



# Board of Trustees

Research and Innovation,  
Legal and Legislative Affairs  
Committee

*February 7, 2019*

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY**  
**Research and Innovation, Legal and Legislative Affairs Committee**  
**11:30 a.m. – Thursday – February 7, 2019**  
**Board of Trustees Room**  
**315 Altgeld Hall**

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Verification of Quorum and Appropriate Notification of Public Meeting
3. Meeting Agenda Approval..... *Action*..... i
4. Review and Approval of Minutes of November 15, 2018..... *Action*..... 1
5. Chair's Comments/Announcements
6. Public Comment\*
7. University Reports
  - a. State Legislative Report..... *Information*..... 13
  - b. Federal Legislative Report..... *Information*..... 15
  - c. Sponsored Programs Administration Quarterly Report..... *Information*..... 18
  - d. NICCS Update ..... *Information*..... 32
  - e. Faculty Artistry Presentation ..... *Information*..... 34
8. Other Matters
9. Next Meeting Date
10. Adjournment

\*Individuals wishing to make an appearance before the Board should consult the [Bylaws of the Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University](#), Article II, Section 4 – *Appearances before the Board*. Appearance request forms can be completed [online](#) in advance of the meeting or will be available in the Board Room the day of the meeting. For more information contact Chelsea Duis, cfrost1@niu.edu, Recording Secretary to the Board of Trustees, Altgeld Hall 300, DeKalb, IL 60115, 815-753-1273.

**Anyone needing special accommodations to participate in the NIU Board of Trustees meetings should contact Chelsea Duis, cfrost1@niu.edu or (815) 753-1273, as soon as possible.**

Minutes of the  
**NIU Board of Trustees**  
**Research and Innovation, Legal and Legislative Affairs Committee**  
**November 15, 2018**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 11:58 a.m. by Chair John Butler in the Board of Trustees Room, 315 Altgeld Hall. Recording Secretary Chelsea Duis conducted a roll call. Members present were Trustee Dennis Barsema, Trustee Nathan Hays, Trustee Bob Pritchard, Trustee Tim Struthers (arrived 12:00 PM), Trustee Eric Wasowicz, Board Chair Wheeler Coleman, and Committee Chair John Butler. Also present were Committee Liaison and Vice President for Research and Innovation Partnerships Gerald Blazey, President Lisa Freeman, Acting General Counsel Greg Brady, Board Liaison Matt Streb, Vice President for Administration and Finance Sarah McGill, and UAC representatives Therese Arado and Cathy Doederlein.

**2. VERIFICATION OF QUORUM AND APPROPRIATE NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

General Counsel Brady indicated the appropriate notification of the meeting had been provided pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Mr. Brady also advised that a quorum was present.

**3. MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL**

Chair John Butler asked for a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Trustee Coleman so moved and Trustee Wasowicz seconded. The motion was approved.

**4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 16, 2018**

Chair John Butler asked for a motion to approve the minutes of August 16, 2018. Trustee Wasowicz so moved and Trustee Coleman seconded. The motion passed.

**5. CHAIR'S COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

I have just a couple quick things to say, began Chair Butler. I just want to point out that this Committee is doing some great work and that has a great deal to do with the fact that we are overseeing a function of the institution that's very well managed, and we've seen some indication of that in the last few months. You all know that we have developed a strategic vision for Research and Innovation Partnerships. We've seen in FY18 reports, as well as news media coverage, of our spike in research funding; a twenty-six percent spike in FY18. Congratulations to you and your team Dr. Blazey. Many of us were present at the press conference with the University of Illinois leadership celebrating the creation of the Northern Illinois Center for Community Sustainability, part of the Discovery Partnerships Institute. Congratulations. And, this is not a good news item, what I'm about to say, but we're also seeing an unprecedented amount of climate change-related crisis all over the country, and so it's a good time to be doing some of the research and work under these efforts. We should all feel very relevant and timely today as we execute our duties.

We have with us the UAC representative Therese Arado; and Cathy Doederlein is here, even though she was promising to leave earlier. Do either of you have any remarks?

UAC Representative Therese Arado said, thank you Trustee Butler. Cathy just could not bear to leave, she's enjoying her morning so much. Since this is the committee on research and innovation, I just want to publicly recognize our faculty because, while we don't always hear the names and the activities associated with so much of what's going on, research and innovative-wise is supported by the incredible work of the faculty at NIU, and their work is integral to success, along with all the other people who are also working behind the scenes to move forward these projects.

While it is hard to believe we're heading into the final weeks of the semester, I also want to recognize the faculty who are right now working tirelessly to ensure the academic and personal success of their students as they come to a rather stressful time in their semesters; and so I just wanted to recognize publicly that they are all out there doing their best to enhance our students' academic experience as well as enrich their lives in general. Thank you.

## **6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Acting General Counsel Brady indicated that there were no requests for public comment.

## **7. UNIVERSITY RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Action Item 7.a. – Northern Illinois Center for Community Sustainability (NICCS)**

Chair John Butler asked that Vice President for Research and Innovation Partnerships, Dr. Jerry Blazey, would present the University Recommendation Item 7.a.

Vice President Blazey thanked Chair John Butler for the kind comments and congratulations earlier. As always, I think it really belongs to the faculty and staff whose energy and initiative is responsible for the increase in research activity this year. I'd also like to thank the staff in the Division because they are tireless in support of the faculty as we move forward with the research programs. Agenda item 7.a. seeks the Board's endorsement to move forward with the Northern Illinois Center for Community Sustainability, otherwise known as the acronym NICCS. As presented at past board meetings, NICCS is the hub of the Illinois Innovation Network or IIN. Our initiative will focus on two of the four IIN themes; food, agriculture, environment, and water; and, as you pointed out earlier, these are extremely timely as the environment is changing. Partnerships with the University of Illinois' College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences, government agencies, and the private sector NICCS will create new knowledge, inform policy making, and inspire action in three interrelated areas of food systems innovation, water resources stewardship and development, and climate change adaptation. NICCS will occupy an approximately 30,000 square foot research facility on the west campus. And the west campus site is a 20-acre plot just to the northwest of the Convocation Center. The facility envisions to include a center core with offices for faculty, staff, and graduate students; state-of-the-art classrooms for on-site and off-site instruction; collaboration space and conference rooms. Three wings will comprise research and innovation labs and a high bay for equipment storage and instrument storage and construction. Design efforts are anticipated to be initiated in 2019 with construction activities in 2020 and 2021. The total cost of the initial facility will be just under \$23 million, of which \$15 million is requested from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO), and \$7.9 million will be provided by NIU. The funds from DCEO are limited to capital funds and will be used for A&E and construction. NIU funds include \$5 million for instrumentation and equipment and a \$2.9 million in-kind contribution primarily for land and site improvements. I'll just take a few minutes to mention the status of the IIN and Discovery Partners Institute. As President Freeman and I learned earlier this week at a status report to the Higher Education Committee, the U of I system is moving rapidly on the initiative with facilities already up and running in downtown Chicago and their organizational structure is well along. DCEO has the final proposal and we still expect initial funding to arrive very soon in this fiscal year. So therefore, it's timely to request authority to proceed with this grant opportunity. Approval for the execution of the required design, construction, and related expenditures to establish NICCS will be requested at future meetings of the Board of Trustees. Formally then, the University recommends that the Research and Innovation, Legal and Legislative Affairs Committee endorse this request and ask that the president forward it by means of the President's Report to the Board of Trustees for approval at its meeting on December 6, 2018.

Chair Butler thanked Dr. Blazey and asked for a motion to that effect. Trustee Wasowicz so moved and Trustee Barsema seconded.

Trustee Wasowicz asked, I have a question about what you said earlier about funding; \$15 million from DCEO and then \$5 million from us; but the total is \$22.9, so where's the other \$2.9 million coming from?

Vice President Blazey answered yes, it's just in-kind in land, parking and some other physical space we'll be accessing.

Eric Wasowicz replied, okay and then the five million that we're on the hook for, we're looking at how to raise that then?

Vice President Blazey answered, we will be spreading that over the probably four years, so it's \$1.25 million in equipment. Some of that will come out of the existing equipment funds at RIPS and some of that we will have to redirect other resources or find other sources of revenue.

Tim Struthers began, I have a series of questions. First, this entity - NICCS - is simply a division of the university. This is not a separate entity in any situation?

Vice President Blazey said yes, that's correct.

Tim Struthers asked, with respect to the operating cost of this unit, I think would be fair to call it, I'd feel more comfortable if I had some sense of what we thought.

Vice President Blazey said, yes, it's a good question and it's one we're grappling with right now. Some of it will be reorganization and redirection of existing efforts particularly in the water resources and the climate change adaptation. There likely will need to be new operating expenses associated with the food systems innovation. But again, we're planning on leveraging our partnerships with the U of I system itself. I will also say that I think many of these research areas have high potential for donor activity.

President Freeman added, I would say that, in the spirit of Program Prioritization, which lives on beyond the process, we have a formal process for how we allocate faculty hires and participation in key university initiatives, support of our research clusters, teaching curriculum that is attractive to students, that will enhance enrollment, are all things that advance a faculty hiring request; and so you know, as faculty turn over, those lines will be allocated to things that pass the test, and we would expect this to be competitive in that context.

Trustee Struthers responded, that helps. I realize we have no idea and we'd just be guessing as to what this might look like fully staffed, but I wish we weren't on the record to some degree, so, to minimize your risk a little bit, but if we fast forward five years from now, how many folks do you think might be working in this division?

Vice President Blazey responded, I think the best model is looking at our Institute for Environment Sustainability and Energy; there's probably, I would guess, 30 to 40 faculty involved in that, and I think they would have greater and lesser degrees of presence in the facility. I think that would be augmented by additional faculty. I think faculty I would say roughly fortyish would be involved and might increase as the programs become more successful.

President Freeman added, one of the key strategies whenever you build a facility like this and form a Center is to think about shell space, to think about who you could attract to the building. That would complement the educational mission, create some partnerships that would benefit students and faculty, but also a revenue stream, and those are the things we're still grappling with because it's early in the process and the opportunities haven't been identified, embedded fully.

