



# Board of Trustees

Research and Innovation,  
Legal and Legislative Affairs  
Committee

*February 15, 2024*

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY**  
**Research and Innovation, Legal and Legislative Affairs Committee**  
**10:00 a.m. – Thursday – February 15, 2024**  
**Board of Trustees Room**  
**Altgeld Hall 315**

**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 9, 2023](#).....*Action*.....1
5. Chair's Comments/Announcements
6. Public Comment\*
7. University Reports
  - a. [State Legislative Report](#)..... *Information*.....5
  - b. [Federal Relations Report](#) ..... *Information*.....9
  - c. [Sponsored Programs Administration Quarterly Report](#)..... *Information*.....11
  - d. [Northern Illinois University Edible Campus Program an Example of Food Systems Innovation Collaborations Presentations](#) ..... *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 Crystal Doyle, ccoppel@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 Crystal Doyle, ccoppel@niu.edu or (815) 753-1273, as soon as possible.**

Minutes of the  
**Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University**  
**Research and Innovation, Legal and Legislative Affairs**  
**Committee Meeting**  
November 9, 2023

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 11:21 a.m. by Committee Chair Veronica Herrero in the Board of Trustees Room, 315 Altgeld Hall. 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                      Trustee Montel Gayles: Present  
Trustee Tim Moore: Present                      Trustee Leland Strom: Present  
Board Chair 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; Chief Strategy Officer and Liaison to the Board of Trustees Matt Streb; Executive Director and Assistant Vice President for Research and Sponsored Programs, Dara Little, and Director for Federal Relations, Julia Rowe. University Advisory Council (UAC) Representative Felicia Bohanon and Benjamin Creed. Present virtually was Director of State Relations, Katie Davison.

**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. Trustee Gayles so moved, and Trustee Barsema seconded. The motion was approved.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 24, 2023**

Committee Chair Herrero asked for a motion to approve the minutes of August 24, 2023. Chair Wasowicz so moved, Trustee Gayles seconded, Trustee Strom abstained. The motion was approved.

**CHAIR'S COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Committee Chair Herrero welcomed any University Advisory Committee Members. She also welcomed Director of Federal Relations, Julia Rowe. Committee Chair Herrero recognized the continued successes of our Sponsored Programs Administration and thanked all of the faculty and staff who helped with those efforts.

Committee Chair Herrero congratulated Associate Vice President for Research/ Executive Director Sponsored Programs, Dara Little for receiving the Hartford Nicholson Award presented by the Society of Research Administrators International. She noted this achievement is reserved for members who have made major, distinguishable contributions that benefit the entire society and who demonstrate exceptional leadership.

Committee Chair Herrero shared that NIU is collaborating with connected Nation Internet Exchange Points LLC and noted this is an exciting opportunity for NIU to work with surrounding communities to close the digital divide. Details of this partnership were shared during the FACFO meeting.

Committee Chair Herrero shared that we would hear from NIU senior leadership about the “Big Picture Meeting” with the Illinois Board of Higher Education. The theme for the meeting this year was “A Thriving Illinois: Higher Education Paths to Equity Sustainability and Growth” and strategies included how NIU can leverage the Illinois Innovation Network to support this focus.

#### **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 Dr. Yvonne Harris, to provide an update from the Division of Research and Innovation Partnerships.

VPRIPS Harris reported that she would like to highlight the research funding this quarter which surged 121%. She recognized Associate Vice President for Research/Executive Director of Sponsored Programs, Dara Little for her hard work and dedication to the division and NIU. Dr. Harris noted that Dara was named president-elect for the Society of Research Administrators International and she currently is a member of the Board of Directors. Dr. Harris shared that this is an opportunity for NIU and other R2 institutions to have a voice on a national and international scale.

VPRIPS Harris announced that Associate Professor and Director of the Institute for the Study of Environment, Sustainability and Energy, Thomas Skuzinski was named Chair of the Illinois Innovation Network Research and Collaboration Working Committee. She acknowledged the work of former Vice President Gerald Blazey to forge this important relationship with IIN and other state and national organizations that allow NIU to continue important work.

