

A close-up photograph of a microscope lens focusing on a DNA gel electrophoresis image. The gel shows multiple lanes of colored bands (red, green, blue, yellow) against a light background. The microscope lens is in the foreground, slightly out of focus, and the DNA bands are in sharp focus through it.

UNIVERSITY SENATE RESEARCH UPDATE

February 5, 2024

Agenda



Introductions and Overview

Dr. Pamir Alpay

Vice President for Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship



SPS Updates and Response to the Senate Request

Michael Glasgow, Jr

Associate Vice President for Research Sponsored Program Services



Research Integrity & Compliance Update

Michael Centola

Associate Vice President for Research Integrity



OVPR Finances

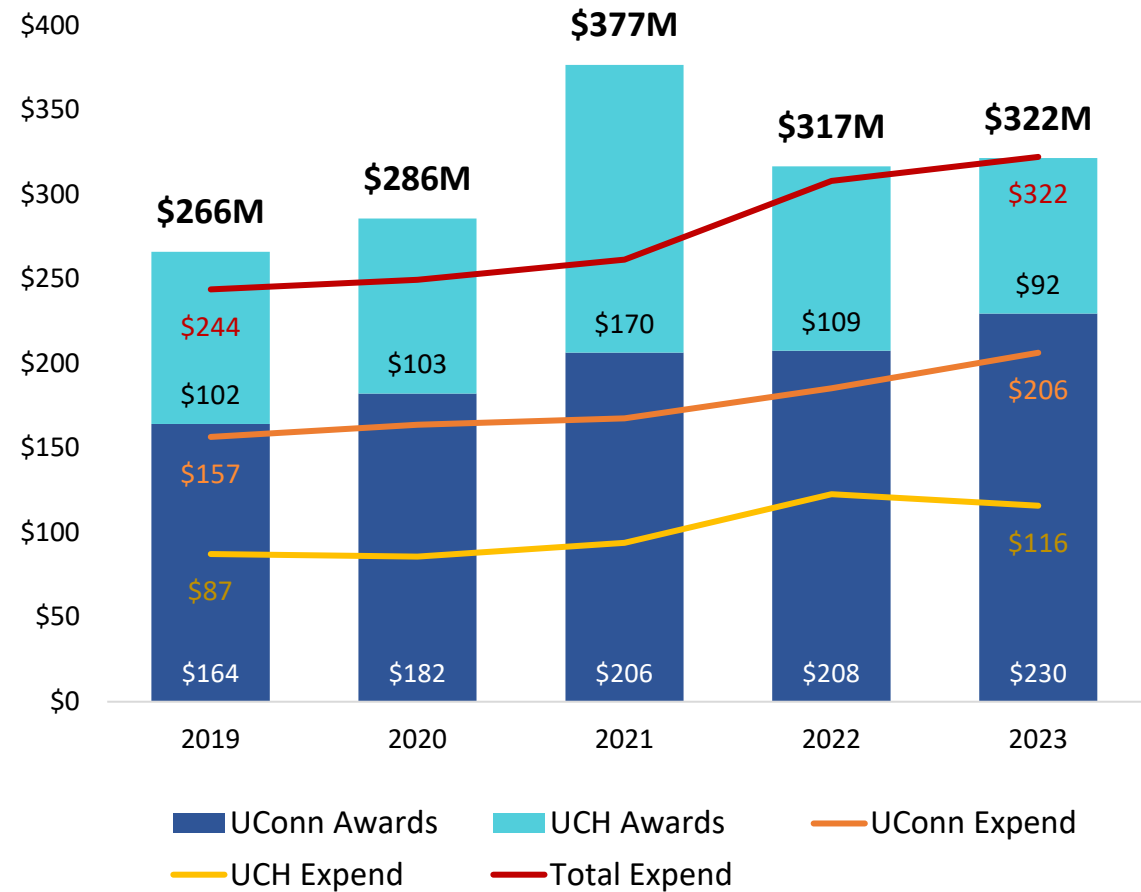
Julie Schwager

Executive Director for Operations

Associate Vice President for Research Finance

Introduction and Updates

Research Awards and Expenditures





STAFF

350+

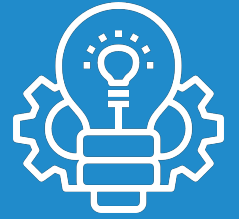
OVPR by the Numbers



PATENTS

946

in portfolio



INVENTION
DISCLOSURES

99

In FY 2023



PROPOSALS
PROCESSED

2,078

in FY2023



RESEARCH
EXPENDITURES

\$322M

in FY2023



ACTIVE AWARDS

1800+



TIP COMPANIES

56

SPS Update and Response to Pre-Award Recommendations

Proposal Data

1,647

Proposals submitted
FY 23, Storrs

OF THESE



86%

SPS reviewed and submitted
to sponsor in 3 days or less.

SPS Steps Taken to Strengthen Communication and Support

Feedback and discussion with units has been strengthened:

- Ad hoc discussions with groups of administrators at UConn and UConn Health; Transitioning to standing research administration process improvement team
- NEW Investigator group to provide feedback and identify areas for improvement in research administration
- Longevity and relevance of Sponsored Programs Administrator (SPA) meetings

The following groups serve an advisory function and offer a platform for discussion:

- President's Research Advisory Council
- Research Deans Council

SPS Pre-Award help line is live to provide urgent assistance to investigators when their team member is not immediately available.



Email help line

spshelp@uconn.edu