Trustee Struthers continued, I absolutely get that this is the first step in the process and there's so much to be determined. When this was announced, which is to me incredibly great, positive,

encouraging news for the university, for sure. The only question that I had myself, and got quite a bit of, is the west campus. And, in an environment that we should have, and I think we do have, a fair amount of access capacity in the core campus itself, and I am a huge promoter of density and vibrancy and such, in the connection to the town; that would have been an ideal position. I understand there are constraints, but if we might just air that out a little bit and just talk about why the need to go west.

Vice President Blazey responded, there are a lot of ways I could approach that. First, I will state that I believe the University is badly in need of new, modern laboratory infrastructure. Some of our buildings where our research laboratory and research-intensive departments are located, shouldn't be located there. This is an opportunity to really enhance the attractiveness of the campus to faculty and students by having modern state-of-the-art laboratories. That's one answer. And, another answer is that we're looking seriously, and in detail, on a partnership with the...

President Freeman answered, DeKalb Food and Education Center.

Vice President Blazey continued, it will be located north of the campus along Annie Glidden and having the two institutions, or the two entities, in close proximity offers a lot of synergy and I think we'll be able to leverage the efforts very effectively.

President Freeman added, to build on that, we're in conversations to make one plus one equal three, so that the pieces of NICCS as envisioned that would do better near a population center. That would create synergy with things that would help community revitalization in the Annie Glidden North neighborhood. We are looking at a partnership strategy to put some of those things there to take things like greenhouses that require more space and maybe a little more privacy and protection and easier in and out for trucks to load things. For both of those entities maybe putting on the west campus. It's still preliminary, but we're very committed to working with community partners and community-based organizations to make sure that the maximum benefit to DeKalb and to the University is achieved through partnerships associated with the center.

Trustee Struthers replied, thank you and the last question would be, given that discussion and just the context of the overall campus and the finance piece of it, will this touch the finance committee? Will that capital expenditure and such go through that committee as well?

Vice President Blazey answered, yes. Further actions will go through the appropriate channels and will involve the Division of Finance and Facilities and items will be brought before the Board as needed.

Trustee Struthers added, I think that just puts the lens on the broader capital plan, the campus plan, the community, all of that stuff rolls into that. I get this is the science piece and the academic piece to a larger degree.

Vice President Blazey continued, we envision when there are programmatic aspects they will be brought to this Committee, and when there's facility and finance activities, they'll be brought to the appropriate committees.

President Freeman added, if there are curricular pieces they'll go to AASAP Committee.

Trustee Struthers said one last question: there's a piece of this that has engineering attached to the cost. If we start to spend some money, I realize we'll approve this in December, the Board will, if we start to spend some money on engineering I just want to be sure we don't lock ourselves into that specific site at that time before we make any final decisions.

Vice President Blazey responded, that's correct. That is part of the reason we engaged an architectural and engineering firm.

Chair Butler began, if I could comment briefly about the reason why this matter is before this Committee right now as an Action Item. Our thinking was we had a press conference on campus. Some trustees were present for that. I think we can all agree that this was a great thing to get – to become a partner with the U of I for this project and to receive these funds; but, I felt very strongly that the Board needs to put its arms around this project as a group, particularly because the institution is going to begin a process of moving these pieces forward and I think they need to have the authority of the Board working with them in that process. It's too early now to have the kind of items that go before the finance committee, but it isn't too early for us to say, as a board, we embrace this project and we want our leaders to move forward and make this happen.

Trustee Barsema added, I'm sorry, I might have missed it because the conversation was going in that direction, but what's the time frame of when we can expect an operating budget?

Vice President Blazey answered, we're starting to stand up our internal structure to address that issue as well as the programmatic issues, and I think that we will need six months or so to really come to grips with that.

Trustee Barsema, okay so sometime the middle of next year?

Vice President Blazey, I think that would be achievable.

Trustee Barsema continued, I have a second question: so there's been some discussion, and I've had a couple of questions of folks that have come to me, that with the change in administration in the state, that our governor-elect has made some comments that he doesn't know if he is in support of the IIN, and so I know you've been doing some research on that Jerry. What comments do you have in terms of, is there any risk that the new administration in the state of Illinois could put a stop to this, or somehow slow it down?

Vice President Blazey replied, the governor-elect was asked a very specific question: was he in favor of the then-governor's IIN. That's not quite the same as 'are you in favor of IIN'. That is the view that the U of I leadership is taking, that they're very optimistic. They believe that the governor-elect will be in favor of it, but there was one major concern the governor-elect expressed, that the initial claim that there would be matching funds available for INN/DPI had evaporated at the time that legislation was passed. Both U or I and we have been very careful to try to maximize the matching funds that are available for the initial \$500 million that was approved. U of I has not reached \$290 million and they expect that that's going to exceed that number easily. We're, as you can see, at \$7 million and we believe, and the U of I also believe that the governor-elect's primary concern has been addressed. I think that, at this point in time, all the signals are that we should proceed, and I think frankly we have time ourselves to mitigate the risk, if there is any risk associated with it.

Chair Butler asked for a vote and the motion passed.

## **8. UNIVERSITY REPORTS**

### **Information Item 8.a. – State Legislative Update**

Chair Butler asked that Dr. Blazey address the items in the University Report, beginning with State Legislative matters.

Vice President Blazey began, as we're through a very pitched and exciting election season, we'll have two reports, one on the state level. It won't be just about the election season, but cover a broad range of issues downstate. We'll also have a report on the federal situation and then we'll follow up with a report by Karinne Bredberg on our IP portfolio which was an explicit request at the last RILLA meeting. Dr. Streb will give the state report and I'll turn it over to you.

Dr. Streb began, Trustees, you have a very detailed written report in your materials. I'm happy, given the time, just to answer questions if you want, or I can walk through the presentation. I'm happy to do whatever you would prefer to do.

Trustee Coleman asked, do you want to talk about the election?

Dr. Streb, I never would pass up an opportunity to talk about elections. It's not a surprise that we have a new governor-elect. The Democrats swept all state-wide offices, which was also not a surprise. Interestingly many of you may have seen already that we had somebody who has won the comptrollers race who is now running for the mayor of Chicago, which is also not a surprise. So there wasn't really a lot of surprises from the state-wide perspective. At the state legislative level, Democrats picked up two seats in the Senate. There's still one seat that is not determined yet, and, in the House, they picked up six seats, so they're now at 73. There are actually two seats that haven't been called, one of which is separated by two votes at the last time I saw the vote count. What's important for those two things is that that gives the Democrats a super majority now in both houses. You might say, 'well they have a Democratic governor why would that be important because usually, if you've got a governor of the other party, it's important to have enough votes to override a governor's veto.' In theory Democrats in the legislature and the governor should agree, and so why would you need that? Well, what was governor-elect Pritzker's issue that he ran on in the election? It was the graduated income tax. He can't do that on his own. He needs a super majority of Democrats on board to pass that because it's got to be a constitutional amendment. It will be interesting to see what happens there. Locally, Jeff Keicher was elected. He will represent the 70<sup>th</sup> District replacing Trustee Pritchard. Dave Severson, who is our senator, was reelected as well representing the 35<sup>th</sup> District. He ran unopposed. We did have three new NIU alums who were elected into the legislature as well, so we're excited about that. And just a few minutes ago we found out that one of the newly elected senators has a son who is an alum at NIU, which I thought was kind of interesting. If you think about Governor-elect Pritzker and his higher education agenda, he talked about growing the globally competitive workforce in Illinois, concerned particularly with three areas: increasing college affordability, keeping Illinois students in the state. I've said many, many times there's nothing really positive that came out of the budget impasse. The only little glimmer of positivity that you could argue came out of the budget impasse was it put a focus on higher education, finally, and it really became the focus because students were leaving the state at such a great rate. And third, expanding economic opportunity and promoting innovation; and this goes to what

Vice President Blazey was saying earlier about Governor-elect Pritzker, that he certainly has a very similar view on economic opportunity, innovation, entrepreneurship as the previous governor did. Specifically, what has he talked about? Well I think good things, from a university perspective, if he's able to carry these things out. One, he wants to increase the MAP program by 50% and increase the maximum MAP award awarded for each student. He wants to go back to restore funding for public universities to pre-Rauner administration levels. If that's the case that would put us back at about fiscal '15 where we'd be at about \$91 million. We received \$83 million this past year. So that would be a positive if he's able to do that. He wants to enact a common application. That's something the university has supported, the higher education working group that Trustee Pritchard sat on when he was in the legislature looked at that. It's something that we weren't able to move forward as a piece of legislation yet, largely because of the opposition of the University of Illinois. We're hoping that maybe there's still an opportunity to more something there. They're concerned about losing their brand and their control over their admissions process. As so we'll see how this all plays out. I think those are positive things. Those are three things that if he was able to do I think would be very, very beneficial to the university. All of you know that we're in veto session right now. We'll be in veto session today, very short day, take off next week, and then the following week they'll have three more days of the veto session. The question is,



what's going on in veto session, and from a higher education perspective the answer is not much. Yesterday the legislature overrode 39 of Governor Rauner's vetoes which is a pretty large number in many respects. I should be clear that that's not 39 total bills that were overridden; that was several in the senate and several in the house, and both bodies have to override the veto. But there has been some activity. There has been some question about how much is going to be put forward because maybe Democrats will just say, you know what, we're going to wait until the new legislative session and pass the bills that we passed and let Pritzker sign them into law and get some victories. So, we're monitoring that as things happen, but it's been a pretty quiet week so far. Going forward, I think the issues that you're going to see would be the same issues that we've been talking about for the last several years. It will come back to accessibility and affordability. You're going to see performance-based funding come up again and performance metrics in terms of university funding. You're going to see a push again by community colleges to try to get a four-year degree. So, there's a variety of different issues that we've been working on and dealing with in the past. The other thing I think that I'm hopeful we'll be able to get, and this is something that may even come up in the veto session, is an Aim High trailer bill. Many of you remember we had the Aim High bill. We talked about that previously, which you know we have about \$5.5 million now in additional scholarship money to give to our students. One of the concerns that NIU has expressed with that bill is that it's got to be spent all in one year. What we have is a huge bump in one year, potentially, and then how do you sustain that going forward? We've asked that the bill be rewritten to allow us to keep the money that we don't spend this year, so we can spread it out over a longer period. There seems to be some support among the higher education working group for that. We're hoping that that might be able to be pushed and that's something that we'll keep monitoring. With that, I'll turn it over to any questions that any of you have.

