



Board of Trustees

Research and Innovation,
Legal and Legislative Affairs
Committee

May 9, 2024

Minutes of the
Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University
Research and Innovation, Legal and Legislative Affairs
Committee Meeting
February 15, 2024

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 10:14 a.m. by Committee Chair Veronica Herrero. Recording Secretary Rachel Jurs-Lauderdale conducted a roll call of the Trustees.

Committee Vice Chair Rita Athas: Present Trustee Dennis Barsema: Present
Trustee John Butler: Present Board Chair Montel Gayles: Present
Trustee Leland Strom: Present Trustee Tim Moore: Present
Trustee Eric Wasowicz: Present Committee Chair Veronica Herrero: Present

Also present were President Lisa Freeman; Committee Liaison and Vice President for Research and Innovation Partnerships Yvonne Harris; Vice President and General Counsel and Board Parliamentarian Bryan Perry; Interim Executive Vice President and Provost Laurie Elish-Piper; Chief Strategy Officer and Liaison to the Board of Trustees Matt Streb; and University Advisory Committee Member Bradrick Cripe.

VERIFICATION OF QUORUM AND APPROPRIATE NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

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

MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL

Committee Chair Herrero asked for a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Committee Vice Chair Athas so moved, and Trustee Strom seconded. The motion was approved.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 9, 2023

Committee Chair Herrero asked for a motion to approve the minutes of November 9, 2023. Trustee Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Barsema seconded. The motion was approved.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Committee Chair Herrero welcomed University Advisory Committee Members and opened the floor to remarks. Committee Member Bradrick Cripe extended thanks and appreciation to the Office of Sponsored Programs Administration for including the information about all of the projects and research noting how vital this money is for faculty and recognizing the research, collaboration and work they do. Committee Chair Herrero welcomed all other members and shared appreciation for Dara Little and the work her office is doing along with her amazement at the continued trend of increased funding from state and federal sources. She noted that VP Harris will highlight information about the funding and awards. Bryan Flower from the Office of Innovation will give a presentation involving a partnership between Commonwealth Edison, NIU, and the Electric Power Research Institute. Together the collaborators grow healthy food all year

round and contribute to our regional food sustainability goals. Committee Chair Herrero points to the awards and recognition we will hear about and notes the importance of NIU developing the pipeline and research from both faculty and students.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Committee Chair Herrero introduced the public comment portion of the meeting. General Counsel Bryan Perry confirmed that no public comments were received.

UNIVERSITY REPORTS

Committee Chair Herrero asked Vice President for Research and Innovation Partnerships Yvonne Harris, to provide an update from the Division of Research and Innovation Partnerships.

Vice President Harris acknowledged another strong quarter of research funding noting that growth is steady with \$11.2M for research, \$5.5M for instruction, and \$5.2M for other sponsored activities research. Compared to the same period last year, research funding increased by 16%, instructional funding increased by 31%. Due to delays executing Illinois contracts, funding for other sponsored activities is down.

Vice President Harris mentioned that NIU continues to be recognized for its excellence in research and shared that the Department of Energy (DOE) has recognized Physics Professor, Bela Erdelyi, who will receive \$600K over three years to study a new type of particle accelerator that will be used in discovery science. Spencer Kelham, NIU Physics graduate student was also recognized as one of sixty students across the United States who received a competitive and prestigious award for having potential to make important contributions to the mission of DOE sciences. He will receive a stipend and begin work at Argonne National Laboratory full time using electro optic based diagnostic tools to analyze particle beams.

Vice President Harris also recognized Biological Sciences Associate Professor, Dr. Jennifer Koop for receipt of a faculty early career development grant of \$1.2M over five years from the National Science Foundation for research that involves investigating why some species have invaded certain habitats. Findings from this research could develop management practices aimed at reducing the negative impact of invasive species on the environment. The most exciting part of this research is the collaborative partnerships that will be formed between graduate, undergraduate and STEM students from Clinton Rosette Middle School in DeKalb through mentoring.

Noting that NIU is not only known for outstanding work in science, but also social justice, Vice President Harris shared that Professor Zachary Wahl and Associate Professor Jen Jacobs from the College of Education have been awarded \$2.55M by the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice for Project FLEX. This is a program that leverages the power of sports to change the lives of incarcerated youth. FLEX implements evidence based programming based on physical and mental health, character development and improved access to higher education with a goal to reduce recidivism.

Agenda Item 7.a. – State Legislative Report

Katie Davison joined virtually to provide updates to the written report. She shared that the general assembly reconvened for the 2024 spring session on January 16 and that Friday, February 9 was the deadline for bill introduction. She mentioned that work is underway to identify all bills related to higher education that will come before the general assembly this spring. Katie noted that

budget negotiations at the state house are underway in preparation for the Governor's Budget address on February 21 and that she anticipates we will see the tightest budget we've seen in some time due to lower than projected revenues and increased demands on spending. She is preparing for NIU Senate and house appropriations hearings to outline our needs and highlight our impact, these should take place in March.

We are also planning for our third NIU Advocacy Day that will take place in Springfield on March 5 in partnership with the NIU Alumni Association. This event is to demonstrate the strength and unity of our NIU network and reinforce the impact NIU has on our students, graduates and throughout Illinois.

The Illinois Primary Elections will take place on Tuesday, March 19. Locally, Representative Lance Yednock will not be seeking a bid for reelection and the primary race for district 76 has three candidates in the Democrat race (DeKalb Mayor Cohen Barnes, Amy "Murri" Briel, Carolyn "Morris" Zasada) and two candidates in the republican race (Liz Bishop and Crystal Loughran).