VPRIPS Harris congratulated NIU Chemistry Professor, Dr. Tao Li who was named as a new member of the U.S. Department of Energy Argonne National Laboratory. She also reported that Dr. Li received the Designing Materials to Revolutionize and Engineer our Future (DMREF) Award. The award is for work on a project that will be used to train the next generation of undergraduates to develop innovative and low-cost processes to replace blast furnaces in steelmaking while reducing greenhouse emissions. The project will be used to train, educate, and develop a workforce that is diverse, equitable, and inclusive. NIU will be the first R2 university to take the lead on this prestigious National Science Foundation (NSF) award.

### **Agenda Item 7.a. – State Legislative Report**

Ms. Katie Davison, Director of State Relations reported virtually to share remarks. Katie shared that the General Assembly would adjourn with no legislation of significant impact on higher education as nothing substantive was presented for the 2023 veto session. Work is ongoing to identify developing legislation in support of the 2024 spring legislative agenda. Top of mind for all institutions is adequate and equitable funding along with addressing deferred maintenance challenges facing campus.

### **Agenda Item 7.b. – Federal Relations Report**

Ms. Julia Rowe, Director for Federal Relations reported that Representative Mike Johnson was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives after Representative Kevin McCarthy was removed. Government operates under a continuing resolution with FY23 levels until November 17<sup>th</sup>. On October 11, 2023 Representative Virginia Fox introduced the Defending Education Transparency and Ending Rogue Regimes Engaging in Nefarious Transactions (DETERRENT) Act, modifying Section 117 of the Higher Education Act which requires foreign gift reporting for institutions of higher education. The act would lower the reporting threshold from \$250,000 to \$50,000 and require disclosures of gifts to individual staff and faculty at research heavy institutions, including penalties for noncompliant universities. The penalties would result in loss of Title IX funding,. The bill has not moved forward. The new FAFSA mandated by the FAFSA Simplification Act is delayed until December. The Department of Education has not transmitted its final Title IX rule to the Office of Management and Budget for review. A Judge in the Southern District of Texas ruled that DACA was unlawful with the ruling resting on an earlier decision from the U.S. Court of Appeals in the Fifth Circuit in October, 2022. DACA recipients status remains unchanged at this time allowing for renewal.

### **Agenda Item 7.c. Sponsored Programs Administration Quarterly Report**

Ms. Dara Little, Associate Vice President for Research/Executive Director Sponsored Programs reported that totals reached \$61M for funding including COVID Relief Funds, or \$58M without. Looking at trends we see increased funding coming from The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences along with the Office of Outreach, Engagement, and Regional Development. Also noted were the increased number of proposals and state funding since FY22. Sponsored proposal and award volume continues to increase, with a 72% increase in award funding since FY19. Federal funds account for most sponsored funding, but direct State funding is increasing and SPA continues to look for ways to modernize to keep pace with the increased volume and complexity.

### **Agenda Item 7.d. Alignment With the IBHE’s Thriving Illinois Growth Goals Presentation**

NIU senior leaders presented information about the IBHE Strategic Plan adopted in 2021. To summarize, NIU is leveraging partnerships with the IIN, the IBHE and community colleges to build higher education and prepare students for success in the workplace.

## **OTHER MATTERS**

Committee Chair Herrero asked if there were other matters to come before the Committee. Vice President and General Counsel, and Board Parliamentarian Bryan Perry stated there were none.

## NEXT MEETING DATE

Committee Chair Herrero noted that the next meeting will be held on February 15, 2024.

## ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair Herrero asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Gayles so moved, and Trustee Moore 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	Trustee Montel Gayles: Present
Trustee Tim Moore: Present	Trustee Leland Strom: Present
Board Chair Eric Wasowicz: Present	Committee Chair Veronica Herrero: Present

The motion was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.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

### **IBHE Budget Recommendations**

On January 17, IBHE released their FY25 budget recommendations. In them, IBHE recommended an overall increase of 5 percent in operating funding for public universities which included a 7.7 percent increase for Northern Illinois University or an FY25 appropriation of \$106,236,400. Additionally, IBHE recommended a \$50 million increase in MAP, increases in grant funded programs to support dual credit; early childhood education; non-credit workforce grants; and the expansion of the Common App.

### **2024 Legislative Priorities**

NIU, in partnership with our sister universities, has developed the following legislative priorities for the spring 2024 legislative session which began on Tuesday, January 16.

#### **1. Predictable, adequate, equitable, and stable funding.**

For FY25, Northern Illinois University (NIU) requests base operating funding of \$113.4M. A base State funding level of \$113.4M will offset increases in expected and known costs to NIU's education and general operations. An additional \$3M is requested to support new initiatives specified below. The total operating and initiative funding requested is \$116.4M.