Phone help line

(860)486-1023

SPS Steps Taken to Expedite Processing of Small Proposals

Limited signature authority has been delegated to SPS pre-award specialists.

- Pre-award specialists can now submit approximately 50% of their portfolios.
- Previously, there were only two signatories in SPS, the director and the assistant director of pre-award.

Proposals less than \$100,000

230 submitted in FY23



of these

112 had firm deadlines.



of these

93% were administratively reviewed within 3 days or less.

SPS Steps Taken to Streamline Submission Process

01

Piloting a **new proposal budget template** that will help staff prepare budgets and reduce budgetary review.

02

Implemented **tools and guidance for budgeting cost share**, which have been presented at the SPA and posted on the SPS website. Guidance includes examples for meeting mandatory cost share requirements using cash and in-kind costs.

03

Department Head signatures **no longer required** to cost share the mandatory 1% effort.

What's Happening in Other Areas to Improve Service?



Award Set-Up Team created

SPS has created an award set-up team focused solely on award acceptance and account creation. Allows post award to focus on award administration and billing.



Contracts

Contracts unit split into 2 teams, federal and non-federal, to focus expertise and reduce turn around times



Under Development

- Web-based access to research account financial information nearing completion.
- SPS beginning implementing JIRA (a ticketing system used by a variety of departments on campus) in Post Award. Will provide PIs and unit administrators with greater visibility into transactions such as NCE requests, cost transfers, and re-budgeting requests.

Research Integrity and Compliance Update

Internal IRB

- ~**1500** active studies
- ~**1600** submissions/ year
- ~ **16** studies are FDA-regulated

BRANY IRB

Began utilizing for certain studies in June 2023

- ~ **50** studies currently under BRANY IRB oversight

IBC Submission Data

- **215** UConn Labs with IBC Registrations
- **215** Registrations & Amendments Reviewed in 2023
- **341** HuskySMS Submissions Requiring Review