Agenda Item 7.b. Federal Relations Report

Ms. Julia Rowe joined virtually to present updates to the Federal Relations Report. Starting with the congressional update on appropriations, Julia noted negotiations for a fully funded measure are still ongoing with The President's Budget Request expected to be released on March 9 for FY25. Congress continues to be focused on boarder security and a foreign aid funding package. The President's Alliance (NIU is a member) encouraged Congress to include DACA protections in any changes to boarder policy. On December 16, the House passed the DETERRENT Act pertaining to foreign gift reporting. The bill has not moved to the Senate floor. Also in December, the House Education and Workforce Committee moved the Bipartisan Workforce Pell Act out of Committee. The House marked up and moved forward the College Cost Reeducation Act introduced by Chairwoman Virginia Foxx on January 11. The bill aims to focus on accountability, transparency, and affordability measures. Prior to the markup on January 31, ranking member Bobby Scott of Virginia introduced a package of seven bills called The Roadmap to College Success which would double the Pell Grant to \$14K, expand the Pell program to graduate schools and waive tuition and fees for two-year community college programs. We do not believe these bills will become law this year. On February 4, the Department of Education sent the Title IX rule for review. This could take up to 90 days. The new FAFSA form was released on December 31 and there were widespread delays and issues logging into and completing the form. Sol Jensen, Vice President for Enrollment Management, Marketing and Communications shared that while we have no updates for when we will have financial information and data coming back to us from students who have completed the FAFSA, we are working closely with students, staff and families to encourage continuous applications without delay. Vice President Jensen shared there will be differences in the FAFSA for students who apply coming from families who own small businesses or farmland. In alignment with ISAC as the MAP Grant deadlines moved to April 1, NIU made the decision to push back our priority deadlines for programs. We are continually offering services to help students complete the FAFSA and note that across the country there will be more students eligible for aid. President Freeman added that the national higher education organizations have been clear to bring communities of Chancellors and Presidents together to point out the Department of Education has indicated there is latitude during this transition period for offices of financial aid to look at individual students and make decisions that will allow them to stay in school. Committee Vice Chair Athas asked how the expansion of the Pell Grants to online or for-profit institutions may

impact more traditional programs. Ms. Rowe responded there will be more applications and more student eligibility. The increase in applications and eligibility is not linked to added funding.

Agenda Item 7.c. Sponsored Programs Administration Quarterly Report

The Committee reviewed the sponsored programs administration quarterly written report submitted by Ms. Dara Little, Associate Vice President for Research/Executive Director Sponsored Programs. The report shows that NIU received 109 sponsored awards totaling \$8.3M to bring the cumulative FY24 activity to 172 sponsored awards totaling \$21.9M. \$11.2M for research, \$5.5M for instruction, and \$5.2M for other sponsored activities. This indicates research funding increased over the same period last year and that funding is currently down in other sponsored activities. NIU's sponsored funding portfolio continues to show signs of steady growth with federal and state funds comprising most of the funding portfolio.

Agenda Item 7.d. – Northern Illinois University Edible Campus Program and Example of Food Systems Innovation Collaborations Presentations

Bryan Flower, Assistant Director of Food Systems Innovation with the Department of Innovation, gave a presentation showcasing the NIU Edible Campus evolution. He shared collaborative efforts between NIU Office of Innovation and Office of Outreach and External Research Development. The program aims to reconnect students with health and wellness and understanding of our food systems. Bryan continues to work alongside Sustainability Coordinator Courtney Gallaher with the hope of meeting the campus sustainability and food insecurity issues. Another goal was to make the program self-sustaining at the conclusion of initial funding. State and local businesses combined to donate tools, raised beds, seeds and soil. Recognizing that we needed to grow a diverse group of foods, Bryan expanded efforts of the program to included organic standards and employ an integrated pest management system along with a five zone irrigation system with moisture sensing capabilities to allow us to be more sustainable. Workshops were developed for students and students with disabilities to learn about composting, planting and food. Later, hydroponic towers were added and a hydro pod (from EPRI) for indoor food production. Using these units will allow research to guide food production to be used in food deserts or areas with food scarcity. At the conclusion of the 15 months of food production and research, we will be allowed to keep the unit and share the data. Professor Dr. Beth Gaillard will partner with Bryan using the MAC lab to determine nutrient density of the food produced from these units. All produce grown across the program initiatives goes back to students through the Huskie Food Pantry and NIU dining. Future initiatives include nut and berry production and offering a vegetarian/vegan production for dining. President Freeman added that we plan to partner with community colleges to offer pathways for food systems sustainability. Trustees thanked Bryan for the presentation.

OTHER MATTERS

Committee Chair Herrero asked if there were other matters to come before the Committee. The Committee confirmed that there were no other matters to be discussed.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Committee Chair Herrero noted that the next meeting will be held on May 9, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair Herrero asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Wasowicz so moved, and Board Chair Gayles seconded. The motion was approved.

Committee Chair Herrero asked Ms. Jurs-Lauderdale to conduct a roll call vote.

Committee Vice Chair Rita Athas: Present Trustee Dennis Barsema: Present

Trustee John Butler: Present Board Chair Montel Gayles: Present

Trustee Tim Moore: Present Trustee Leland Strom: Present

Trustee Eric Wasowicz: Present Committee Chair Veronica Herrero: Present

The motion was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Rachel Jurs-Lauderdale

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

This report covers the period from January 2024 to April 2024.

Governor Pritzker's Budget Recommendations

On February 21, Governor Pritzker provided his FY25 proposed budget. In the budget, higher education is allocated a two percent increase which would mean an FY25 appropriation of \$100,643,300 for Northern Illinois University (NIU). Also included in the Governor's budget is an additional \$450M for deferred maintenance, a proposed increase of \$10M to the Monetary Award Program and holds the funding for AIM HIGH to its existing level.

2024 Legislative Session

The 103rd General Assembly spring session is scheduled to adjourn on May 24, 2024.

Legislation

NIU is currently monitoring and weighing in on several bills including updates to the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) and university police pension reform, among others. A complete list of enacted legislation will be provided upon adjournment.

Faculty and administration have testified as subject matter experts on several pieces of legislation including:

- HB5655 – Requires each public institution of higher education shall adopt a policy to allow a student who is a member of the National Guard or any reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States to submit classwork and complete any other class assignments missed due to the student participating in a drill or other military obligation required as a member of the National Guard or the reserve component.
- HB3758 – Creates an RFP-type pathway for a community college to secure a baccalaureate completion partner with a public four-year university. If the community college is not able to directly partner with their proximate university, a request is submitted to all of the four-year universities to find a compatible match to partner on a baccalaureate completion program.
- HB5020 - Makes changes concerning high school and community college partnership agreements, the Dual Credit Committee, instructor and other standards for dual credit courses, and the data in reports made by institutions of higher learning. Provides that a Dual Credit Instructor Endorsement Framework shall be developed through a committee involving collaboration between the Illinois Community College Board and the State Board of Education.

NIU Advocacy Day

Seventy-five students, faculty, staff and alumni signed up to participate in NIU Advocacy Day on March 5, 2024, in Springfield. Advocacy Day kicked off with a legislator panel that included Senator Karina Villa, Representative Jeff Keicher, and Representative Joe Sosnowski. Volunteers

spent the remainder of the day meeting with legislators and staff to share the impact NIU has had on their lives and to advocate for an increase to the NIU operational budget in FY25.