Trustee Coleman asked about capital expenditures, have you been hearing much about a massive capital bill?

Matt Streb responded, there has been some discussion about some sort of a tax increase that would happen potentially in lame duck. I was just reading Rich Miller's Capitol Fax, and he argues that there are eight lame duck Republicans who have argued that they would get on board with some sort of a tax increase. We've heard this rumor all along, that they would pass it, a tax bill, capitol bill and then allow Pritzker to sign it as soon as he enters office. So that's still very much on the table. What that looks like whether that comes to fruition we'll have to wait and see, but I think it's more than just a rumor.

### **Information Item 8.b. – Federal Relations Report**

Dr. Anna Quider began, it's great to be here with you all. I don't have any slides, just a quick few bullet points. First, I'd to start by recognizing my intern, Ian Pearson. He's a junior majoring in Political Science and non-profit and NGO studies. I don't know the next time we'll be in the same room together, so I just wanted to call attention to his great work this year. As you all know, on November 6<sup>th</sup>, the entire 435 seat House of Representatives and 35 U.S. Senate seats were up for election. The House flipped control and the Democrats now hold a 31-seat majority with eight seats still undecided. The Republicans strengthened their control of the Senate and presently hold a four-seat majority with two seats still undecided. The split party control of Congress and the slim majority in each chamber is likely to slow down the legislative process in the new Congress. Digging into the election results, NIU alumni Representatives Robin Kelly of Illinois' 2<sup>nd</sup> District and Dawn Beacon of Nebraska 2<sup>nd</sup> District, were both reelected. The Illinois Congressional Delegation will be 13 Democrats and five Republicans in the House. And, of course, we still have our two senators, Senator Durbin and Senator Duckworth, who are both Democrats. There will be three new members of the delegation; Republican incumbents Representative Peter Roskam and Randy Hultgren will be succeeded by Democrats Sean Casten and Lauren Underwood, respectively, and retiring Democratic Representative Luis Gutierrez will be succeeded by

Democrat Jesus Chuy Garcia. Sean Casten is a clean energy entrepreneur; Lauren Underwood is a registered nurse and health policy expert who was a political appointee in the Obama administration; and Chuy Garcia is a member of the Cook County Board of Supervisors.

While committee assignments will not be announced until late 2018 or early 2019, extrapolating from the current assignments and their seniority suggest that Illinois is well positioned for leadership roles in key House committees including Appropriations, Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and the Science, Space and Technology Committee. Regarding caucus leadership, Representative Cheri Bustos is running for the Assistant Democratic Leader, which is one of the top positions in the Democratic Caucus in the House. Senator Dick Durbin is expected to remain the Democratic Whip in the Senate. For the remainder of 2018, Congress is expected to focus on completing the fiscal year 2019 appropriations process. Only five of their twelve appropriations bills have passed into law so far, with the remainder operating under a continuing resolution until December 7<sup>th</sup>. Among agencies under the continuing resolution are the National Science Foundation and the Department of Commerce, which are two priority agencies for NIU. It is unclear how the funding negotiations will proceed considering the election outcome as well as ongoing tension over funding for immigration related provisions. As I outlined in your report, an interesting point is the way the appropriations bill that funds many of the science agencies are the Commerce, Justice, and Science appropriations bills. This means there is just one bill that funds the Department of Commerce, NASA, the National Science Foundation, a number of science agencies, and the Department of Justice. Because there is no agreement on the Department of Justice and how that relates to immigration issues, that entire bill is currently frozen. A continuing resolution that extends into the early calendar year 2019 is possible-to likely, and a government shutdown is looking remote, but definitely not off the table.

Looking ahead, Congress is likely to take another look at the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. Immigration issues, especially the fate of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, are likely to remain at the top of the national agenda. Within the research enterprise, national security concerns and harassment are expected to remain focus areas for the executive and legislative branches. And we could also see a renewed push for an infrastructure package and were that to happen we would be working to make sure that that includes research infrastructure. And with that I'd be happy to take any questions.

#### **Information Item 8.c. – Sponsored Programs Administration**

#### **Information Item 8.d. – Intellectual Property Procedures and Portfolio**

Vice President Jerry Blazey began, our last information item this afternoon is on our intellectual property portfolio. Karinne Bredberg, Assistant Director for Commercialization and Innovation, will be presenting to the Board.

Ms. Bredberg began, Good afternoon. For those of you that I haven't met personally, I'm Karinne Bredberg, Assistant Director for Commercialization and Innovation in the Office of Innovation. I will be giving a short overview on the intellectual property procedures and portfolio at NIU. Briefly, the Office of Innovation, or OI, administers the university's intellectual property policy and receives, evaluates, and protects IP submitted by faculty, students, and staff that are covered under the policy. The data that I'll be presenting today is from fiscal years '08 to '18, so the past ten years. The OI receives approximately ten disclosures per year. When an invention is submitted to our office, the OI staff utilize two rubrics for evaluation. We use a research relevance and invention engagement rubric which evaluates the inventions compatibility with NIU's mission, vision, and values. The second rubric is a market analysis rubric which identifies the size and location of the invention's commercialization market. We also use third party market assessments as needed just to get some further information on the market. It's important to note that we do not evaluate the scientific merit of the inventions that we receive. Generally, the OI uses three criteria

for considering advancement of IP for protection. The first is that the proof of concept data is sufficient for our patent attorney to capture the essence of the invention in draft claims. Currently we do use external patent counsel who have expertise in key areas such as chemistry or engineering. Currently the attorneys we engage have terminal degrees in their related fields and professional juris doctorate degrees. Our second criterion is that the invention has not been publicly disclosed or, if it has been disclosed, it's been within one year of public disclosure. This is important to note because the U.S. has a 12-month grace period from the date of public disclosure, whereas international countries, except for a few, do not have this grace period. Therefore, once something is publicly disclosed we have lost international patent rights. The third criterion is that the invention is within the scope of the inventor's university responsibility and advances NIU's research mission. From FY 08 to FY 18 the Office of Innovation has received 96 disclosures. Eighty-five percent of our disclosures come from the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, with one-third coming from the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. NIU disclosures in the life and physical sciences are typically very early-stage in terms of technological readiness. For example, chemical synthesis for drug discovery has a much longer commercial path, approximately ten or seventeen years compared to inventions derived in technology-based departments like Mechanical Engineering. However, NIU's early stage research needs patent protection so that the faculty member can publish and apply for grant funding in order to further develop the IP without the loss of rights. In addition to faculty disclosures, we have also received ten disclosures from students or student teams. Under the IP policy, undergraduate students are not obligated to report inventions to the Office of Innovation unless they are employed by the university or they use significant resources such as specialized equipment to develop the IP. But they are welcome to come to our office for evaluation and for patent protection if they want to assign ownership rights over to the university. Approximately 45% of our disclosures received in the past decade have advanced for patent protection. Chemistry applications were the most common due to the ratio of disclosures received and the early nature of the discovery needed protection. The OI files applications both domestically and internationally and may file multiple applications depending on a patent examiners review or the market analysis. In the past decade, NIU has been issued 45 patents with many applications still pending. According to our records we have approximately 40 applications that are still pending at the U.S. patent office. In the past ten years, NIU via the Office of Innovation or the Northern Illinois Research Foundation, have entered into seven licensing agreements. To date, two remain active; one to a Texas startup for an electrical invention, and the other to an NIU chemistry startup. There is also one license currently pending startup that had just been formed. As mentioned, inventions in engineering or technology rate higher on the technological readiness scale and therefore are most marketable. Since NIU's IP portfolio is chemistry based, or heavily chemistry based, and these inventions need more time for development, regulatory clearance and clinical trials than their engineering counterparts, identifying licensees for these areas and early stage research is challenging but can be highly lucrative. For NIU, protecting IP is an avenue to protect and promote faculty research and disseminate their findings for advancing knowledge for the public good. Our contracts have clear terms and conditions that protect the inventor and the university IP. An agreement such as licenses NIU retains ownership of the IP. We never sell the IP outright. Additionally, each agreement defines a field of use or the area in which the licensee is going to use the IP. The university then retains the right to license to others who may have other fields of use. In all cases, the university sets licensing agreement milestones that the company must reach so that the IP is not shelved for the company's competitive advantage. This ensures that the IP is used to disseminate knowledge for the intent of public good. The university also retains a perpetual royalty free right to practice and publish with respect to the licensed IP for the educational and research purposes. This clause ensures that the inventors can continue their research. One of the success stories that I'd like to talk about is with the Texas startup that I mentioned previously. In 2013, President Freeman, who was serving as Vice President for

Research at that time, was in Chicago for a charrette. There she was introduced to a new startup, Invictus Medical, Inc., who was working on a product to reduce plagiocephaly or also known as flat head syndrome for infants in the neonatal intensive care unit. Through conversations, Invictus became interested in licensing NIU complimentary technology that could be part of their company portfolio. The invention, developed by Professor Emeritus Dr. Sen-Maw Kuo and Dr. Lichuan Liu in Electrical Engineering, is a wireless communication integrated active noise reduction system which is designed to reduce harmful noises in infant incubators. While licensing negotiations were taking place, the NSF Small Tech Transfer Research Program announced a funding opportunity that was perfect for an NIU-Invictus collaboration. The grant was awarded and both parties were able to use the grant funds to develop the technology further together. After the initial grant period, Dr. Liu's graduate student, who was set to graduate that semester, accepted a full-time position at Invictus to continue to work on the product and she is still there today. Just recently, Invictus raised \$1.26 million and is currently optimizing the system for use in NICU hospital settings. This success story highlights a licensing example at NIU, but also highlights the importance of networking and collaboration and how the Office of Innovation can facilitate strong, long-lasting partnerships involving NIU intellectual property. I'd be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Trustee Barsema, thank you Karinne. So, on Invictus, correct me if I'm wrong, Dr. Freeman, but I think this was one of the ones that you brought to the Foundation and the NIU Foundation participated in this from a funding standpoint did they not?

President Lisa Freeman responded, when the Foundation grants committee did a pilot to look at innovation grants, Lichuan Liu, the PI, brought forward that incubator technology and she was indeed supported by the Foundation and that helped her be competitive for the NSF grant with Invictus.

Trustee Barsema asked, can you talk a little bit more about Invictus and what the financial relationship is with NIU and Invictus, and the creator or the inventor? What percentage of the revenues do we receive? Do we own a piece of the company, etc.?

