



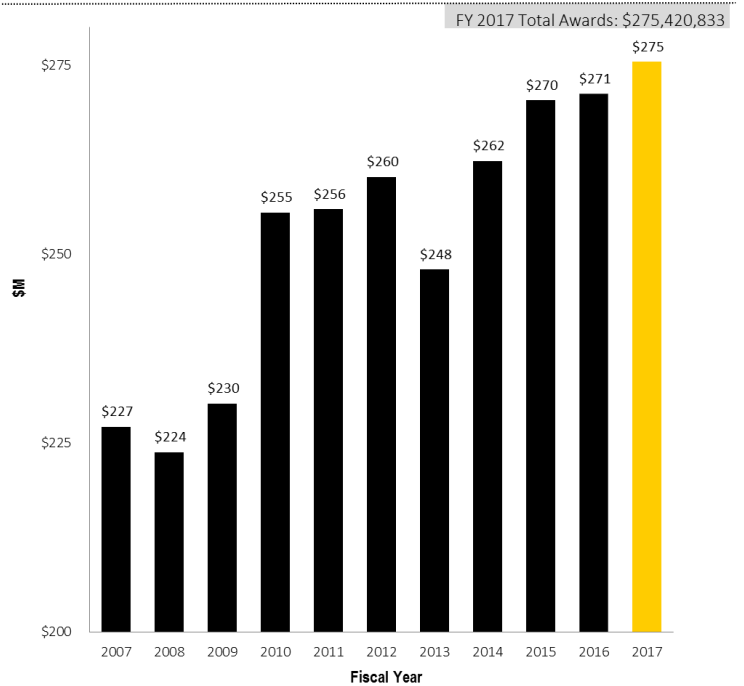
# Office of Research and Innovation

## FY 2017 Research Highlights

FY 2017 marks an all-time institutional high in external funding at Virginia Commonwealth University. Combined awards for sponsored programs and gifts directed towards research activity totaled more than \$275 million in FY 2017. VCU's ongoing commitments to interdisciplinary approaches, faculty expertise, and the University's investment in research infrastructure have translated into record levels of sponsored program awards for nine out of the past ten years.

- VCU has been ranked as a top 100 research university based on federal research expenditures by the National Science Foundation (NSF) for six consecutive years. We are currently ranked 97th nationally in total R&D expenditures and 81st in federal R & D expenditures.
- The Carnegie Foundation has designated VCU as a Doctoral University: Highest Research Activity, the highest ranking afforded by the Foundation. Carnegie also placed the University in the status category of Community Engaged, making it among just 28 public research institutions that enjoy both accolades.
- VCU has 36 research-related institutes and centers, including the highly-regarded Virginia Institute for Psychiatric and Behavioral Genetics, Institute for Drug and Alcohol Studies, the C. Kenneth and Dianne Wright Center for Clinical and Translational Research and the VCU Massey Cancer Center, which has just renewed its National Cancer Institute designation for the 42<sup>nd</sup> year.
- The majority of VCU's extramural funding in FY 2017 came from federal sources (\$153 million). In addition to funding from the National Institutes of Health (\$77.9 million), there was a significant increase in federal, non-NIH awards (49% of total federal awards v. 40% in FY 2016). Increased funding from the National Science Foundation and the Departments of Education, Justice and Defense illustrates the breadth, depth and competitiveness of VCU's research enterprise. Private awards to VCU totaled more than \$54 million.
- VCU's research excellence is buoyed by the commitment to interdisciplinary approaches, with particular strengths in the areas of neuroscience; cancer; substance abuse and addiction, the human microbiome; and nanoscience, nanomedicine, and nanotechnology.
- VCU holds four active National Institutes of Health-funded research training grants aimed at increasing the University's potential to make a positive impact on the number of underrepresented minority biomedical research scientists.
- In FY 2017 VCU researchers filed 165 patents, with 22 issued. VCU also received \$6.8 million in licensing revenues. This is due to VCU's Innovation Gateway, which is instrumental in helping VCU to build strategic industry collaborations and regional partnerships, and supporting entrepreneurship and new venture creation.
- In addition, FY 2018 has launched with an award of \$25 million from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to the VCU "Medicines for All" project housed in the School of Engineering. This is the second round of funding for the project from the Foundation and will be used to fund continued research aimed at lowering the cost of life-saving drugs, making it less expensive to fight AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and sleeping sickness. The funding will also be used to create a "Medicines for All" Institute in Richmond.

**VCU Sponsored Program Awards  
FY 2007-2017**



**VCU Sponsored Program Awards by Source  
FY 2017**