Illinois Higher Education Reception

On March 13, Governor J.B. Pritzker and Lieutenant Governor Julianna Stratton were the speakers at the annual Illinois Higher Education Reception before an audience of alumni and representatives of the 12 public universities.

Commission on Equitable Public University Funding

On March 1, 2024, the Commission on Equitable Public University Funding submitted recommendations to the General Assembly outlining an adequacy-based, equity-centered funding model to distribute state resources to public universities. On April 9, the Senate Higher Education Appropriations committee held a subject matter hearing on the recommendations. A subject matter hearing for the House is being scheduled for mid-April.

NIU Appropriations Hearings

President Lisa Freeman testified on behalf of NIU for the FY25 appropriations before the Senate Education Appropriations and House Higher Education Appropriations committees on April 10 and 11, respectively. Joining President Freeman in testifying were Executive Vice President and Provost, Laurie Elish Piper, Vice President for Administration and Finance and Chief Financial Officer, George Middlemist, and Senior Associate Vice President and Chief Human Resource Officer, John Acardo. President Freeman emphasized NIU's substantial impact on student lives, communities, and Illinois' economy. The testimony underscored NIU's dedication to providing a supportive environment for all students, particularly those historically underserved, to foster persistence and degree attainment.

FEDERAL RELATIONS REPORT

This report covers the period from January 2024 to April 2024.

Congressional Update

On March 6th, Trude Jacobsen Gidaszewski, Assistant Director, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, participated in the Coalition for International Education's advocacy day to highlight NIU's Center for Southeast Asian Studies and advocate for increased investments in international education and Title VI funding. Along with University of Chicago and University of Illinois, NIU met with staff from Senators Durbin and Duckworth, and Reps. Jonathan Jackson, Mike Quigley, and Nikki Budzinski's offices.

On March 12th, President Lisa Freeman met with members of the Illinois congressional delegation on a trip to Washington, D.C. She met with Rep. Lauren Underwood, Rep. Eric Sorensen, Rep. Delia Ramriez, Senator Dick Durbin, Senator Tammy Duckworth and a member of Rep. Mike Quigley's senior staff. The meetings focused on NIU's appropriations priorities, our status as an emerging Hispanic Serving Institution and strengthening the relationship between NIU and the delegation.

On April 10th, Carol Sumner, Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer; Barbara Gonzalez, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs; and Jade Tovar, Assistant Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; were in Washington, D.C. to participate in the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) annual meeting and advocacy day. They met with staff from Rep. Lauren Underwood and Senators Dick Durbin and Tammy Duckworth's offices, to discuss NIU's status as an emerging Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) and investments in Title III and Title V.

Appropriations Update

In March, Congress reached an agreement to fund the government for FY24. Of programs of importance to NIU, the National Science Foundation received a 5% cut, NASA received a 6% cut and higher education campus-based programs received flat funding, which had been slated for elimination in earlier House appropriation bills. Federal Relations has been engaged with the Illinois congressional delegation to advocate for increases in these and other priority accounts for FY25.

In the FY24 budget, NIU received Congressional Directed Community Project Funding for the LEAP Program.

Biden Administration and Agency Update

FASFA- FASFA implementation issues continue to impact NIU and students. Federal Relations has been working with Financial Aid to understand the impact on students and families and is working with national associations to advocate for Congress and the Department of Education to address issues and allow for flexibilities when needed.

Gainful Employment- On March 29th, the Department of Education delayed the implementation of the gainful employment and financial value transparency regulations to October 1, 2024.

Title IX- The Biden Administrations proposed rule on Title IX is at the Office of Management and Budget, a critical step in the rule's finalization. A final rule is expected this spring. It is increasingly unlikely that the Biden Administration will release a rule on transgender student athlete's participation before the end of 2024.

Courts Update

Borrower Defense- A federal appeals court has ruled that the Administration's borrower defense rule, making it easier for defrauded borrowers to seek debt relief, has been rejected. The administration is expected to appeal this ruling to the Supreme Court.

SPONSORED PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION QUARTERLY REPORT

In the third quarter of FY24, NIU was awarded 47 sponsored awards totaling \$7.2M, contributing to a cumulative activity for FY24 of 219 sponsored awards totaling \$28.5M. These awards were distributed as follows: \$13.5M for research, \$6.8M for instruction, and \$8.1M for other sponsored activities (OSA) (Figure 1). Noteworthy is the 17% increase in research funding compared to the same period last year. Funding for instruction is up slightly at 1% and OSA is currently down 51%. The continued delays in executing several large State of Illinois contracts to fund FY24 programs accounts for the current decline in OSA and SPA is working to execute these agreements as quickly as possible. Because the agreements fund FY24 programs, they will need to be executed this spring and therefore will be reported in the fourth quarter award totals. Based on current projections, NIU remains on target to meet or exceed FY23 sponsored funding levels (\$61M) with most of the funding from federal and state sources. (Figure 2).