\$3M in new appropriations is requested for academic priority requests aligned the IBHE's strategic plan, A Thriving Illinois: Higher Education Paths to Equity, Sustainability, and Growth. The proposed initiatives will not be possible without this additional State support:

- Enhanced Student Success Services, Adult Learner Initiatives, and Program Expansion (\$1M)
- Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) Preparation (\$600K)
- Cluster Hiring to Support Transdisciplinary Teaching and Research (\$800K)
- Health Professions Education (\$600K)

#### **2. Regulatory modernization and relief**

NIU continues to explore relief from regulations and requirements that place undue administrative and fiscal burden on the universities. Several regulatory relief items highlighted below are being addressed to improve operational effectiveness.

##### **Capital Project Execution**

In FY20, NIU was authorized for one \$77M project from the state Capital program and a lump sum of \$52.9M for Capital Renewal program projects. As of FY24, the \$77M capital project is projected to possibly be executed by FY26. This 6-year period caused a \$20M loss of value due to inflation, which can only be mitigated by adding to the \$77M authorization or reducing the resulting building scope. This latter option translates into an approximately 25% smaller facility than originally intended.

Similarly with the Capital Renewal program, delays in executing this \$52.9M program value is estimated to have caused a loss of approximately \$10M to address critical deferred maintenance needs. Unlike the loss value from the Capital program, this Capital Renewal

program loss stems from inflation and added deterioration impacts caused by delayed execution of critical repair projects.

While NIU understands the execution challenges faced by the Illinois Capital Development Board (CDB), these delay impacts illustrate the need to consider alternatives for executing state-funded capital projects. Since universities are very experienced and capable of executing capital projects, there would be a readily available opportunity to execute the state capital programs through a combination of CDB and public university project execution. A hybrid approach would allow CDB to potentially focus their expertise on the larger and more complicated projects while universities execute the smaller projects in the programs. An approach like this would avoid and mitigate the cost and challenge for CDB staffing to meet increased state capital funding.

#### Time reporting requirements

Universities track all employee time through internal benefits usage reports. The additional time reporting mandated by the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ICLS 430) is redundant and time consuming given the duplicative nature of the Act's requirement to submit records documenting the total amount of time spent each day on official State business to the nearest quarter hour. This time reporting through the office of ethics is not as thorough and leaves room for misinterpretation of benefits. We would like this duplicative requirement removed.

#### Updated internal controls procedures for contracts

This requirement is no longer relevant for university operations. The University's state appropriation has been approved as a lump sum, which covers only a portion of its payroll and none of its contract obligations. Additionally, this procedure is redundant to the procurement code which already establishes the necessary components to be included in all state contracts. Contracts that meet certain dollar thresholds and other criteria are published on the Illinois Bulletin and filed with the Chief Procurement Officer.

### **3. Improve student support for persistence and degree completion**

In addition to our request for investment in student support programs, there are many improvements to be made that would help ensure student success, provide more seamless transition between two-year and four-year institutions, and offer flexibility to students.

#### Flexibility within the AIM HIGH and MAP programs

Building upon the efforts to strengthen state aid programs, we are advocating for greater flexibility in the utilization of funds to support student financial needs outside of tuition and fees.

#### Illinois Articulation Initiative fixes

The State Director of IAI interprets the law that all public universities must attempt to participate in every IAI major, however there is no guarantee that every university offers parity for every major. The law also demands participation in majors even when there is no alignment. We recommend if an institution does not have an equivalent major and lower-division courses which align with the major panels' descriptors and course approval criteria, the public institution shall be compliant with the Act, as determined by the State Director of IAI.

#### Expanded baccalaureate program partnerships (HB3758/SB2986)



House Bill 3758 (Rep. Stuart) / Senate Bill 2986 (Sen. Halpin) states that the Board of Higher Education shall, in consultation with the Illinois Community College Board, create a standardized electronic form through which a community college district may document student demand or workforce needs for a specific baccalaureate degree completion program and may demonstrate that the demand or needs are currently unmet or that there is insufficient access to such a program for students in the district. Provides that the form must be completed by the requesting community college district and must be submitted to the Illinois Community College Board for initial review. Provides that if the Illinois Community College Board concurs with the community college district that unmet demand or needs exist in the district, the Illinois Community College Board must forward the form to the Board and if the Illinois Community College Board does not concur with the community college district, the district may appeal the decision directly to the Board. Provides that if the Board determines that unmet student demand or welfare need exist, the Board shall communicate a request for partnership notification to all universities, and allows a university to respond to the request for a partnership; defines "university" and specifies the procedures for a request for partnership. Requires the Board and the Illinois Community College Board to jointly adopt rules.