Vice President Blazey replied, we probably shouldn't get into that, but we do have some ownership. I'll leave it at that.

Trustee Coleman asked, I do have a fundamental question about how we make available our patents to organizations to possibly license and invest in. Also, do we have an internal, or it sounds like the Foundation is providing some grant money or angel funds that we regularly pitch these patents to?

Ms. Bredberg responded, we try to maintain our website with current information about the patents and technologies that are available. Currently we are short staffed and we're a little behind on putting those up there. There's also other national databases through the Association of University Technology Managers, which is the professional organization that I belong to. They also have a database that is available. Generally, we are reliant on our scientists to go out to conferences that they may be presenting at and making those connections and then bringing those connections back to us so that we can reach out. Again, as our staffing level gets back to what I'll call normal, hopefully we'll be able to reach out to companies ourselves.

Wheeler Coleman asked, there's not an internal angel fund that we regularly call upon?

Ms. Bredberg continued, we have a small set-aside in our budget for venture funding. If there's an interest to commercialize the technology, we can provide a small amount of funding for that. We also have the Northern Illinois Research Foundation board to which many of our researchers present to let them know what's being done at the university.

Trustee Struthers began, I may be a tick or two off here in my focus, but I thought a year or so ago there was some discussion around collaboration with other universities maybe with respect to the process of capturing the external patent stuff.

Vice President Blazey replied, that's sort of off- and on-again. We did make some inquiries at the U of I system about a year ago and they didn't express much interest. But then it turns out a week ago we were meeting with some leadership from their tech park and they're considering it again for us. There would be some cost savings and probably a broadening of the expertise. It's certainly not off the table; it's just been a slow conversation.

Trustee Struthers added, great. I'm glad to hear that. Obviously, we'd all be quite positive on that idea and it seemed to me there was surely support and just encourage us to keep our foot on the gas there.

President Lisa Freeman added, I think what happened in the initial conversations, and Dr. Blazey correct me if I'm wrong, is there was a model where the U of I had assumed that responsibility for another public university. They had much less activity than we had. Assuming our responsibility was going to be a more complicated negotiation, because it would tax their resources more highly, and I think that's part of the reason it's moved slowly.

Eric Wasowicz also commented, this is outside of this, but I know some of the trustees know, what we're doing at Code Orange right now with your group Jerry, and Karinne you've been an enormous amount of help, so thank you on that. But this public/private partnership is just amazing. So if any of the trustees have not been there I'd highly suggest you go and take a look at the facility and the basement and the library. It is great, in fact we were on the field last night talking with Mike Brenner who represents Discover here and he is so excited about he had 37 students, I think, this semester. They've got over 70 now for next semester which is phenomenal and he's extremely excited.

Vice President Blazey added, thank you once again. That was very much a team effort. Sol had a part in it, John Heckmann and Karinne were all instrumental in making that happen. It really is a fine example of how the university can pull together across divisions.

Trustee Wasowicz continued, Mike was telling us last night that the president of Discover is coming out here in the first week of December.

Vice President Blazey said, Karinne maybe you want to expand on that? Is that part of the Amazon visit?

Ms. Bredberg responded, I'm not sure. I just received an e-mail today from Mike asking how to extend an invitation to our president for a meet-up for that.

President Freeman added, I think that the other thing we can take away from Code Orange goes back to what Karinne said on the first or second slide, that the professional network and leveraging is very important in trying to make these connections. Invictus wouldn't have happened the way it did if I, as the Vice President of Research, wasn't out networking, and Nick Karonis and his alumni had a lot to do with Code Orange; and so, the board members for the Research Foundation, and others using your professional context and helping us reach out to people with expertise, is very important in trying to connect our faculty and their inventions to resources that can help move them forward to the market.

Vice President Blazey responded, concerning Discover, I just want to add that we're thinking very hard about how to use the other part of that footprint downstairs, thinking of what I'm calling 'use cases' and starting to consider invitations to Innovation DuPage to bring some programmatic elements. Amazon is visiting the other half on December 6<sup>th</sup> and there is some chance that we may

engage with them as well. And we're looking to start standing up more programs early in the next year.

Trustee Pritchard asked, of the 45 patents that have been issued, are any of them close to commercialization?

Ms. Bredberg replied, I would say that the one with Invictus is the closest. Again, the patents that come from Engineering are closer to market readiness. If there were any that were close it would be the ones from Engineering. But we have not successfully commercialized anything to date.

Vice President Blazey added, but we have licensed I'd say about half a dozen and most primarily out of Engineering.

Ms. Bredberg added, if I may, I'd like to redact my comment that nothing has been commercialized. There have been some technologies that have been licensed and commercialized, it's just nothing from our start-ups that has been commercialized.

Chair John Butler asked, does the College of Engineering have any sort of set up of the Invictus technology in house?

Ms. Bredberg responded, I'm not sure if it's still set up. I know at one point in time Dr. Liu did have an incubator with kind of a rudimentary set up. Of course, that was probably four years ago now, so the way that Invictus has taken the technology with new speakers and new error microphones, it may look completely different, but at the time yes, we did have a set up I believe in the digital signal processing lab.

Chair John Butler added, I've been in that lab and it's fascinating and I just wanted to encourage perhaps the trustees to schedule an opportunity to play around in the School of Engineering. Not just that lab, but other labs. It's fascinating and I'm sure the Dean would take you around.

## **9. OTHER MATTERS**

No other matters were discussed.

## **10. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for February 7, 2019.

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair John Butler asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Wasowicz so moved and Trustee Struthers seconded. The motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 12:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Craddock/Chelsea Duis  
Recording Secretary

*In compliance with Illinois Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/1, et seq, a verbatim record of all Northern Illinois University Board of Trustees meetings is maintained by the Board Recording Secretary and is available for review upon request. The minutes contained herein represent a true and accurate summary of the Board proceedings.*

## **STATE LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

### **2018 Legislative Veto / 2019 Lam Duck Session Overview**

Members of the 100<sup>th</sup> General Assembly held Veto Session over two weeks in November and convened for two days of Lam Duck Session in January. On November 28, NIU leadership co-hosted a breakfast with the University of Illinois for members of the NIU and U of I Caucuses. The event was very well attended, and members were briefed by President Freeman on Northern Illinois University's Illinois Innovation Network (IIN) Hub, the Northern Illinois Center for Community Sustainability (NICCS).

#### **AIM High Trailer Bill**

In early fall 2018, NIU sought legislative support for passage of a trailer bill to the AIM High scholarship program in order to help alleviate internal concerns regarding the funding of mandated renewal grants in out-years of the program and maximize the AIM High funding received in a given fiscal year.

As initially implemented, all participating public universities would need to return any and all unspent funds that were claimed in a given fiscal year. While universities can plan to extend award offers up to their respective AIM High allocation amount, not every student who receives an offer will end up enrolling and accepting that award from the institution. This is a primary reason funds may go inadvertently unspent. The measure contained in the trailer bill would allow universities to *retain* any unspent grant funds from a given fiscal year for expenditure on AIM High grants in future fiscal years, including renewal grants as well as new initial grants for incoming students.

NIU and its sister institutions were successful in advancing this clean-up legislation—it has passed both Houses and now awaits the Governor's signature. At the time of this report, it is unknown when the legislation will be signed and subsequently enacted into law.

### **2019 Regular Legislative Session**

On Wednesday, January 9, 2019, the 101<sup>st</sup> General Assembly was sworn into office. President Freeman sent letters to each legislator expressing congratulations on their inauguration. The letters included an overview of NIU's legislative priorities, as well as the State Legislative Liaison's contact information to ensure each member has an open line to NIU.

In addition to being accessible to members, NIU is continuously engaging members of the General Assembly through the following proactive mediums:

- ✓ Meetings in Springfield and district offices
- ✓ Invitations to visit campus for briefings specifically tailored to member policy interest(s)
- ✓ Email updates to members of the NIU Caucus
- ✓ Caucus events and briefings
- ✓ Illinois Public University Advocacy Day (April 3, 2019)
- ✓ NIU Advocacy Day and Reception (April 30, 2019)

For the upcoming session, NIU will be advocating for the following legislative priorities:

1. **Predictable, Adequate and Stable Funding for Operations:** NIU is seeking a State investment of \$93.6 million for Fiscal Year 2020, a funding request level approved by the Board of Trustees. This level of funding would assist with restoration of financial order on campus and the recruitment and retention of excellent students, faculty and staff; support our programmatic priorities and educational mission; and allow NIU to keep tuition levels flat while providing additional resources for an increased investment in institutional aid. In addition to the traditional annual funding request for operations, NIU is seeking the General Assembly's consideration of the Investment, Performance, and Accountability Commitment (IPAC). This legislative initiative would statutorily tie university funding to accountability metrics—forming a compact between the State and NIU that would allow for predictable budgeting based completely on performance. This is a joint initiative with the University of Illinois and is consistent with the metrics and language filed during the 2018 Regular Legislative Session.
2. **Multi-Year Capital Support for Maintenance, Renewal and Enhancement of Facilities:** NIU is seeking a multi-year capital funding investment of approximately \$500 million beginning in Fiscal Year 2020 in order to fund critical capital renewal needs and allow for the enhancement of campus facilities tapered to the mission and strengths of the university. NIU is in the process of prioritizing its capital projects list to finalize its specific request for Fiscal Year 2020.
3. **Regulatory Reform to Promote Operational Efficiencies:** NIU is supportive of reform efforts that would provide the university with much needed flexibility to operate most efficiently, including procurement and civil service reform, as well as exemption from the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA).
4. **Expansion of Current Statutory Authority for Sale(s) of University-Owned Property:** To assist in the provision of buildings and facilities beneficial to, useful for and supportive of university purposes, NIU is seeking an expansion of the Board of Trustees' current authority to acquire, sublease or sell university-owned property without compliance with the State Property Control Act. The statutory change would amend Northern Illinois University Law to include additional parcels of university-owned property under this provision—an example being the vacant NIU President's Residence. At the time of this report, the bill language for this initiative remains in the process of being formally drafted by the Legislative Reference Bureau. Representative Jeff Keicher (HD 70) will be the Chief sponsor of this legislation.



## **FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

This report covers the period of November 2018 through January 2019.