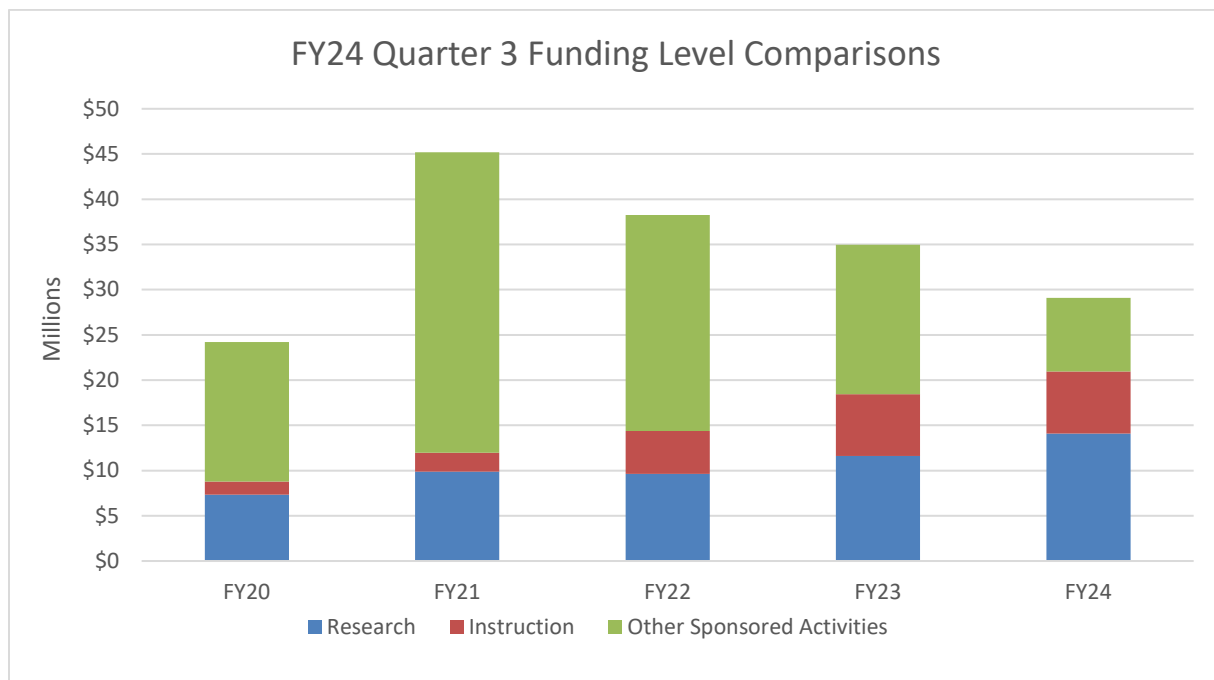


Figure 1

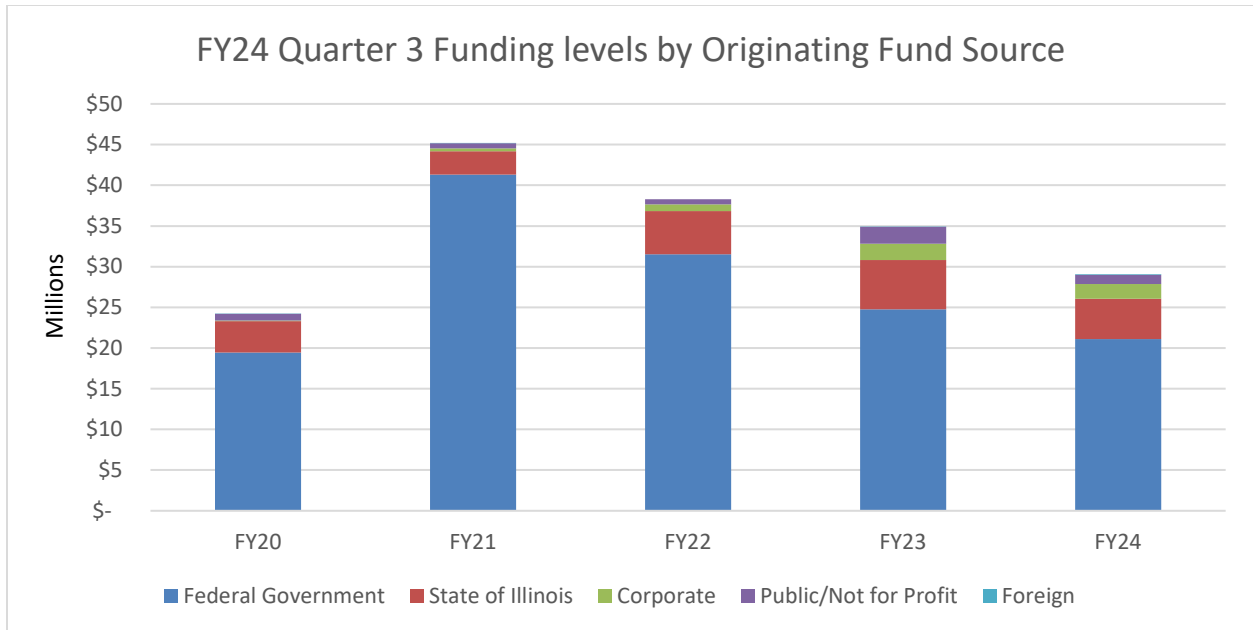


Figure 2

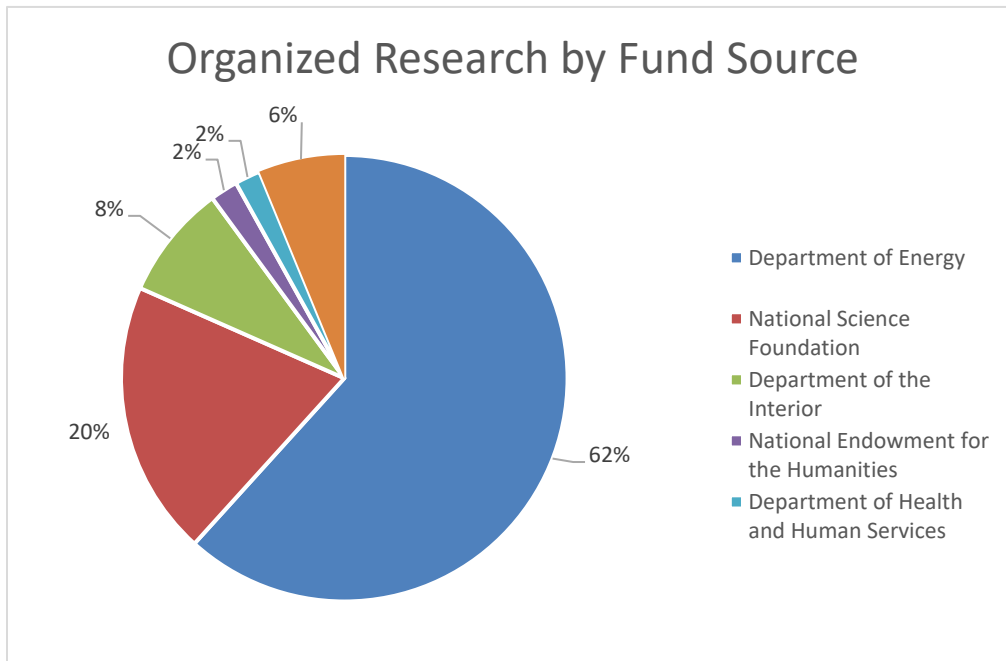


Figure 3
Other category includes agencies contributing 1%-2% of the total.
Amounts based on originating fund source.