IACUC

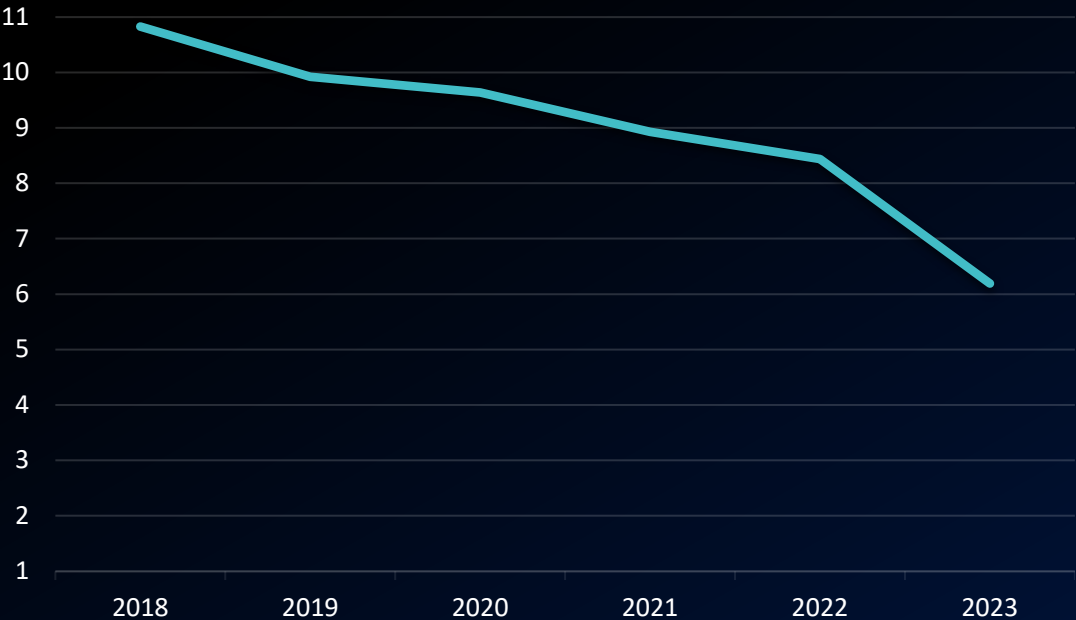
- ~**472** submissions
- ~**200** active protocols

COI

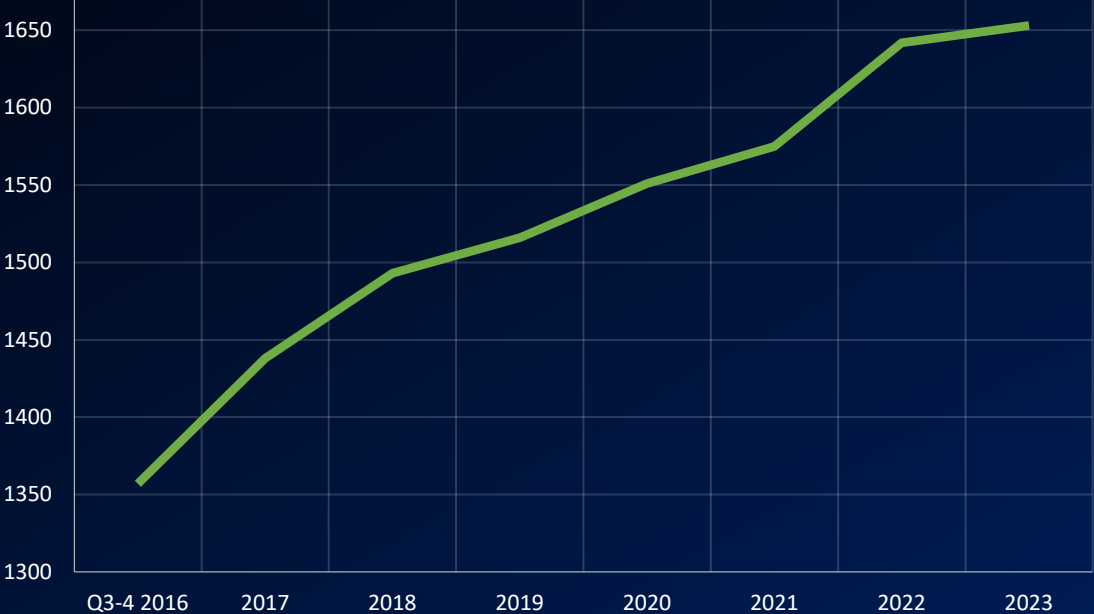
- **1,653** Financial Disclosures
- **185** Significant Financial Disclosures
- **66** Active Management Plans