#### **4. Competitive benefits for the recruitment and retention of a quality workforce**

##### Parity for Tier 2 University Police

To help fill the policing shortages at our Illinois public universities, we are seeking two changes that will give our police forces parity with other police forces throughout the state.

- In 2022, PA 102-0719 reduced the age of retirement for ISP, DNR, SOOS and all other state law enforcement to age 55 to align with the Tier 2 downstate police pension systems. University police were excluded from the bill and remain the only state law enforcement with a Tier 2 retirement age of 62. This inequity places us at a competitive disadvantage and impairs our ability to recruit and retain police.
- Also in 2022, PA 102-1061 allowed officers who had prior Article 15 (SURS police) credit to buy service time in the other police plans. However, it was not reciprocal for university police officers, who remained the only police officers who could not buy back their prior police service credit. These service credit opportunities further incentivize other police departments to recruit our experienced officers but does not provide the same benefit to us in return.

##### Civil Service Reforms

Various State University Civil Service System (SUCSS) regulations make it difficult to be competitive in hiring qualified, eligible Civil Service employees. A number of modernization efforts have been underway for the past several years and NIU will continue to work to support the updating of SUCSS regulations to help universities attract and retain high-quality employees. Specifically, NIU will continue to work with SUCSS to update the residency requirement found in State Universities Civil Service Act 110 ILCS 70/36b et seq. to be more reflective of modern employment practices used by our competitors and allow us to hire out of state candidates.

##### **State Relations Engagement**

Advocacy day planning is well underway with NIU Advocacy Day set for March 5, 2024. For the third year, students, faculty, and staff are convening in Springfield to advocate on behalf of the

university and higher education in Illinois. We hope to engage even more of the NIU community this year and are targeting a delegation of 70 participants.

NIU State Relations continues to bring legislators and policy makers to campus. In January, we will be hosting the House Republican Leader, Tony McCombie and a small group of area lawmakers to highlight achievements at NIU and discuss legislative priorities.

## **FEDERAL RELATIONS REPORT**

This report covers the period from September to October 2023.

### **Congressional Update**

As of January 18, the federal government is operating under a laddered continuing resolution with the Agriculture, Military Construction, Energy and Water, and Housing and Urban Development bills expiring at midnight on January 19. The rest of the government is funded until February 2. Congressional leaders met with President Biden the week of January 15 to try to reach an agreement on government funding.

Cuts proposed in the House appropriation bills to key programs to NIU including Federal Work Study and SEOG are still pending.

### **Appropriations Update**

Congress is currently focused on funding the government for FY24, which started in October 2023. Appropriators will soon turn their attention to FY25 funding. The President's Budget Request (PBR) is expected to be released early this spring.

### **Legislative Update**

Education: On December 16, 2023, the House passed the DETERRENT Act, modifying Section 117 of the Higher Education Act, which regulates foreign gift reporting. The bill has not been taken up by the Senate Health Education Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee or moved to the floor.

On December 22, 2023, the House Education and Workforce Committee moved the Bipartisan Workforce Pell Act out of Committee, which would allow students to use a new Pell Grant expansion for short-term workforce development training programs and at all types of institutions including online and for-profit schools. ACE sent a letter expressing significant concerns about the offset that was used to fund the program which would end new federal student loans for students who attend schools subject to the Net Investment Income Tax also known as the "endowment tax."

On January 11, 2024, Chairwoman Virginia Foxx (R-NC) introduced the College Cost Reeducation Act, focused on accountability, transparency and affordability measures. The bill includes changes to accreditation; prohibits the executive and Department of Education from making new regulations around student debt; up front guaranteed price measures; enhances data collection and reporting on college outcomes; increases PROMISE grants; sunsets the PLUS loan program and limits borrowing up to the median cost of college, among other provisions.