Figure 3 displays funding for Organized Research this quarter, with most of the funding (\$1.8M) originating from the Department of Energy (DOE). DOE funding was primarily acquired through contracts from Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (\$1M) and Argonne National Laboratory

(\$702K). The Department of Physics received several contracts from Argonne National Laboratory to fund ongoing faculty joint appointments along with awards from Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory to provide test beam support, particularly focusing on data acquisition software for the High Luminosity LHC CMS Detector Upgrade Project Endcap Calorimeter, and for the Mu2e project, for which NIU is responsible for designing, constructing, and integrating

electronics systems for various detectors deployed for Mu2e. The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry received three awards from Argonne National Laboratory (\$284K) for characterizing the structure of liquid electrolytes, synthesizing inorganic-organic hybrid electrodes, measuring the structure of hybrid materials using X-ray techniques to understand the relationship between material structure and battery performance, and designing cycling-stable artificial interfaces through the creation of self-assembled monolayers (SAM) using fluorocarbon-based molecules. Additionally, the Department of Mechanical Engineering received \$16K for modeling support to advance the performance of next-generation batteries.

One award from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to the Department of Mechanical Engineering accounts for most of this quarter's NSF funding (\$507K). This award will support the modeling of thrombus formation and its response to external loads using multiscale modeling and machine learning techniques and represents another prestigious NSF Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) award for NIU faculty this year.

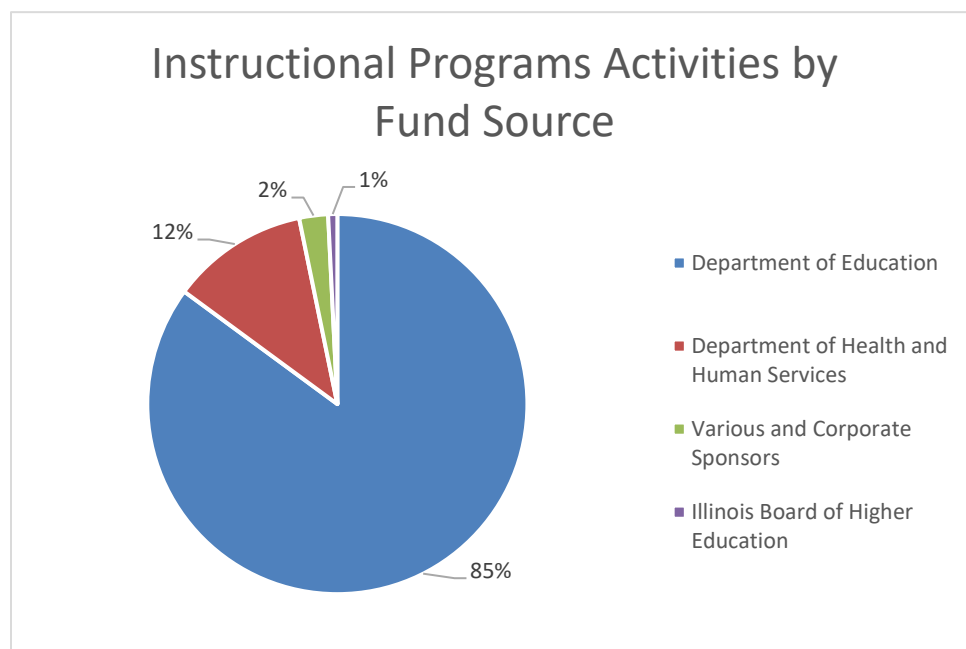


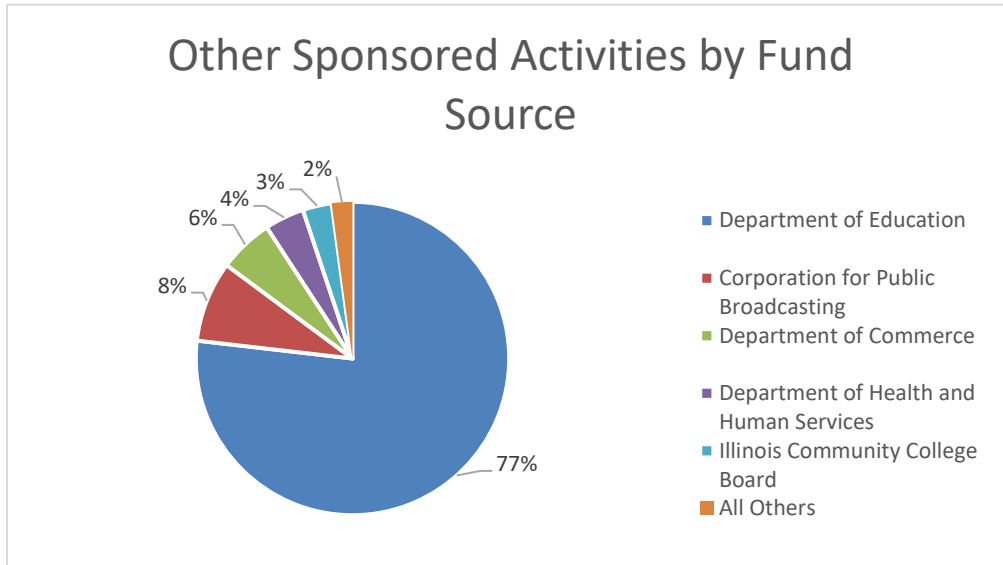
Figure 4 illustrates the distribution of funding for Instructional Programs received this quarter. The majority of the funding was provided by the Department of Education (\$1.1M). This funding was allocated through the Department's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education to support an ongoing project for faculty in

Figure 4
Amounts based on originating fund source.

the Department of Psychology (\$943K). The project aims to prepare 30 current educators to address significant needs in the Rockford and DeKalb, Illinois public schools through a 3-year training program that will result in Illinois licensure and national eligibility as school psychologists. Department of Education funding (\$150K) was also received to continue NIU's tradition of training vision rehabilitation therapists in the Department of Special and Early Education.

Other sources of funding included continuing support (\$150K) to the College of Health and Human Sciences (CHHS) through a subaward from the University of Illinois at Chicago (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/Health Research Services Administration HRSA originating funder) to connect students to careers, professionals to communities, and communities to better health in the Northern Illinois region. Also in CHHS, the School of Nursing received \$10K from the Illinois Board of Higher Education for a "Global Immersion Project" (GIMP-NIU) to develop a team of

nurses, both from NIU and India, to provide remote monitoring and patient education in the US using evidence-based healthcare practices. Remaining support is from a mix of corporate sponsors for various training programs offered through the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering.