Research Integrity and Compliance Update

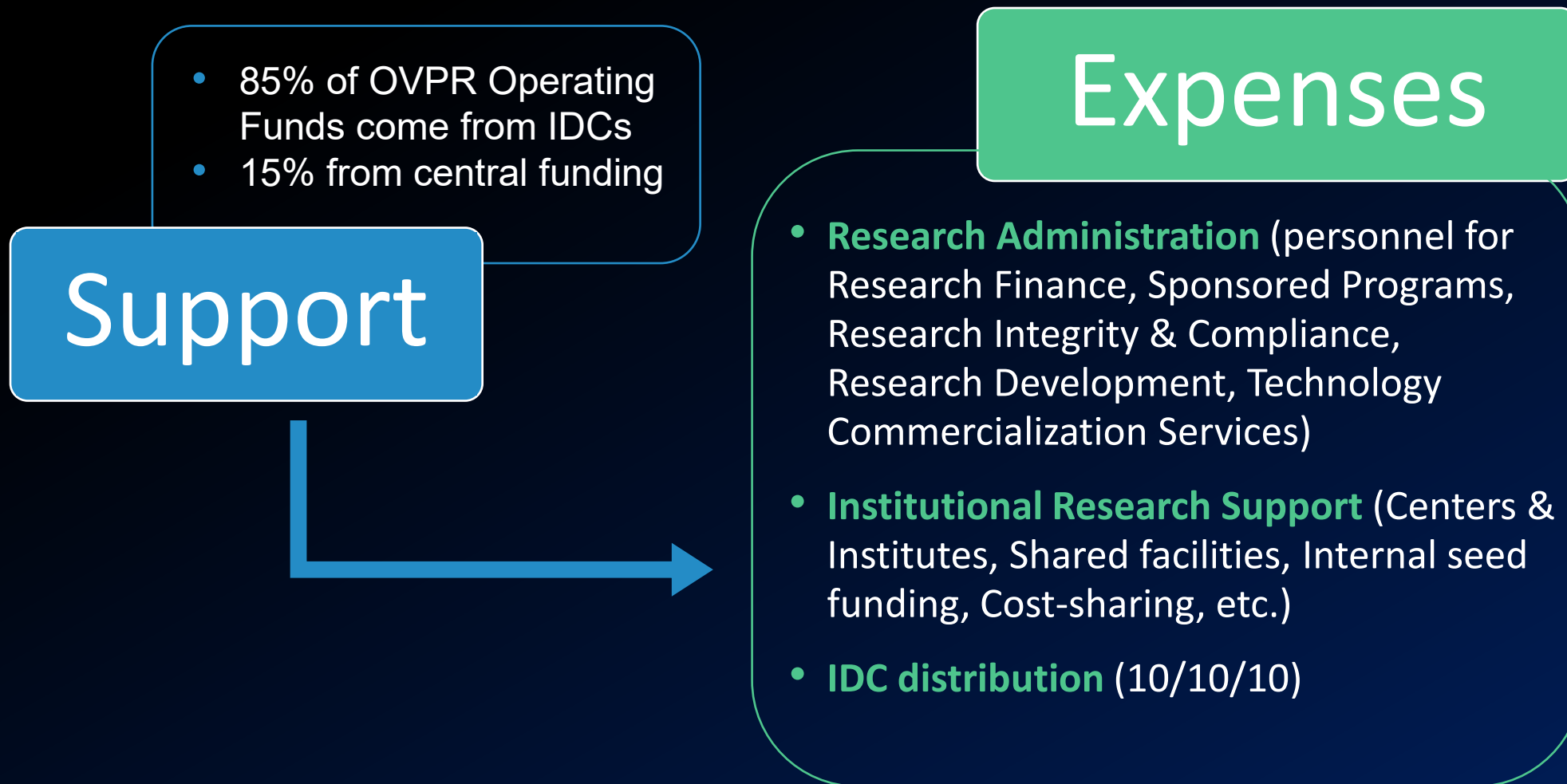
Average Number of Weeks for IRB Turn Around