### **Appropriations**

*Fiscal Year 2019 Appropriations (October 1, 2018 – September 30, 2019)*

On December 22, 2018, the U.S. government entered a partial government shutdown that, as of this writing, is ongoing and is the longest in U.S. history. About one-quarter of the federal government is affected including agencies such as the National Science Foundation (NSF), Department of Commerce which includes the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and Humanities (NEH), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and the Department of Agriculture (USDA) as well as most White House offices. The Sponsored Program Administration (SPA) office is coordinating NIU's support for faculty affected by the partial shutdown. The remainder of the federal government is fully funded through the end of the fiscal year.

*Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriations (October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020)*

The Trump Administration is expected to release its FY2020 budget proposal in February, although some reporting indicates that the budget proposal may be delayed due to the partial shutdown which has furloughed many staff at the White House Office of Management and Budget. Congress is unlikely to begin working on FY2020 until FY2019 appropriations are completed. The restrictive top-line spending caps for discretionary spending, called the budget sequester caps, return in FY2020; therefore, a legislative fix is needed to maintain or exceed FY2019 funding levels for discretionary spending. A potential complication to the fiscal situation is that Congress needs to act by March 1<sup>st</sup> to raise the U.S. debt limit.

### **The Administration**

On January 2, the Senate confirmed Dr. Kelvin Droegemeier as the Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). Dr. Droegemeier previously served as Vice President for Research at the University of Oklahoma.

In November 2018, the Department of Education (ED) released proposed changes to the application of Title IX to sexual misconduct. The proposed regulations would create a narrower scope of application of Title IX relative to sexual misconduct while mandating processes the Department of Education suggests are needed to ensure fairness for both respondents and complainants. NIU is working closely with our associations and internally to analyze and comment as appropriate.

Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) posted a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) that could potentially affect Title IV federal student aid program benefits. It would potentially also affect F-1 and J-1 visa applicants. Under the new rule, USCIS could restrict visas and green cards if public assistance benefits are received by a member of a noncitizen's household. APLU, in conjunction with thirty other higher education associations, submitted comments.

The "Accreditation and Innovation" negotiated rulemaking committee begins meeting this month at ED. The committee will "consider changes meant to ease regulatory burdens and expand innovative practices with a careful eye on also ensuring academic quality and protecting students and taxpayers from bad actors." ED will also begin negotiated rulemaking on TEACH grants and institutional eligibility for Title IV federal student aid programs.

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) released a study on food insecurity among college students. The study lists several recommendations including one to streamline and promote SNAP eligibility requirements to students. The GAO did explain that the study results are limited by a lack of data.

### **Congress**

The Senate HELP Committee advanced the nomination of Robert King to serve as the Department of Education's Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education. King currently serves as the president of the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education.

With the launch of the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress, several members of Congress from the Illinois delegation have received new committee assignments. Rep. Brad Schneider joins the House Ways and Means Committee, Rep. Robin Kelly joins four other Illinois members on the Energy and Commerce Committee, Rep. Cheri Bustos will now serve as Illinois' second member on the Appropriations Committee where she will oversee nearly three-quarters of federal discretionary spending through appointments to the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies and the Subcommittee on Defense and Related Agencies. The three new members of the Illinois delegation received their committee assignments: Rep. Sean Casten joins the Financial Services Committee, Rep. Underwood joins the Education and Labor Committee and the Veterans' Affairs Committee, and Rep. Chuy Garica joins the Financial Services Committee and Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. These positions strengthen the state delegation's ability to advocate on behalf of issues important to NIU.

### **Federal Engagement with NIU**

Recent and upcoming federal engagements with NIU include:

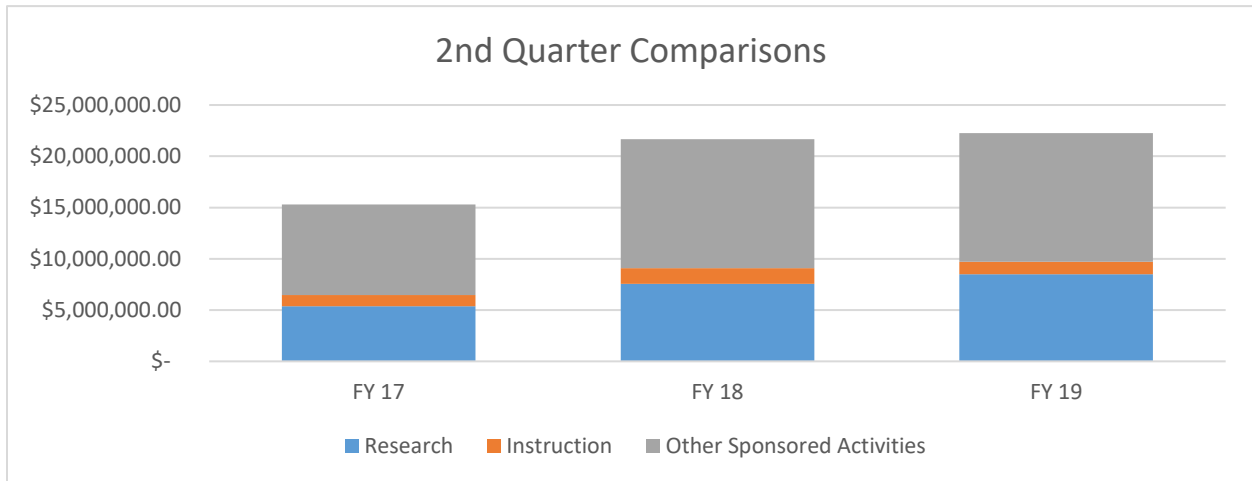
- **January 23: Prof. Mike Eads Visits Capitol Hill.** Professor Mike Eads conducted staff-level meetings on Capitol Hill regarding federal investments in the national laboratories and science education.
- **January 29: VP Blazey Visits Capitol Hill.** Vice President Jerry Blazey conducted staff and member-level meetings on Capitol Hill regarding federal investments in scientific research and education.
- **Planning for March 6-8: Student Trip to DC.** Undergraduate Ian Pearson, 2018-2019 Federal Relations Intern, plans to participate in federal-level meetings and attend the Council on Governmental Affairs quarterly meeting for the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.
- **Planning for March 12: Faculty Visit Capitol Hill.** Up to five faculty plan to conduct staff-level meetings on Capitol Hill regarding federal investments in federally-supported programs that support the research, education, and service mission of NIU.
- **Planning for March 13: Federal Agency Visits and NIU Congressional Reception.** Building on last year's success, NIU Federal Relations, the NIU Foundation, and the NIU Alumni Association are partnering on a congressional reception that will showcase five NIU federally funded researchers and build relationships with our alumni, federal agency officials, Illinois congressional delegation, and key stakeholders in national science and education policy. Researchers will visit congressional offices and relevant federal agencies while in DC.
- **Planning for March 13: Pres. Freeman Visits Capitol Hill.** President Lisa Freeman plans to visit Capitol Hill to meet with members of the Illinois congressional delegation.

- Planning for March 10-14: NIU Spring Break Trip to DC. Fourteen NIU undergraduate students and Prof. Scot Schraufnagel will visit DC to learn about the federal government through touring federal buildings and meeting with federal officials from the legislative and executive branches.

The Director of Federal Relations visited campus on November 15.

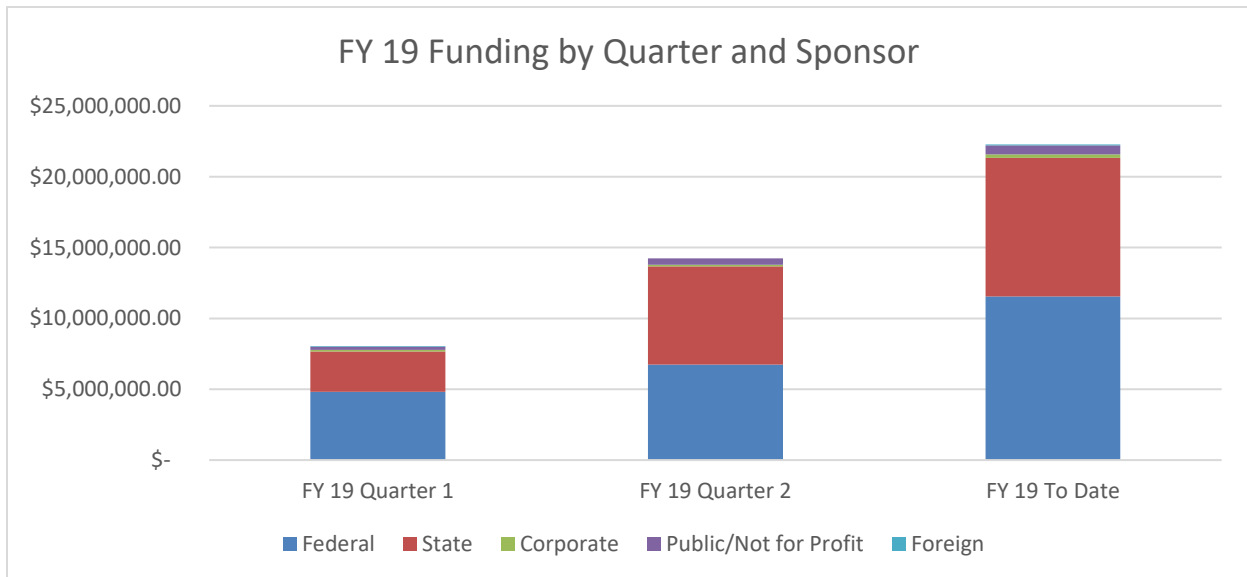
**SPONSORED PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION QUARTERLY REPORT**

For the second quarter of FY19, Sponsored Programs Administration (SPA) processed 57 externally funded awards totaling \$14.2 million; this brings first and second quarter cumulative funding to \$22.2 million (Figure 1). Compared to FY18, research funding is up 12% while total sponsored funding is up 3%.



*Figure 1*

As reported in the first quarter report, contracts totaling \$7 million in State of Illinois funding were pending execution. These contracts are now in place and NIU’s total funding portfolio is more balanced and consistent with normal funding patterns (Figure 2).



*Figure 2*

NIU has received \$11.5 in federal funding for the year (Table 1). Some notable awards include a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant to provide scholarships and enhance education and career pathways for STEM students, a Department of Justice (DOJ) award to enhance community partnerships to prevent domestic abuse, funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to improve synthetic methodology for drug discovery and design, and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) funding to study the genomics of chlorophyll d as related to astronomical signals for life. For research funding by agency, see Table 2.