Most of the funding for Other Sponsored Activities (Figure 5) was provided by the Department of Education with support totaling \$2.2M. The College of Education received \$2.1M to support a project for the Rural Postsecondary Career and Economic

Figure 5
Other category includes agencies contributing less than 1% of the total. Amounts based on originating funding source.

Development Grant, in collaboration with Highland Community College and the Regional Office of Education. The aim of the program is to establish career pathways leading to workforce development for rural underserved students in northwest Illinois. Additional funding from the Department of Education included \$150K through the Illinois State Board of Education to NIU’s P-20 Center to provide after school and summer school programming to 6th-12th graders underrepresented in postsecondary, focusing on academics, career planning, SEL and family engagement by the Barb City STEAM Team.

The composition of sponsored funding across institutional units reflects the diversity of the award portfolio and an evolving funding landscape. As of this quarter several colleges and the university have experienced an increase in external funding over this time last year.

Other university units experienced a 651% increase in total funding (\$301K) due to the Illinois Board of Higher Education issuing grant funding for various services and support programs across university units including The Division of Student Affairs (\$171.5K), The Division of Enrollment Management, Marketing and Communications (\$89.8K), The Division of Human Resource Services (\$39.4K). The College of Engineering and Engineering Technology is currently up 63% because of organized research activities in the Departments of Electrical Engineering, Industrial and Systems Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering. The College of Education is up 32%, due to expanded or continuing instructional programs led by the college. The College of Health and Human Sciences is up 19% due to funding for pre-school and early childhood education programs. Of note, is that Outreach, Engagement & Regional Development (OERD) is currently down 74%; however, this is primarily due to delays previously mentioned in executing FY24 State of Illinois contracts and a spike in funding last year for a multi-year agreement to fund the Illinois Report

Cards Program. Due to the wind down of COVID-19 relief funding (namely GEER), funding for other academic units is down 38%.

Table 1

College	Organized Research	Instructional Programs	Other Sponsored Activities	FY24 - (1st - 3rd) Qtr. Totals	FY23 - (1st - 3rd) Qtr. Totals	% Change
Business	-	\$1,025,441	-	\$1,025,441	\$1,432,109	-28%
Education	\$273,863	\$2,100,000	\$2,435,571	\$4,809,434	\$3,642,827	32%
Engineering & Engineering Technology	\$2,192,709	\$109,800	\$15,304	\$2,317,813	\$1,423,838	63%
Health and Human Sciences	\$310,202	\$1,793,368	\$874,753	\$2,978,323	\$2,512,472	19%
Law	-	-	-	-	\$181,969	-100%
Liberal Arts and Sciences	\$8,142,973	\$1,693,661	\$2,082,313	\$11,918,947	\$11,333,152	5%
Visual and Performing Arts	-	-	\$10,600	\$10,600	\$20,111	-47%
Outreach, Engagement & Regional Dev.	\$157,500	-	\$2,432,612	\$2,590,112	\$10,129,983	-74%
Other Academic Units	\$2,467,472	\$141,046	-	\$2,608,518	\$4,239,481	-38%
Other University Units	\$1,000	-	\$300,746	\$301,746	\$40,200	651%
Total	\$13,545,719	\$6,863,316	\$8,151,899	\$28,560,935	\$34,956,142	-18%

A full listing of all sponsored awards received for the second quarter follows.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Illinois Department of Natural Resources for "Evaluating the Impacts of Trematodiasis on Lesser Scaup Migration and Breeding Efforts." Jennifer A Koop.

Award: \$248,552.00.

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2025. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

This project seeks to assess the impact of invasive snails and resulting trematode parasite infections on Lesser Scaup hen migration and breeding success in the Mississippi Flyway to inform future management of Lesser Scaup populations.

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF FAMILY VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

Winnebago County for "Winnebago County Drug Court Evaluation Project." Julie L Crouch.

Award: \$55,251.94.

September 30, 2023 - September 29, 2024. (Organized Research) Testing/Evaluation.

Design and oversee implementation of evaluation activities that support WCDC program

development and evaluation of the program goals and objectives.

CHEMISTRY AND BIOCHEMISTRY

Argonne National Laboratory for "Center for Steel Electrification by Electrosynthesis." Tao Li.

Award: \$176,761.75

January 22, 2024 - January 21, 2025. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

Our project uses SAXS/WAXS to characterize liquid electrolytes' structure, including conventional organic electrolytes, high-concentration electrolytes, and redox-active electrolytes.

Argonne National Laboratory for "Studying the Solvation Structures of Sodium Batteries." Tao Li.

Award: \$85,680.00.

February 1, 2024 - January 31, 2025. (Organized Research) Basic Research.

The objective of this work includes: synthesis of inorganic-organic hybrid electrode; measurement of the structure of the hybrid material with X-ray technique; and understanding the relationship of structure of materials and battery performance.

Argonne National Laboratory for "Electrode Surface Protection by Self-Assembled Monolayers (SAM) for Lithium Battery FY23." Tao Xu.

Award: \$22,411.46. Cumulative \$56,028.46.

January 31, 2024 - August 31, 2024. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

The goal is to achieve cycling stable artificial interfaces through the design of self-assembled monolayers (SAM) using fluorocarbon based molecules.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Office of Postsecondary Education/Department of Education for "Room to Grow: Northwestern Illinois Workforce Development." Jason P Klein.

Award: \$2,105,846.00.

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2027. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

Rural Postsecondary Career and Economic Development grant with Highland Community College and Regional Office of Education to create career pathways that lead to workforce development for our rural underserved students in northwest IL.

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES

University of Illinois at Chicago for "Northeast Illinois AHEC." Beverly W Henry/Kelly A Fiala.

Award: \$150,168.00. Cumulative \$300,299.00.

September 1, 2023 - August 31, 2024. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

This project will connect students to careers, professionals to communities, and communities to better health in the Northern IL region.

CENTER FOR CHILD WELFARE AND EDUCATION

Illinois Department of Children and Family Services for "FY24 Permanency Enhancement Program." Yasmina Sefiane.

Award: \$120,000.00.

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

This project is looking to ensure the rights of youth in care around issues of representation, with the PEP Program focused on permanency and disproportionality of African American youth.