NIL: On January 11, 2024, Reps. Bilirakis (R-FL) and Dingell (D-MI) and Sen. Lujan (D-NM) released a discussion draft of their FAIR College Sports Act (Fairness, Accountability, and Integrity in Representation of College Sports Act).

### **Biden Administration and Agency Update**

FASFA: On December 31, 2023, the Department of Education released the new updated FASFA form. There were initial reports of widespread delays and issues logging into and completion of the form. The Department will transmit results in late January, giving financial aid officers less time than normal to finalize aid offers to students. As part of the FAFSA Simplification Act of 2021 Congress directed the Department to protect more of a student's or family's income from

being considered in determining awards and subject those income protections to keep up with inflation. However, the Department did not make the inflation adjustments, resulting in the appearance of more income for students and families. This formula is used to determine federal work study, loans, and scholarships offered by states and institutions. The Department has not determined how or when they will fix the formula issue.

### **2024 Election Outlook**

With the 2024 election cycle in full momentum after the Iowa caucuses on January 15, congressional action is expected to slow as members focus on reelection. All House members of the Illinois congressional delegation are up for reelection in November. Current polling shows a likely Biden/Trump match up in the presidential race.

### **NIU in DC Update**

On December 12, 2023 NIU federal relations hosted a delegation of 30 individuals from the Indonesian House of Representatives on Capitol Hill as part of the Office of Global Initiatives Legislative Management Training Program. The delegation met with Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), the Clerk of the House Kevin McCumber and, the House Chief Administrative Officer Catherine Szpindor, to learn best practices for supporting elected officials and government operations.

## SPONSORED PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION QUARTERLY REPORT

For the second quarter of Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 NIU received 109 sponsored awards totaling \$8.3 million. This brings cumulative FY24 activity to 172 sponsored awards totaling \$21.9M. The distribution of these awards is as follows: \$11.2M for research, \$5.5M for instruction, and \$5.2M for other sponsored activities (OSA) (Figure 1). Research funding increased by 16% over the same period last year and instructional funding increased 31%. OSA funding is down 63% mainly due to continuing delays in executing several State of Illinois contracts. The total value of these contracts is approximately \$12M, and SPA expects to award them this fiscal year. Taking this funding into account and other awards in process, NIU's sponsored funding portfolio continues to show signs of steady growth with federal and state funds continuing to account for most of the funding portfolio (Figure 2).

