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UNH Research Funding Jumps 30 Percent to \$78 Million

By [Michelle Gregoire](#)
UNH News Bureau

October 20, 2000

DURHAM, N.H. – Funding for sponsored research at the University of New Hampshire continues to skyrocket, climbing 30 percent in the last fiscal year to top \$78 million, up from \$60 million in FY99. It was UNH's largest single-year growth in external funding, according to Kathy Cataneo, executive director of the Office of Sponsored Research.

Federally sponsored projects brought in about \$54.6 million, followed by \$8.7 million for state-sponsored projects, \$6.5 million for business and industry contracts, \$5.1 million for grants from non-profit sponsors and \$3.1 million for collaborative efforts with other universities, she says.

Donald Sundberg, vice president for research and public service, says, "Our continued growth in sponsored research speaks to the quality of our faculty, whose innovative ideas and efforts have led to the creation of new cooperative institutes. The University of New Hampshire is rising to national prominence in a number of areas due to the development of collaborative research endeavors."

He adds, "These programs provide support not only for our efforts but for the advancement of research at other universities and government agencies. As an added benefit, our faculty are exchanging ideas and information with an ever-expanding network of colleagues."

The largest sponsor of research at UNH is the U.S. Department of Commerce (\$17 million in FY00), which supports UNH's ongoing Sea Grant, open-ocean aquaculture, and coastal and estuarine environmental technology programs. The Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is also a partner with UNH in the new Joint Hydrographic Center, which employs seafloor mapping technologies to produce data useful in fisheries habitat, environmental studies, mining studies, offshore engineering and hazard mapping studies.

Other new programs include:

- The New England Climate Initiative: A partnership with Plymouth State College and the Mt. Washington Observatory to develop a model for understanding impacts on regional climate. Funded by NOAA (\$1.7 million).
- The Consolidated Advanced Technologies Laboratory (CATLAB): A collaborative effort with the New Hampshire Department of Safety to improve communications and data management systems for law enforcement. Funded by the U.S. Department of Justice (\$3.5 million).
- The Bedrock Bioremediation Center (\$780,000) and the Small Systems Water Treatment Technology Center (\$500,000), funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- The Manufacturing Management Assistance Program, funded by the U.S. Small Business Association (\$500,000).

Partnerships with state agencies brought in more support for research than in any prior year, says Cataneo. Examples include a \$386,000 study of the Hampton/Seabrook Harbor, funded by the New Hampshire Port Authority, and an award of \$750,000 from the state Department of Health and Human Services, the Governor's Office and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, to promote universal health care access for children.

Also, state and federal departments of transportation made a new combined award of \$1 million for UNH's Crash Location Improvement Program.

"Another area of growth was an additional \$2.6 million in business and industry contracts, primarily attributed to a higher number of consortium members for the Interoperability Lab, which provides cutting-edge research and technology support to industry leaders," says Cataneo.

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