DEPARTMENT OF EARTH, ATMOSPHERE AND ENVIRONMENT

Columbia University for "Sediment and Pore Water Chemistry Along the Eastern Greenland-margin from IODP Site U1602." Justin P Dodd.

Award: \$10,999.18.

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024. (Organized Research) Basic Research.

This proposal supports the Post-Expedition Research for Justin Dodd's participation in IODP Expedition 395: Sediment and pore water chemistry in the eastern Greenland margin.

EDUCATION SYSTEMS CENTER

Illinois Central College for "Ill Central College IT Accelerator." Heather M Penczak.

Award: \$76,125.00.

September 1, 2022 - May 31, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

These funds will be used to carry out a regional workforce development initiative for the EDA Jobs Challenge.

Northwestern University for "EC REACH." Theresa A Hawley/Serah S Fatani.

Award: \$26,341.00.

June 1, 2023 - May 31, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

The primary objective of this collaboration is to facilitate seamless data access from CECIDS to EC-REACH, enabling effective research and analysis to improve early childhood education outcomes.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

Jet Propulsion Laboratory/NASA for "Improving NIU-JPL Method to Perform Surveys for Methane Gas Leaks Using Unmanned Aerial Vehicles." Benedito J Fonseca/Mansour Tahernezehadi.

Award: \$1,345.91. Cumulative \$60,646.41.

July 2, 2023 - March 31, 2024. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

This project will fund a master student as part of the Engineering-In-Residence (EIR) program of NIU to the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at NASA to use machine learning to develop natural gas upwind survey regions.

ENGLISH

National Endowment for the Humanities/National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities for "Dubiously Donne: Attribution and Literary Reputation in Early Modern England." Lara M Crowley.

Award: \$60,000.00.

August 1, 2024 - July 31, 2025. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

Dubiously Donne: Attribution and Literary Reputation in Early Modern England explores early attitudes toward authorial identification through analyzing texts misattributed to writers such as John Donne in seventeenth-century handwritten manuscripts.

INDUSTRIAL AND SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

Various and Corporate Sponsors for "Lean Six Sigma Workshops." Gary Chen.

Award: \$14,000.00.

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

Various and Corporate Sponsors for "Lean Six Sigma Workshops." Gary Chen.

Award: \$17,500.00.

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

Triangle Package Machinery Company for "Improving Facilities Design and Operations." Niechen Chen/Purushothaman Damodaran.

Award: \$49,643.43. Cumulative \$140,766.40.

February 16, 2024 - February 15, 2025. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

The project aims at improving the assembly, storage and fabrication of packaging machinery.

Trigo Group for "Improving Repackaging Operations for Trigo." Purushothaman Damodaran.

Award: \$54,999.00.

February 16, 2024 - December 15, 2024. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

The main objective of this project is to improve overall operations involved in the repackaging operation, so the material received can efficiently flow through the facility with minimum material handling.

DHL for "Dock Management." Purushothaman Damodaran/Christine V Nguyen.

Award: \$34,389.41. Cumulative \$118,510.54.

January 1, 2024 - May 15, 2024. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

The project under study is to review the current dock management process at DHL's terminals and propose solutions to modernize it.

University of Houston for "Development of Equipment Rental Schedule for Illinois." Ziteng Wang.

Award: \$34,985.00.

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

The objective of this study is to develop a user-friendly, web-based equipment rate schedule maintained by IDOT.

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

National Science Foundation/NSF for "CAREER: Multiscale Modeling of Thrombus Formation and its Response to External Loads." Jifu Tan.

Award: \$506,803.00.

September 1, 2024 - August 31, 2029. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

The purpose of the project is to model thrombus formation and its response to external loads using multiscale modeling and machine learning techniques.

Argonne National Laboratory for "Modeling Support to Advance the Performance of Next-generation Batteries at Argonne - GRA Support." Kyu Taek Cho.

Award: \$16,723.76.

August 16, 2023 - August 15, 2024. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

Modeling Support to Advance the Performance of Next-generation Batteries at Argonne.

NORTHERN PUBLIC RADIO

Corporation for Public Broadcasting for "2024 Community Service Grant." Staci Hoste.

Award: \$244,649.00.

October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2025. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

Funds are used to support high quality public programming.

Illinois Arts Council for "WNIU Basic Grant." Staci Hoste.

Award: \$10,362.00.

February 15, 2024 - February 14, 2025. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

Funds are used for high quality public radio programming.

Illinois Arts Council for "WNIJ Basic Grant." Staci Hoste.

Award: \$10,362.00.

February 15, 2024 - February 14, 2025. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

Funds are used for high quality public radio programming.

NURSING

Illinois Board of Higher Education for "IBHE Nurse Educator Fellowship." Alyse D Flury.

Award: \$10,000.00.

January 11, 2024 - June 30, 2024. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

I would further my professional and leadership development. I would apply funds to my annual fees for my professional nursing membership. I would write a manuscript and enhance my undergraduate psychiatric mental health nursing course.

Illinois Board of Higher Education for "Global Immersion Program for Nursing." Anitha Saravanan.

Award: \$10,000.00.

January 11, 2024 - June 30, 2024. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

The "Global Immersion Project" (GIMP-NIU) is a remote specialist program aimed to develop a team of nurses, both from NIU and from India who will provide remote monitoring and patient education in the US by using evidence-based health care.

P-20 CENTER

Illinois Central College for "Illinois Central College IT Accelerator." Kristin A Brynteson.

Award: \$89,250.00.

September 1, 2022 - May 31, 2025. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

These funds will be used to carry out a regional workforce development initiative for the EDA Jobs Challenge.

Illinois State Board of Education for "Nita M. Lowey Twenty-First Century Community Learning Centers." Kristin A Brynteson/Jasmine L Carey.

Award: \$150,000.00. Cumulative \$450,000.00.

July 1, 2023 - August 31, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

Barb City STEAM Team provides afterschool and summer school programming to 6th-12th graders underrepresented in postsecondary, focusing on academics, career planning, SEL and family engagement.

PHYSICS

Argonne National Laboratory for "University to Argonne Joint Appointment - Andreas Glatz." Andreas Glatz.

Award: \$51,728.04. Cumulative \$119,443.04.

May 16, 2023 - May 15, 2024. (Organized Research) IPA or Joint Appointment.

The purpose of these funds is to support a joint appointment for Dr. Andreas Glatz with Argonne National Laboratory.

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory for "Development of the MU2E Design." David R Hedin/Vishnu V Zutshi.