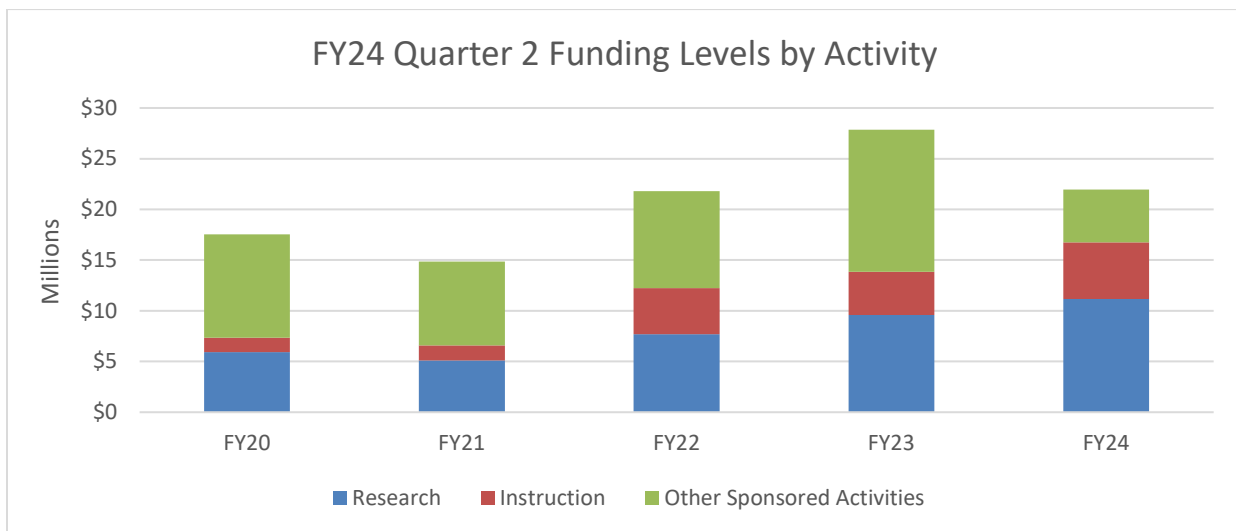


Figure 1

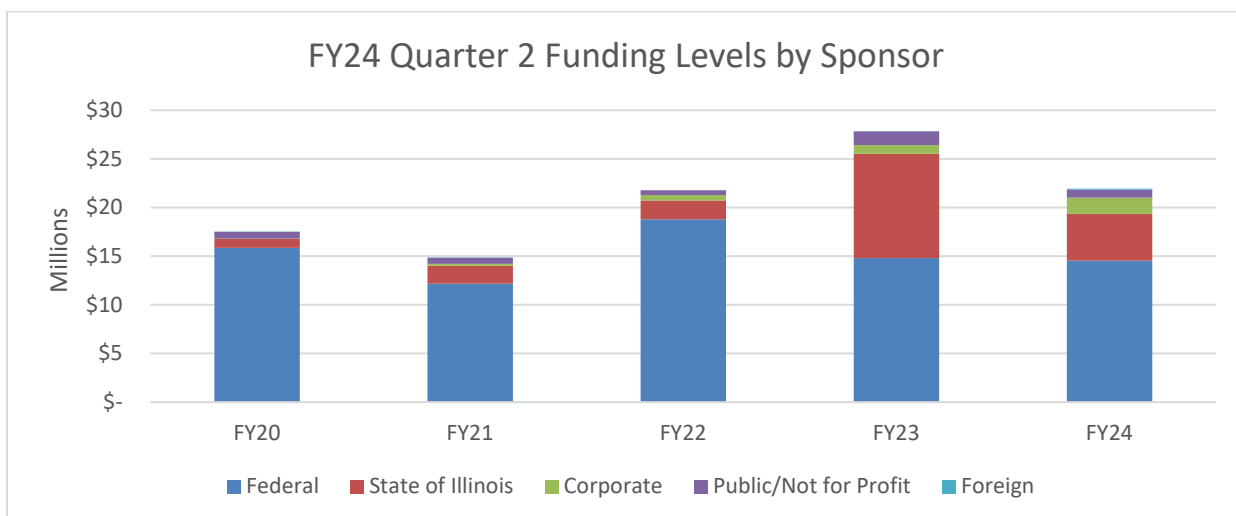


Figure 2

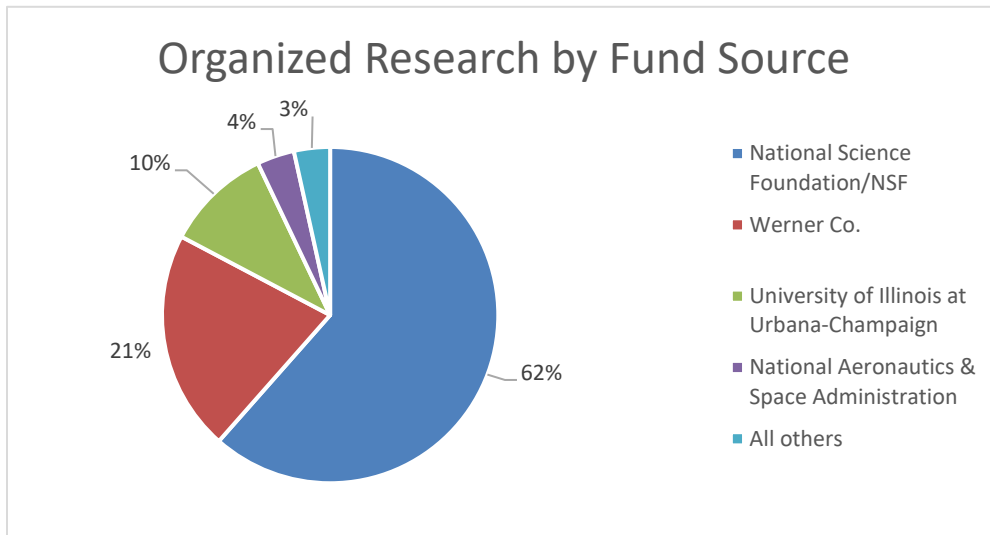


Figure 3  
 Note: Other category includes agencies contributing 1%-2% of the total.  
 Amounts based on originating fund source.