Table 1

<b>Federal Funding by Agency</b>	<b>Cumulative FY 19 Totals</b>
National Science Foundation	\$2,326,240.00
Department of Education	\$1,739,403.00
National Institutes of Health	\$828,700.00
Department of State	\$749,990.00
Argonne National Lab	\$698,932.80
Fermilab	\$545,248.08
Department of Justice	\$300,300.00
Department of Energy	\$272,001.00
Department of State	\$749,990.00
Department of Labor	\$99,600.00
Brookhaven National Lab	\$10,800.00
<b>Total Direct Federal Funding</b>	<b>\$7,605,914.88</b>
Illinois State Board of Education/ Department of Education	\$1,752,399.45
IL Manufacturing Extension Consortium - IMEC/Department of Commerce	\$1,576,747.00
Learning Partnership/National Science Foundation	\$202,611.00
Illinois State University/Department of Education	\$102,911.00
State University of New York at Stony Brook/National Science Foundation	\$78,423.00
Digital Promise Global/National Science Foundation	\$67,529.00
Columbia University/National Science Foundation	\$66,252.86
City of DeKalb/Department of Justice	\$29,820.00
New York University/Department of the Army	\$27,592.00
NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies/ National Aeronautics & Space Administration	\$12,406.93
Temple University/National Science Foundation	\$10,702.00
University of Chicago/National Science Foundation	\$9,761.00
Illinois Department of Transportation/ National Highway Traffic Safety Administration	\$6,969.78
Asia Foundation/Department of State	\$5,000.00
IL State Board of Education/ Department of Education	\$2,400.00
<b>Total Federal Pass Through Funding</b>	<b>\$3,949,125.02</b>
<b>Total Federal Funding</b>	<b>\$11,555,039.90</b>

Table 2

<b>Research Funding by Sponsor</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Illinois Department of Public Health	\$2,489,600.00
Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center	\$1,576,747.00
National Science Foundation	\$1,326,240.00
National Institutes of Health	\$828,700.00
Argonne National Laboratory	\$698,932.80
Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory	\$281,831.00
Department of Energy	\$272,001.00
Learning Partnership	\$202,611.00
American Chemical Society	\$110,000.00
Power Solutions International	\$102,797.10
State University of New York at Stony Brook	\$78,423.00
Columbia University	\$66,252.86
CTL Global, Inc.	\$63,400.00
Miaoli County Government Education Department, Taiwan	\$50,000.00
University of Michigan	\$45,034.00
City of DeKalb	\$29,820.00
Universities Research Association, Inc.	\$28,300.00
Office Ergonomics Research Committee	\$28,000.00
New York University	\$27,592.00
Department of Agriculture	\$25,000.00
Northern Illinois Food Bank	\$23,852.67
Jamco Products	\$20,391.00
Chalmers St. Consulting	\$18,419.63
Charles G. Koch Charitable Foundation	\$14,700.00
NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies	\$12,406.93
Brookhaven National Laboratory	\$10,800.00
Temple University	\$10,702.00
Agricultural Research Service/Department of Agriculture	\$10,000.00
Capita Foundation	\$10,000.00
University of Chicago	\$9,761.00
Primate Conservation, Inc.	\$4,100.00
Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education	\$3,750.00
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	\$3,000.00
Clarke Environmental Mosquito Management, Inc.	\$2,980.00
<b>Total Research Funding</b>	<b>\$8,486,144.99</b>

Funding aligns with normal funding patterns for colleges and divisions. A detailed listing of all awards received this quarter can be found on the following page. Additional information is available upon request.

<b>College/Division</b>	<b>Research</b>	<b>Instruction</b>	<b>Other (including public service)</b>	<b>Total FY 19 Funding</b>
College of Business	-	-	-	-
College of Education	\$50,000.00	\$610,000.00	\$167,529	\$827,529
College of Engineering and Engineering Technology	\$233,007.73	-	-	\$233,007
College of Health and Human Sciences	\$2,526,452.67	-	\$266,727	\$2,793,179
College of Law	-	-	-	-
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	\$4,045,676.59	\$497,190.03	\$9,542,083	\$14,084,949
College of Visual and Performing Arts	\$4,511.00	-	\$35,200	\$39,711
Outreach, Engagement and Regional Development	-	-	\$2,230,984	\$2,053,585
Other Academic Units	\$1,626,497.00	\$122,088.42	\$305,000	\$2,053,585
Other University Units	-	-	\$6,970	\$6,970
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,486,144.99</b>	<b>\$1,229,278.45</b>	<b>\$12,554,492.69</b>	<b>\$22,269,916</b>

## **ALLIED HEALTH AND COMMUNICATIVE DISORDERS**

Capita Foundation for "Relationship between Cognitive Changes and Speech-in-Noise Deficits in Individuals with a History of Concussion: An Efferent System Study." Matthew Wilson.

Award: \$10,000.00.

January 16, 2019 - January 15, 2020. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

This study explores the relationship among concussion, auditory deficits - particularly understanding speech in noise - and cognitive deficits.

## **ART MUSEUM**

Illinois Arts Council for "Art Museum Support." Josephine E. Burke.

Award: \$10,200.00.

September 15, 2018 - August 31, 2019. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

This award will support ongoing exhibits and operating costs for the NIU Art Museum.

## **BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

Agricultural Research Service/Department of Agriculture for "Developing Genomics Resources for Tropical Perennial Crops Economically Important to the United States." Yanbin Yin.

Award: \$10,000.00. (Cumulative \$20,000.00).

September 1, 2017 - August 31, 2020. (Organized Research) Basic Research.

This project will develop novel SNP markers and other genomic tools for molecular characterization of genetic resources of guava, rambutan, pitaya, star fruit, mangosteen, tea and peach palm.

NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies for "Genomics of Chlorophyll d as a model for remotely detectable biosignatures adapted to other stars." Wesley Swingley.

Award: \$12,406.93.

September 1, 2018 - August 31, 2019. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

To perform genome assembly and annotation for the cyanobacterium *Acaryochloris* strain Moss Beach. The ultimate goal of this project is the identification of gene(s) responsible for the synthesis of the unique pigment chlorophyll d.

Clarke Environmental Mosquito Management, Inc. for "In Vitro High Throughput Screening of Enzyme Activity Inhibition in Three Mosquito Species." Edwin R. Burgess IV/Barrie Bode.

Award: \$2,980.00.

October 29, 2018 - December 31, 2018. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

Research will focus on enzymatic assays in insects (primarily three species of mosquitos) linked to mechanisms of resistance to currently used pesticides, and screens for potential new insecticidal compounds.

National Science Foundation for "CAREER: Evolutionary Genomics of Enzymes for Complex Carbohydrate Metabolism." Yanbin Yin.

Award: \$203,795.00. (Cumulative \$431,375.00).

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019. (Organized Research) Basic Research.

To study the evolutionary mechanisms of plant cell wall formation and degradation using both genomics and bioinformatics approaches.

Department of Agriculture for "Identification of Regulatory Genes in *A. Flavus* and *A. Nidulans* that are Involved in Mycotoxin Production, Morphogenesis, and Virulence." Ana Calvo.

Award: \$25,000.00. (Cumulative \$170,703.00).

June 1, 2018 - May 31, 2019. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

The purpose of this project is to further the understanding of the signaling pathways involved in the production of mycotoxins, and fungal development and the role of VeA in fungal virulence.

## **CENTER FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES**

Department of State for "FY 2017 Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program." Eric A. Jones.

Award: \$499,990.00. (Cumulative \$1,495,383.00).

March 2, 2019 - October 31, 2020. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

Sixty students from Southeast Asian nations will engage in learning activities on thematic topics: (1) Access and Equity, (2) Green Technology and Economic Growth, and (3) Securing ASEAN's Future.

## **CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF FAMILY VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT**

New York University for "Obtaining Self-Reports of Intimate Partner Violence in United States Military Families Phase II." Joel S. Milner/Julie L. Crouch.

Award: \$27,592.00.

September 1, 2017 - August 31, 2018. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

NIU undertakes data collection as part of a larger study assessing intimate partner violence in the military.

Illinois Department of Children and Family Services for "Domestic Violence Program FY2019." Julie L. Crouch.

Award: \$427,583.46.

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.



NIU will coordinate and administer the Domestic Violence Intervention Program in conjunction with the DCFS Administrator of the program.

## **CHEMISTRY AND BIOCHEMISTRY**

National Science Foundation for "Scholarships and Enhanced Mentoring to Support Graduation of Students in Science and Mathematics." Ralph Wheeler/Timothy Hagen/Nicole LaDue.

Award: \$1,000,000.00.

January 15, 2019 - December 31, 2023. (Other Sponsored Activities) Student Service.

To implement evidence-based practices for the effective recruitment, retention, and creation of the best educational experience for S-STEM scholarship recipients, culminating in graduation and successful career placement.

National Institutes of Health/DHHS for "Conjugate Addition in the Synthesis of Biologically Active N-Heterocycles." Douglas A. Klumpp.

Award: \$420,529.00.

September 20, 2018 - August 31, 2021. (Organized Research) Basic Research.

The goal of this project is to improve synthetic methodology for drug discovery and design by studying the chemistry of electrophiles in biological systems

American Chemical Society for "Fundamental properties of mono- and binuclear metal ion complexes as homogeneous catalysts investigated via mass spectrometry and theoretical chemistry." Victor V. Ryzhov.

Award: \$110,000.00.

January 1, 2019 - August 31, 2021. (Organized Research) Basic Research.

The long-term goal is the development of new metal ion complexes as catalysts for homogeneous processes via mass spectrometry-based approach.

## **CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION**

Occupational Safety and Health Administration/Department of Labor for "Susan Harwood Training Grant Program, Targeted Topic Training." Petia S. Guerrero.

Award: \$99,600.00. (Cumulative \$99,600.00).

September 30, 2018 - September 29, 2019. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

This project will develop training to inform workers of their rights and employers of their responsibilities under the OSH Act while saving lives.

## **COUNSELING, ADULT AND HIGHER EDUCATION**

New York Life Foundation for "The HOPE (Hold On, Pain Ends) Project." Adam W. Carter.

