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Funding for UNH Research Hits \$85.8 Million

By [Lori Gula](#)
UNH News Bureau
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DURHAM, N.H. -- Research funding at the University of New Hampshire increased 4.8 percent, or \$3.9 million, to \$85.8 million last year. Over the last four years, research funding at the university has increased by \$25.8 million, or 43 percent.

"Research at UNH is vibrant and is being noticed by people throughout the country. This visibility is reflected in requests from professionals wanting to join our faculty and staff, and in the funding agencies' recognition of our exceptional strength in several key areas," says Ann Weaver Hart, UNH president.

Of the \$85.8 million in competitive awards, \$61.6 million (71.8 percent) was direct funding from federal sponsors, \$8.6 million (10 percent) was from state agencies, \$8.1 million (9.4 percent) from business and industry contracts, \$3.6 million (4.2 percent) for collaborative efforts (mostly federally-sourced) with other U.S. universities and colleges, \$3.2 million (3.8 percent) from nonprofit sponsors, and \$700,000 was from local government, other state government and multinational sponsors.

"Research at this level cannot be done without substantial financial resources. Expenditure of these funds is largely on salaries earned by faculty, staff and students (both graduate and undergraduate) and thus these funds quickly find their way into the local and regional economies," says Donald Sundberg, vice president for research and public service. "At more than \$80 million a year, this is an important contribution made possible by the good ideas of UNH faculty and staff. This is truly an entrepreneurial endeavor."

The U.S. Department of Commerce remained the largest sponsor of UNH programs, with \$24.9 million, or 29 percent, supporting the following major programs:

- Atmospheric Investigation, Regional Mapping, Analysis and Prediction (AIRMAP)
- Cooperative Institute for Coastal and Estuarine Environmental Technology (CICEET)
- Cooperative Institute for Northeast Mariculture (CINEMAR)
- Joint Hydrographic Center
- Northeast Consortium (cooperative research projects involving commercial fisherman and vessels)
- Open Ocean Aquaculture
- New Hampshire Sea Grant

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) again was the university's second-largest sponsor, with \$8.5 million, or 10 percent of total research funding. Most of the NASA funding supports projects in UNH's Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans, and Space (EOS), and includes the following large projects:

- N.H. Space Grant Consortium
- Soil biogeochemistry of carbon, nutrients, and trace gas
- STEREO in situ magnetic fields, ions and composition investigations
- Changes in biogeochemical systems
- Cluster Electron Drift Instrument (EDI)
- Development of CZT strip detectors

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services moved into third place with nearly \$6 million in awards, up from \$3.4 million last year. The increase is primarily due to a new award of nearly \$2 million to establish the Center for Structural Biology, a Biomedical Research Infrastructure Network (BRIN) award that involves collaborations with other USNH institutions and Dartmouth College.

The U.S. Department of Justice awarded UNH \$5.1 million. The department continued its support for the UNH Center for Research on Crimes Against Children, as well as for CATLAB -- Consolidated Advanced

Technologies for Law Enforcement.

Funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency more than doubled to \$2.4 million in 2002, in large measure to continue support for the Bedrock Bioremediation Center and to initiate support for the New England Regional Small Water Supply Technical Assistance Center.

Funding from New Hampshire state agency partners remained at the same level as in 2001, with the university's largest state sponsor the N.H. Department of Health & Human Services. Health and Human Services provides key support for the long-standing Institute on Disability, and the fairly new N.H. Institute for Health Policy and Practice. Through these two institutes, faculty and staff have successfully delivered highly valuable services of direct import to the citizens of our state.

Awards from business and industry sponsors increased about 24 percent over 2001, as did subcontracts from other universities and colleges (20 percent).

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