Figure 3 illustrates research funding received this quarter from a broad range of sponsor types with most of the funding (\$1.9M) coming from the National Science Foundation (NSF). Most of the NSF funding was secured by faculty in the Departments of Chemistry and Biochemistry and

Physics. NSF funding this quarter also includes support won by staff in RIPS' new Office of Research Development from the NSF Growing Research Access for Nationally Transformative Equity and Diversity (GRANTED) program to convene a conference of regional institutions to discuss how to collaborate and share expertise to attract and retain talented research administrators and strengthen the research administration enterprise.

Industry funding from Werner Corporation accounted for the second highest level of research funding this quarter with \$673K to faculty in the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering to enhance manufacturing operations and develop automation solutions. Funding totaling \$323K from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign included support for a mix of projects under the Illinois Innovation Network, SHIELD Illinois, and other State of Illinois funded collaborative research. These projects span activities in the Departments of Biological Sciences, Industrial and Systems Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and the School of Health Studies. The SHIELD Illinois projects are focusing specifically on 1) utilizing knowledge obtained from the pandemic to improve supply chains for disease testing, and 2) understanding institutional decision-making and the wastewater surveillance pathogen testing laboratory to train the next generation of lab technicians in Illinois.

Other departments securing research funding this quarter include 1) Earth, Atmosphere, and Environment (\$259K) to delve into the motivations behind participation in STEM Disability Communities of Transformation; 2) Mechanical Engineering (\$197K) to investigate the impact of posture and stress on human crowd dynamics during emergency situations; and 3) Physics (\$636K) with four grants targeting diverse areas including US ATLAS Operations, EF Tracking - ACTS Interface Toolset, Monte Carlo Modeling of Photoemission from Semiconductors, and Optical Transport and Beam Manipulation for Optical Stochastic Cooling.

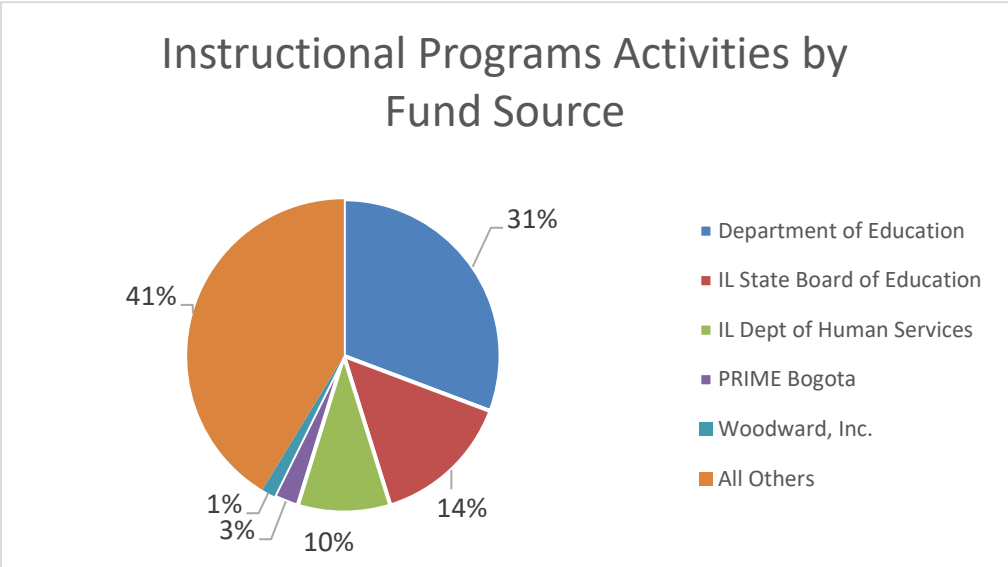


Figure 4  
 Note: Other category includes agencies contributing 1% of the total.  
 Amounts based on originating fund source.

Figure 4 shows the distribution of Instructional funding received this quarter. Most of the funding this quarter is continuing support for existing NIU instructional and training programs. The U.S. Department of Education accounted for 31% of all support allocated

across two projects in the Departments of Psychology (\$500K) and Special Education (\$250K). The project in the Department of Psychology aims to recruit, train, and graduate five scholars that will gain faculty positions to train, produce and fund research, to mentor, and to demonstrate leadership to support mental and behaviors services for all students. The project in the Department of Special and Early Education aims to increase the number and improve the quality of personnel who are fully credentialed as teachers of students with visual impairments (TVIs) or orientation and mobility specialists (OMSs) to serve diverse children.