Award: \$146,490.00. Cumulative \$219,735.00.

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

The purpose of this funding is to support the Mu2e project which is responsible for the design, construction, and integration of electronics systems for the various detectors deployed for Mu2e.

Argonne National Laboratory for "Mossbauer Spectroscopy of Fe-Based Sodium-Ion Battery Cathodes." Dennis E Brown.

Award: \$21,546.00.

February 5, 2024 - February 4, 2025. (Organized Research) Basic Research.

Mossbauer Spectroscopy of Fe-Based Sodium-Ion Battery Cathodes - GRA Support.

State University of New York at Stony Brook for "US ATLAS Operations." Jahred A Adelman.

Award: \$77,058.33. Cumulative \$538,175.33.

February 1, 2022 - January 31, 2027. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

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

Argonne National Laboratory for "Structural Investigations of Advanced Functional Materials using Neutron and X-ray Scattering." Omar H Chmaissem.

Award: \$47,301.00. Cumulative \$88,647.87.

October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024. (Organized Research) Basic Research.

This project is to support the research and supervision activities of NIU's Professor Omar Chmaissem within the Neutron and X-ray Scattering (NXRS) Group of the Materials Science Division.

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory for "Accelerator Design for PIP-II Era Accumulator

Rings." Philippe Piot.

Award: \$30,145.50.

July 20, 2023 - April 20, 2024. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

Funds are used to support graduate student assistant Ben Simons for work on the Accelerator Design for PIP-II-era Accumulator Ring project at Fermi.

Argonne National Laboratory for "GRA Support - Emily Frame." Philippe Piot.

Award: \$23,436.00.

February 1, 2024 - January 31, 2025. (Organized Research) Basic Research.

GRA Support - Emily Frame.

RadiaSoft LLC for "Improved Simulation Tools for Optimizing Structure-Based Beam Acceleration and Manipulation." Philippe Piot.

Award: \$30,500.00.

July 10, 2023 – July 9, 2024. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

This project will develop machine-learning techniques to rapidly evaluate the electromagnetic wakefield produced by electron bunches.

Argonne National Laboratory for "University to Argonne Joint Appointment." Philippe Piot.

Award: \$91,954.36. Cumulative \$179,530.36.

May 16, 2023 - May 15, 2024. (Organized Research) IPA or Joint Appointment.

The purpose of these funds is to support a joint appointment for Dr. Philippe Piot with Argonne National Laboratory.

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory for "High Luminosity (HL) LHC CMS Detector Upgrade Project Endcap Calorimeter." Vishnu V Zutshi/Iman Salehinia/Nicholas A Pohlman.

Award: \$845,094.00. Cumulative \$1,999,045.00.

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2025. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

NIU will provide test beam support especially in the area of data acquisition software on the High Luminosity LHC CMS Detector Upgrade Project Endcap Calorimeter.

Office of Science/Department of Energy for "Experimental Understanding of Collective Beam Dynamics Guided by Fully Self-consistent Simulation Models." Xueying Lu.

Award: \$90,000.00.

August 1, 2023 - July 31, 2024. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

We propose an experimental study of the coherent synchrotron radiation (CSR) at the Argonne Wakefield Accelerator facilities and benchmarking with advanced simulation codes.

Argonne National Laboratory for "University to Argonne Joint Appointment - Xueying Lu." Xueying Lu.

Award: \$74,606.00. Cumulative \$166,442.44.

August 16, 2023 - May 15, 2024. (Organized Research) IPA or Joint Appointment.

The purpose of these funds is to support a joint appointment for Dr. Xueying Lu with Argonne National Laboratory.

Argonne National Laboratory for "Transmission Electron Microscopy Characterization of Coated Cathode Materials." Yasuo Ito.

Award: \$70,340.00.

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024. (Organized Research) Basic Research.

Transmission electron microscopy characterization of coated cathode materials.

Argonne National Laboratory for "Physics & Application of Patterned Superconducting Nanostructures - GRA Support." Zhili Xiao.

Award: \$19,977.15. Cumulative \$66,108.27.

January 1, 2024 - May 14, 2024. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

Funds will support a NIU graduate research assistant to develop, fabricate, and characterize superconducting nanowire detectors.

PSYCHOLOGY

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education/Department of Education for "Preparing Educators as School Psychologists in Northern Illinois (PESP-NI)." Christine E Malecki/Julia A Ogg/Michelle Demaray.

Award: \$943,661.00. Cumulative \$1,905,290.00.

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

This five-year project will prepare 30 current educators to meet significant needs in the Rockford and DeKalb, Illinois public schools, through a 3-year training program resulting in Illinois licensure and national eligibility as School Psychologists.

Southern Smoke Foundation for "Southern Smoke Foundation for the PSC. It is for the provision of therapy and supervision services for food and beverage workers within the state of Illinois." Danielle M Baran.

Award: \$15,443.00.

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Other.

Psi Chi: The National Honor Society in Psychology for "Race-Based Stressors and Psychological Outcomes: The Moderating Role of Parental Racial Socialization." Jessica S Philip/Laura D Pittman.

Award: \$300.00.

September 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

The study examines parental racial/ethnic socialization messages (i.e., cultural socialization, preparation for bias, promotion of mistrust, pluralism) as potential moderators for the link between race-based stressors and psychological symptoms.

SCHOOL OF INTERDISCIPLINARY HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Illinois Community College Board for "Huskies BELONG." Bryan K Dallas/Amy Jo Clemens.

Award: \$88,000.00.

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

Twenty college bound high school students with disabilities will attend a 5-day camp at NIU. Workshops will focus on setting them up for success in college and subsequent employment.

SPECIAL AND EARLY EDUCATION

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services/Department of Education for "Preparation of Vision Rehabilitation Therapists and Orientation & Mobility Specialists to Prepare Individuals with Visual Disabilities for the 21st Century Workplace." Stacy M Kelly.

Award: \$150,000.00. Cumulative \$850,000.55.

October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2025. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

The purpose of the project is to train vision rehabilitation therapists (VRT) and orientation and mobility (O&M) instructors to provide services for adults and transition-aged adults with visual disabilities.

Agenda Item 7.d.
May 9, 2024

Information

FACULTY PRESENTATION

Dr. David Gunkel, Distinguished Teaching Professor, Media Studies from the Department of Communication in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will provide a verbal presentation on artificial intelligence (AI).