

Impacts of the Federal Indirect Cost Program Grant at University of Guelph: 2014-15

- The ICP has enabled the University to maximize the implementation and operations of all aspects of major facilities (University's science complex building and the Biodiversity Institute) - without it we would have had to defer commissioning of portions of the research space, severely limiting our ability to compete for, and conduct, critical research particularly in the physical, biological and engineering sciences areas.
- The ICP grant has made it possible for the University to continue to enhance our capacity, security and reliability of our communications and data transfer and storage services to researchers. In the grant's absence, we could not invest in this technology and related support services and second, over time we would see a major deterioration of communication and data transmission and storage capacities.
- The University's library has been able to maintain first class positioning in spite of constant inflationary challenges, as a result of the on-going investment of the ICP in maintaining research support services in the library.
- In 2014-15, we issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) to seek responses from vendors who specialize in the provision of electronic research administration and information management systems. Vendors' responses were evaluated and the university is currently negotiating an agreement with the top-ranked vendor. In addition, the Office of Research conducted a search for a project manager to lead the implementation of the new electronic system.
- The monthly seminar series for faculty focused on topics in support of their research programs was continued. Topics included advice to new researchers on how to get started, grant writing tips, crowd funding for research, knowledge mobilization, patenting etc. In addition, a 10 week non-credit research and project management course was offered by the Office of Research to graduate students. The Office of Research coordinated CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC grant writing workshops for both new and established faculty. **New this year was a workshop on the NSERC Collaborative Research and Development program.**
- In 2014-15, a special research magazine edition was released in celebration of the University's 50th anniversary. It highlighted the top 50 University research discoveries in the past 50 years. **New in 2014-15 was the hosting of a research panel event in downtown Guelph to communicate interesting research programs to the public;** three University professors presented their research programs/findings at the event. The University plans to continue this form of public engagement in research in 2015-16.
- Numerous initiatives were moved forward including the release of an enhanced website with improved navigation, evaluation of the request for proposal to acquire and implement an electronic research administration and information management system and contract negotiations with the top-ranked vendor, completion and dissemination of new Responsible Conduct of Research policy, delivery of new workshops such as revised Tri-Council grant writing workshops, NSERC CRD workshop, planning for a workshop on Ontario Centres of Excellence, etc.
- The search for a new Vice-President Research was also a key focus in 2014-15.
- In 2014-15, significant support was required for the development of our Canada First Research Excellence Fund proposal (Competition #1). The establishment of Project Managers who report

through the Office of Research has been a significant benefit to large research programs and their ability to attract further funding and to better manage the resources. The Office of Research made investments to aid the Biodiversity Institute of Ontario (BIO) in creating a sustainable future, from funding to governance. A new CEO (new position) has joined the University to lead the development of a strategic plan for the Institute; a strategic plan that addresses the long term sustainability of the Institute.

- Each Industry Liaison Officer is expected to return a 7.5x value by impacting industry sponsorship worth ~7.5x the value of their salary. The Technology Transfer team returned \$2.31M in royalties to the University in 2014-15. The majority of these returns are distributed to inventors, partners, or reinvested in new technologies through patents.
- Last year the UofG filed 41 patent applications and received 14 issued patents.