Award: \$100,000.00.

December 19, 2018 - December 18, 2019. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

The purpose of the project is to develop a coalition of community partners to provide free school-based grief support groups and clinical grief counseling to children and adolescents in northern Illinois.

## **ECONOMICS**

University of Chicago for "Center for Robust Decision-Making on Climate and Energy Policy." Evan W. Anderson.

Award: \$9,761.00. (Cumulative \$66,061.00).

September 1, 2018 - August 31, 2019. (Organized Research) Basic Research.

The PI will work in collaboration with RDCEP researchers on the development of robust optimal control methods for economic models re: climate change.

### **EXECUTIVE VP AND PROVOST**

Office on Violence Against Women/Department of Justice for "Northern Illinois University: Violence Prevention Project." Vernese Edghill-Walden.

Award: \$300,000.00.

October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2021. (Other Sponsored Activities) Other.

The purpose of the program is to create a coordinated community response with internal and community partners to prevent and respond to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking.

### **FACULTY DEVELOPMENT**

Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education for "Exploring Trends and Imperatives for Teaching and Learning Centers Supporting Online and Distance Learning." Jason Rhode.

Award: \$3,750.00.

August 1, 2018 - July 31, 2019. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

The purpose of the project is to conduct a wide scale benchmarking study of higher education teaching and learning centers regarding support of online and distance learning in higher education.

### **FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES**

Office of Postsecondary Education/Department of Education for "CCAMPIS 2018." Thomas Pavkov.

Award: \$266,727.00.

October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

This project allows the Child Development and Family Center to provide low-income student families with high-quality, campus-based child care to allow the parents to seek higher education.

### **GEOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL GEOSCIENCES**

National Science Foundation for "IRES: US-Estonia Research Partnership in Reconstructing Past Climate Dynamics." Nathan Stansell/Nicole LaDue.

Award: \$299,217.00.

June 1, 2019 - May 31, 2020. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

This project is an international research experience for graduate and undergraduate students. Students will be trained in field and lab-based methods for reconstructing past climate changes.

National Science Foundation for "GeoClick: The Value of Click-on-Diagram Questions in Geoscience." Nicole LaDue.

Award: \$300,000.00.

October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

The purpose of the project is to develop a quasi-experimental study in introductory, undergraduate geology classrooms with a focus on spatial misconceptions of diagrams.

Columbia University for "Participation of Reed Scherer on IODP Expedition 379." Reed P. Scherer.

Award: \$48,271.86.

January 1, 2019 - February 29, 2020. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

Research on International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP) Expedition 379 includes diatom paleontology on sediments recovered from drilling in the Amundsen Sea, Antarctica applying biostratigraphy, paleoenvironmental reconstruction and glacial geology.

Columbia University for "Participation of Justin Dodd on Expedition 374." Justin Dodd.

Award: \$17,981.00. (Cumulative \$53,393.00).

August 14, 2018 - February 28, 2019. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

As inorganic geochemist on the International Ocean Discovery Program, Dr. Dodd will conduct chemical analyses on interstitial water, and/or solid sediment or rock samples.

Temple University for "SL-CN: Understanding and Promoting Spatial Learning Processes in the Geosciences." Nicole LaDue.

Award: \$10,702.00. (Cumulative \$29,105.00).

September 1, 2018 - August 31, 2019. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

The goal of the project is to develop a network for research on education and cognitive psychology that will result in new designs for teaching tools and new insights into the working of the human mind-brain.

## **GRADUATE SCHOOL**

Waubonsee Community College for "Support for Graduate Assistants." Bradley G. Bond.

Award: \$5,088.42. (Cumulative \$26,589.06).

January 1, 2019 - May 17, 2019. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

This project provides two graduate research assistants to Waubonsee Community College to work under the direction of the Dean of Students, in the areas of student affairs.

## **INDUSTRIAL AND SYSTEMS ENGINEERING**

Power Solutions International for "Improving Processes at Power Solutions International." Christine Nguyen.

Award: \$102,797.10.

December 10, 2018 - December 10, 2019. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

This 12-month project is designed to help the Sponsor analyze, develop and implement streamlined material movement and storage within their current production facility and at a planned new warehouse.

Chalmers St. Consulting for "Purchasing and Payment Processing Improvement." Damodaran, Purushothaman.

Award: \$3,475.48. (Cumulative \$33,418.17).

December 15, 2018 - January 15, 2019. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

This project aims to improve current purchasing and payment practices for a charter school network.

## **MORGRIDGE OFFICE**

Digital Promise Global for "Workshop: Robots, Children, and Alternative Input Methods (RCA)." Kim, Yanghee.

Award: \$67,529.00.

January 1, 2018 - February 28, 2019. (Other Sponsored Activities) Conference.

The purpose of the project is to facilitate building a research community among multidisciplinary researchers from education, computer science, engineering, and social sciences.

## **NORTHERN PUBLIC RADIO**

Illinois State Library for "Northern Illinois Radio Information Service (NIRIS) FY19." Staci Hoste.

Award: \$28,273.00.

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

The Radio Information Services enhance the quality of life for Illinoisans with a physical or visual disability by providing access to the news and other information.

## **P-20 CENTER**

Illinois State Board of Education for "Illinois Interactive Report Card FY19." Alan Clemens.

Award: \$1,749,999.45.

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

Innovation and improvement for FY19 in the MyllRC (Illinois Interactive Report Card) data portal with respect to continuous Improvement planning, information-rich student-level PARCC assessment reports, and 21st Century CLC benchmarking tools.

Illinois State University for "Transitional Math - PWR." Kathleen Almy.

Award: \$102,911.00.

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019. (Other Sponsored Activities) Other.

In partnership with ISU, NIU will support the implementation and coordination of transitional math with high schools and community colleges, including: coordination, professional development, curricular support, and portability.

## **PHYSICS**

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory for "Development of the MU2E Preliminary Design."

David R. Hedin/Gerald C. Blazey/Nicholas Pohlman/Vishnu V. Zutshi.

Award: \$24,995.00. (Cumulative \$757,396.00).

October 1, 2017 - May 31, 2019. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

The purpose of this project is to support NIU's role in developing the Muon Beamstop, SiPM Characterization, and design of the Upstream Extinction Monitor.

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory for "FY19-2021 FNAL/NIU Joint Appointment." Phillippe R. Piot.

Award: \$61,160.00.

August 16, 2018 - May 15, 2019. (Organized Research) IPA or Joint Appointment.

Funds are being used, per the NIU-Fermi Memorandum of Understanding executed in February 2018, to support one-half of the PI's 9-month academic salary as a joint faculty appointee of the Department of Physics and Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory.

Argonne National Laboratory for "Electro transport and magnetism in quantum wells." Zhili Xiao.  
Award: \$32,598.38.

June 16, 2018 - August 15, 2018. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

Funds experimental studies will provide fundamental insight into new phenomena such as negative longitudinal magnetoresistance and ferromagnetism in 2-dimensional electron gas.

Universities Research Association, Inc. for "URA Visiting Scholars Program." Michael Eads.  
Award: \$28,300.00.

January 1, 2019 - May 15, 2019. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

Precision measurements of fundamental particles are a test of our understanding of the universe. The electric dipole moment of the muon is predicted to be very small, and the discovery of a non-zero value will change our understanding of particle physics.

Argonne National Laboratory for "Nuclear Resonance Time-domain Interferometry." Dennis E. Brown.

Award: \$13,674.00.

November 1, 2018 - October 31, 2019. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

Will perform quasielastic scattering experiments to extract relaxation times of the vibrational diffusive motion of atomic systems, measure very soft phonon lattice modes and spin dynamics, and measure extremely small energy shifts on the order of 1 neV.

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory for "Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment (DUNE)." Vishnu V. Zutshi.

Award: \$65,146.00.

October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

Funds will support the Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment (DUNE) Single-phase Photon Detector consortium to support the DUNE Technical Design Proposal.

State University of New York at Stony Brook for "US ATLAS Operations." Dhiman Chakraborty.  
Award: \$78,423.00. (Cumulative \$387,716.00).

June 1, 2018 - September 30, 2018. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

Funds are requested to develop and maintain the ATLAS calibration database and related software.

Argonne National Laboratory for "Fabrication and Characterization of Superconducting Nanostructures." Zhili Xiao.

Award: \$23,814.00. (Cumulative \$61,444.00).

August 16, 2018 - May 15, 2019. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

Funds will be used for developing methods and/or procedures to fabricate and to characterize superconducting nanostructures as part of DoE funded project on superconductivity and magnetism at Argonne National Lab, and includes support for GRA Jing Xu.

National Science Foundation for "Searching for New Phenomena with Leptons." Vishnu V. Zutshi/Gerald C. Blazey/David R. Hedin.

Award: \$40,320.00. (Cumulative \$880,320.00).

August 1, 2018 - July 31, 2019. (Organized Research) Basic Research.

The major goal is to search for the coherent neutrino-less conversion of muons to electrons in the presence of a nucleus, and aims to achieve sensitivity of about  $2 \times 10^{-17}$  on the muon-to-electron rate.

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory for "Joint Appointment FNAL/NIU under CRADA."  
Michael Syphers.

Award: \$117,511.08. (Cumulative \$461,939.58).

September 16, 2018 - September 15, 2019. (Other Sponsored Activities) IPA or Joint Appointment.

Funds are being used, per the CRADA between NIU and FNAL, to support 49% of the PI's 11-month calendar salary as a joint faculty appointee of the Department of Physics and the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory.

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory for "Joint Appointment NIU/FNAL." Swapan Chattopadhyay.

Award: \$145,906.00. (Cumulative \$698,062.62).

September 1, 2018 - August 31, 2019. (Other Sponsored Activities) IPA or Joint Appointment.

Funds are being used, per the Cooperative Research and Development Agreement between NIU and FNAL, to support one-half of the PI's 9-month academic salary as a joint faculty appointee of the Department of Physics and the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory.

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory for "Development of the MU2E Preliminary Design."

David R. Hedin/Gerald C. Blazey/Nicholas Pohlman/Vishnu V. Zutshi.

Award: \$73,006.92. (Cumulative \$757,396.00).

October 1, 2017 - November 30, 2018. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

The purpose of this project is to support NIU's role in developing the Muon Beamstop, SiPM Characterization, and design of the Upstream Extinction Monitor.