Number of Financial Disclosures Submitted

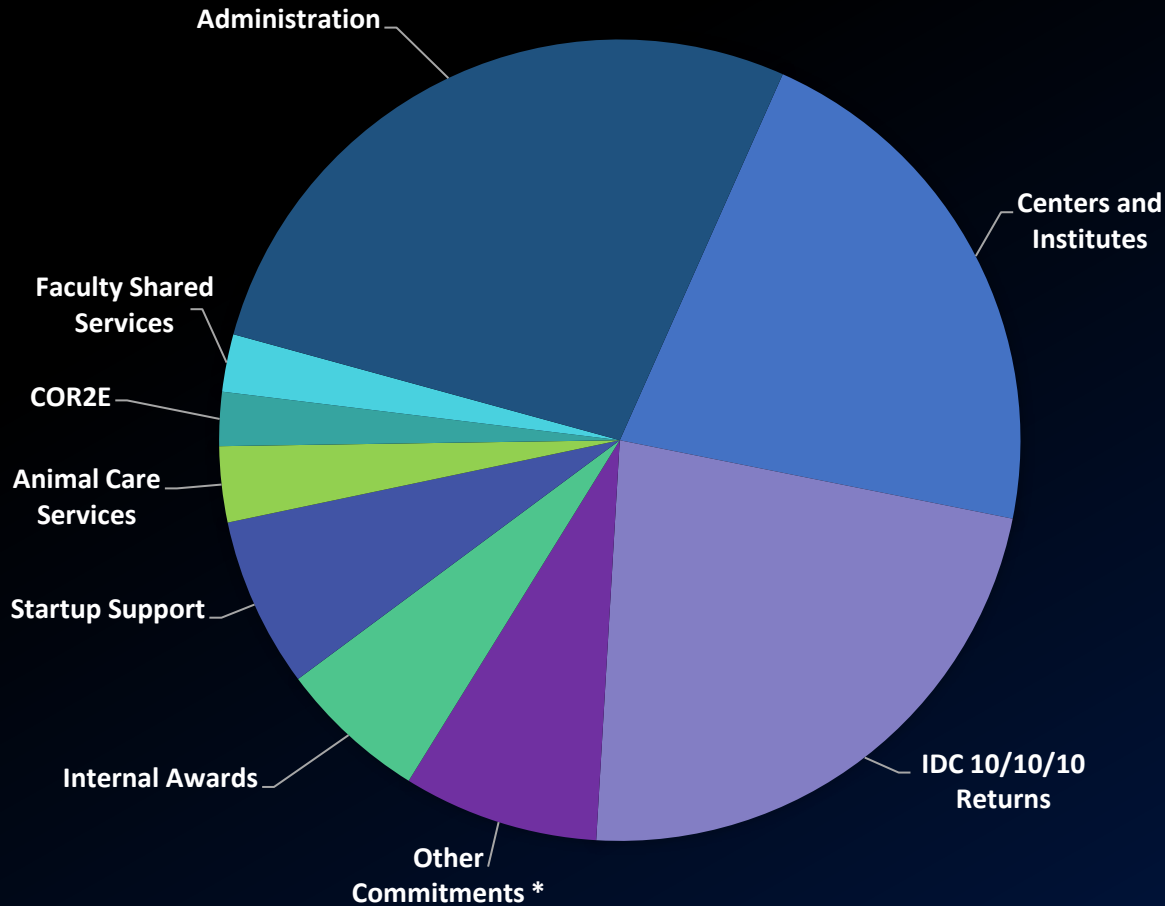


Research Support and Expenses at a Glance



Research Budget Categories

FY 25 Preliminary Budget



Institutional Research Support (net of revenues)	FY25 Budget	
Centers and Institutes	12,509,814	21%
IDC 10/10/10 Distributions	13,284,595	23%
Other Commitments	4,600,000	8%
Internal Awards	3,500,000	6%
Startup Support	4,000,000	7%
Animal Care Services	1,782,284	3%
COR ² E	1,265,310	2%
Faculty Shared Services	1,355,774	2%
Administration	15,967,743	27%
Total Expenses	58,265,520	100%
Projected IDC Recoveries	52,250,000	

* Other commitments include bridge funding, Career Awardee support, small grant F&A assistance program, equipment (new, replacement, and repair), faculty summer salary support (1 week),...



THANK YOU