the Unreal Engine, that UNC Greensboro has met a certain level of expertise and capacity with the technology to be authorized as an Unreal Academic Partner, a recognition that we have integrated their technology into our university in a few ways.

BRIGHT INSTITUTE: The BRIGHT Institute launched on March 6, 2025 and held a Critical Materials Symposium at UNCG to bring together experts from industry, academia, and the government to discuss challenges and opportunities in materials and technological advances. Topics included critical materials supply chains, battery technology innovations, workforce development, related policy issues, and more. Evan Leon, senior project manager at Toyota Tsusho America, Inc., delivered a keynote address. Dr. Bin Li, senior scientist in the Electrification and Energy Infrastructures Division at Oak Ridge National Laboratory spoke about Performance Improvement of Li Metal Batteries through Rational Materials and Operation Design. Panels of industry and academic experts discussed critical-materials supply chain challenges and workforce needs for the energy economic sector.



J. Alan Boyette
Provost & Executive Vice Chancellor



UNC
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UNCG
Research and Engagement

Academic Affairs Committee
Board of Trustees
April 1, 2025

Grant Submissions and Awards

07/01/24 - 02/28/25	FY24	FY25	Difference
Submission Numbers	274	255	-20
Submission Amount	\$106,074,994.82	\$158,730,233.39	\$ 52,655,238.57
Award Numbers	204	177	-27
Award Amount	\$ 45,556,743.38	\$ 49,923,915.57	\$ 4,367,172.19

Projections of FY 2025

- As of 2/28/2025, funded awards were up by 8.8%, while funding for submissions are up by 49%.
- Due to several changes in the federal funding landscape for research funding, we have seen the lowest amounts in funding since 2018 for February and March 2025.
- Given these changes, we project that we will end at a performance for FY 2025 similar to that in FY 2022:
 - Awards FY22:** \$ 51,958,820 (336)
 - Submissions FY22:** \$ 182,490,034 (402)
- These numbers will impact our research expenditures for FY26 and FY27

Recent Modifications/Terminations in Awarded Grants to UNCG

Sponsor	Title	Original Award Total
Abt Global LLC (Prime DOED)	Evaluating Programs and Strategies to Improve Postsecondary Education Access and Success	\$104,295
US Department of Education (DOED)	Region 5 Comprehensive Center	\$11,314,749
Research Triangle Institute (RTI International) (DOED Flow-thru)	Strengthening and Supporting the Educator Workforce Center	\$499,033
Florida State - DOED Flow-thru	Regional Education Laboratory Southeast	\$509,725
Wake Forest University (Prime NIH)	Harnessing the power of peer navigation and mHealth to reduce health disparities in Appalachia	\$246,417
Florida State University	Adolescent Medicine Trials Network for HIV/AIDS Interventions (ATN) Scientific Leadership Center	\$248,801
National Institutes of Health	UNC-Greensboro U-RISE: Engage, Sustain, and Prepare Future PhD Biomedical Scientists	\$1,335,205
Department of Homeland Security	Triad Naturalization Application and Education Services Collaborative	\$300,000

Navigating a Changing Research Funding Landscape

Friday, April 4, 2025:

*Positioning yourself for success by broadening
your funding options*

Workshop

Monday, April 7, 2025

*Best Practices in Acquiring and Executing
Federal Contracts*

Workshop

Monday, April 7, 2025

*Chancellor's Initiative for Transformative
Research*

Informational Session



**Dr. Victor
McRary,**
*Vice Chair of the
National Science
Board*

UNCG at Capitol Hill – March 18-19, 2025



**Senator
Ted Budd**



**Congressman
Addison
McDowell
*NC 6th District***



**Congressman
Richard Hudson
*NC 9th District***



**Congressman
Pat Harrigan
*NC 10th District***

Defense Science, Technology and Security through the UNCG **Institute for the Convergence of Optimizing Methods for Military Advances and National Defense (COMMAND)**

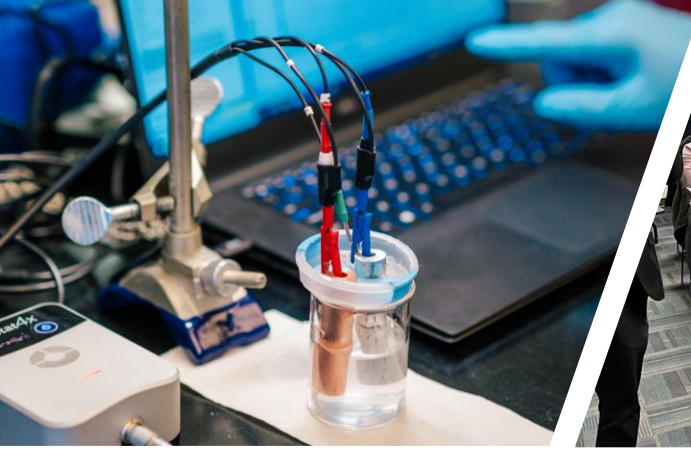
**#1
Largest Military Base in
the World at Fort
Liberty**

**20K
Active Military become
Civilian workers
Annually**

**Large number of
companies that support
defense**

**Launch Event:
May 1, 2025**





LAUNCH OF THE BRIGHT INSTITUTE MARCH 6TH, 2025



The image shows the White House in Washington, D.C., with a semi-transparent American flag overlay. The flag's stars and stripes are visible in the background. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Immediate Measures to Increase American Mineral Production

Executive Orders
March 20, 2025

Future Directions for the
Current Administration



RESEARCH CON 2025

Collaboration | Outreach | Networking

April 3 - 10, 2025



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Office of
Research and Engagement

Thank you