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory for "Development of the MU2E Preliminary Design."

David R. Hedin/Gerald C. Blazey/Nicholas Pohlman/Vishnu V. Zutshi.

Award: \$57,523.00. (Cumulative \$757,396.00).

October 1, 2017 - May 31, 2019. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

The purpose of this project is to support NIU's role in developing the Muon Beamstop, SiPM Characterization, and design of the Upstream Extinction Monitor.

## **POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Charles G. Koch Charitable Foundation for "Justice and Democracy: The American Experiment."

Andrea Radasanu/Matthew J. Streb.

Award: \$14,700.00. (Cumulative \$33,400.00).

October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019. (Organized Research) Research Training.

This program continues and enhances the undergraduate fellowship program by creating a new online journal for undergraduate scholarship and a competitive research for undergraduate scholarship.

## **PSYCHOLOGY**

Illinois Department of Children and Family Services for "Integrated Assessment Program FY19."

Laura D. Pittman/Matthew Skarbek.

Award: \$6,460,092.50.

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

Funds support the Integrated Assessment Program, which provides clinical screening and assessment services to children under the care of DCFS in the northern, central, and southern IA program regions.

University of Michigan for "Teacher Learning to Facilitate Communication and Reasoning Through Inquiry with History and Social Science Sources." Anne Britt/Amanda M. Durik.  
Award: \$45,034.00. (Cumulative \$128,326.00).  
January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019. (Organized Research) Basic Research.

This project will develop measures and devise scoring procedures to assess teachers' beliefs, conduct case studies, analyze, summarize, and interpret data relevant to teachers' beliefs.

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services/Department of Education for "Project Prevent and Address Bullying (PPAB) for Students with Disabilities: A Multitiered Behavioral Framework." Christine E. Malecki/Michelle Demaray/Julia Ogg.  
Award: \$241,676.00. (Cumulative \$972,386.00).  
September 1, 2018 - August 31, 2019. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

The proposed project will prepare 24 highly-qualified, licensed school psychologists with specialized training (a) emphasizing prevention of bullying, especially with students with disabilities; and (b) improving student outcomes by decreasing bullying.

Learning Partnership for "Collaborative Research: Developing a Generalized Storyline that Organizes the Supports for Evidence-based Modeling of Long-Term Impacts of Disturbances." Amanda M. Durik/Anne Britt.  
Award: \$202,611.00.  
July 15, 2018 - June 30, 2019. (Organized Research) Basic Research.

This project will teach basic principles of the ability to evaluate evidence related to disturbance ecology in the Chicago school system using the model of Hurricane Maria's damage to a Puerto Rican rainforest.

## **PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

Village of Roselle for "Public Administration Student Intern Support." Denise Burchard.  
Award: \$30,600.00.  
August 16, 2018 - May 15, 2020. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

The purpose of this project is to provide a valuable experiential learning opportunity to a graduate student in the NIU MPA program.

Village of Lake Zurich for "Public Administration Student Intern Support." Denise Burchard.  
Award: \$16,170.00.  
August 16, 2018 - August 15, 2019. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

The purpose of this project is to provide a valuable experiential learning opportunity to a graduate student in the NIU MPA program.

Village of Hawthorn Woods for "Public Administration Student Intern Support." Denise Burchard.  
Award: \$27,000.00.  
August 16, 2018 - August 15, 2019. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

The purpose of this project is to provide a valuable experiential learning opportunity to a graduate student in the NIU MPA program.

Village of Belleville, WI for "MPA Graduate Student Internship." Denise Burchard.  
Award: \$28,548.00.  
October 1, 2018 - May 15, 2020. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

The purpose of this project is to provide a valuable experiential learning opportunity to a graduate student in the NIU MPA program.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Illinois Department of Transportation for "Project to Provide Child Safety Seats." Thomas Phillips.  
Award: \$6,969.78.

October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

The purpose of the project is to provide child safety seats to members of our community that cannot afford to purchase them.

## **SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN**

National Science Foundation for "Scholars Award: Understanding iconoclastic violence through the early science of optics." Mary P. Quinlan.

Award: \$4,511.00. (Cumulative \$129,979.43).

April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

The purpose of the project is to investigate the science of vision to understand the role of optics in iconoclastic violence in the 16th Century Europe.

## **SCHOOL OF HEALTH STUDIES**

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for "Lead in Homes with Domestic Wells in Three Illinois Counties." Sarah Dee Geiger.

Award: \$3,000.00. (Cumulative \$6,000.00).

September 1, 2018 - August 31, 2019. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

This work will characterize lead levels in water used by families in primarily rural areas of Illinois that obtain water from domestic wells.

Northern Illinois Food Bank for "Research and Outreach at the Northern Illinois Food Bank." Josephine Umoren.

Award: \$23,852.67. (Cumulative \$46,852.71).

September 1, 2018 - August 31, 2019. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

NIU will provide consultation for the Northern Illinois Food Bank related to research and nutrition education program implementations.

## **SPECIAL AND EARLY EDUCATION**

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services/Department of Education for "Preparing the USA for the UEB: A Massively Open Online Course for Personnel Providing Vocational Rehabilitation Services or Educational Services to Youth and Adults who are Blind." Stacy Kelly/Thomas J. Smith.

Award: \$110,000.00. (Cumulative \$550,000.00).

October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

Development and implementation of a Massively Open Online Course (MOOC) for retraining service providers in the field of visual impairments in schools and rehabilitation settings on the new Unified English Braille program.



Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services/Department of Education for "Project Fusion: Bringing Together Scholars in Teacher of the Visually Impaired and Orientation and Mobility Programs to Serve Children with Visual Impairments in the 21st Century Classroom." Stacy Kelly.

Award: \$250,000.00.

October 15, 2018 - August 14, 2019. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

The purpose of this program is to train graduate students as special education teachers and orientation and mobility specialists to serve the needs of children who are blind or visually impaired with high-intensity needs in preschool through 12th grade.

## **NICCS UPDATE**

Plans for the Northern Illinois Center for Community Sustainability (NICCS), introduced to the Research and Innovation, Legal and Legislative Affairs (RILLA) Committee on August 16, 2018, were publically announced by the governor at NIU on October 9, 2018. NICCS is a hub of the Illinois Innovation Network (IIN); the largest and leading hub, the Discovery Partners Institute (DPI), will be sited in Chicago, but now occupies temporary quarters on South Wacker Drive, Chicago. Both IIN and DPI were initiated by the University of Illinois (UI) System. The DPI was announced by the governor in October 2017 and received \$500M state appropriations in June 2018. Other hubs are located at UI Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), UI Chicago, and UI Springfield (UIS). Currently, NICCS is the only hub outside the UI System.

NICCS will pursue basic and applied research, education and training, and economic development coherent with two DPI themes: (1) food and agriculture and (2) environment and water. In partnerships with the UIUC College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES), governmental agencies, and the private sector, NICCS will create new knowledge, inform policymaking, and inspire action in the three interrelated areas of (1) food systems innovation, (2) water resources stewardship and development, and (3) ecosystem resiliency.

NICCS will occupy a planned 30,000 square-foot research facility tentatively sited for construction on the western end of campus. The total cost of the initial facility will be \$22.9M, of which \$15.0M is requested from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) and \$7.9M is provided by NIU. The funds from DCEO will be targeted for architectural design and engineering (A&E) and construction. NIU funds include \$5.0M for instrumentation and equipment and a \$2.9M in-kind contribution primarily for land and site improvements. Design efforts are planned for 2019 with construction activities in 2020 and 2021. At the November 15, 2018 meeting of RILLA, authority was requested to proceed with the grant opportunity.

Progress expanding and organizing IIN and DPI programs has been steady. NIU has participated in all four of the IIN and DPI planning meetings. The first IIN meeting, held November 28, 2018, at DPI, was open to all Illinois public universities and featured announcement of a solicitation for additional hubs. The meeting also included preliminary discussions of IIN goals and governance. The second IIN meeting, held at the UIS hub on November 30, 2018, focused on a three-year proposal, named ENGAGE, for distributed computing to enable collaboration between hubs. The UI system graciously invited NIU to a DPI working group retreat on December 10, 2018, dedicated to the development of programs around DPI themes. NIU participated in the working group on food and agriculture. The third IIN meeting, also at the UIS hub, was held January 24, 2019, with a primary goal of fully launching IIN in 2019. The agenda covered IIN organization and governance, methods of collaboration between hubs, initial activities, and introduction of working groups. NIU reported on the planning process for NICCS. Beyond the planning meetings, on December 14, 2018, and January 23, 2019, NIU participated in ceremonies at DPI marking the partnerships of Tel Aviv University and Hebrew University, respectively, with the DPI.

At NIU, planning has begun for the design of NICCS facilities and programs. An Oversight and Strategy Group has been charged to oversee the development and operation of NICCS. The group has met twice, first, to review their charge and, second, to begin the process of engaging stakeholders, including faculty, staff, and the public, in the design of the facility and programmatic

activities. Facilities Management and Campus Services, responsible for the construction of NICCS, has begun the selection process for an A&E firm. NIU and ACES staff plan to meet in the next few months to discuss the collaboration around food systems. Discussions are underway to ensure NICCS and the proposed DeKalb County Food and Education Center are fully integrated.

## **FACULTY ARTISTRY PRESENTATION**

Kay Martinovich, Assistant Professor of Acting

To Practice What I Teach:

Directing the Chicago Premiere of Critically-Acclaimed Play about Dementia

*'In two weeks, I will open The Father, a theater production about aging and dementia, a subject matter of which I am familiar, and which relates to this country's changing demographics and its effects. The play's impact will be both unsettling and profound as audiences are "put in the shoes" of the dementia patient. In 2017, I was asked to direct the Chicago premiere of the play at the nationally recognized Remy Bumppo Theater Company following critical acclaim of the show in Paris, London, and New York. As director, I expand the body of knowledge in my field by my original concept and realization of the production, by bringing my professional experience to my students, and by involving several of my colleagues in the show itself. My involvement in The Father thus includes all three tiers of education – research (dementia and aging); artistry (vision and creation of an original project); and scholarship (rehearsal room experience to the University classroom). This presentation focuses on how my directorial practice impacts me professionally as well as my students and colleagues in the School of Theatre and Dance, and the CPVA and NIU communities overall.'*