The Illinois State Board of Education provided 14% of the support amounting to \$353K, specifically designated for the NIU Preschool for All Expansion program. The Illinois Department of Human Services provided 10% of the support, totaling \$233K, directed towards Peer Recovery Training through the School of Interdisciplinary Health Professions.

In addition to these awards, the College of Business, and the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering reported \$1M and \$78K in locally managed instructional awards.

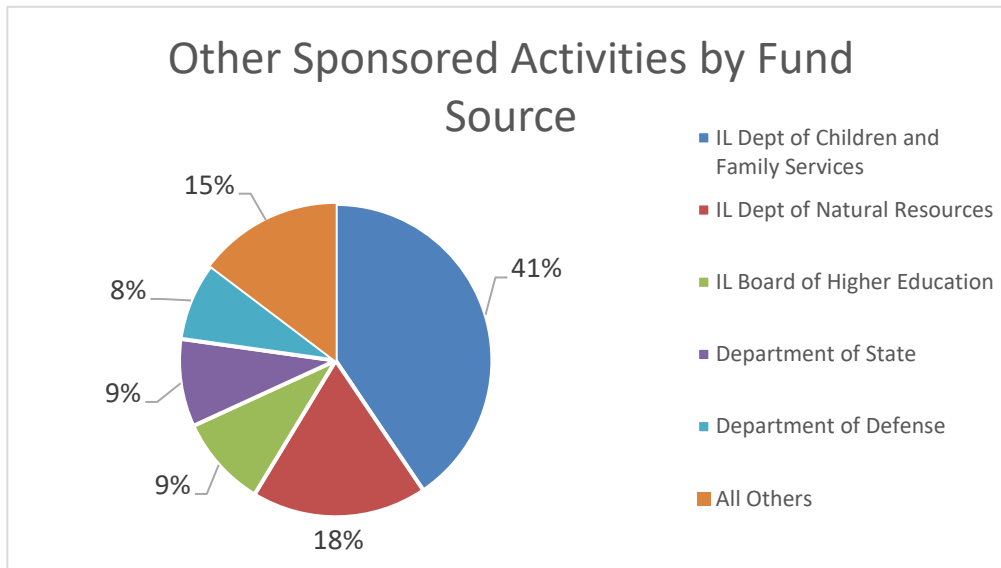


Figure 5

Note: Other category includes agencies contributing 1%-6% of the total.

Amounts based on originating funding source.

Most of the funding for Other Sponsored Activities (Figure 5) came from the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (41%) and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (18%). These agencies allocated funds for various ongoing programs. The

Center of Child Welfare and Education received \$1.1M from the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services to enhance academic success and graduation opportunities for youths under the care of the department. The Institute for the Study of the Environment, Sustainability and Energy received \$500K from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to manage planning and data requirements of state and local parks, as well as open space lands in Illinois.

Faculty in several other departments secured awards such as the Center for Southeast Asian Studies receiving an award of \$250M from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs/Department of State to engage young advocates in environmental preservation and peacebuilding. The Center for the Study of Family Violence and Sexual Assault was awarded \$223K from Cherokee Nation Businesses to continue working on Air Force Family Advocacy Programs. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration/Department of Labor awarded \$158K for the Continuing Professional Education unit; the National Park Service/Department of the Interior supported two projects in the Anthropology department totaling \$121K; Columbia University provided \$71K in National Science Foundation funding to faculty in the Department of Earth, Atmosphere and Environment; the Illinois Network of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies to support the School of Family and Consumer Sciences (\$29K); and Argonne National Laboratory supporting the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science (\$24K).

Across various colleges, significant cumulative increases were observed (Table 1). The increase of 193% for the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology is due to the previously mentioned funding from the Werner Company (\$673K) as well as funding from the National Science Foundation (\$197K), and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign/SHIELD program (\$118K). The College of Health and Human Sciences increase of 40% is due to funding from the Illinois State Board of Education for the School of Family and Consumer Sciences (\$353K) and the Illinois Department of Human Services for the School of Interdisciplinary Health Professions (\$233K). The Division of Student Affairs reported below under Other University Units experienced an increase of 489% due to funding from the Illinois Board of Higher Education (\$171K) as part of the Mental Health Early Action on Campus Act. The College of Business



showed an increase of 54% due to awarded instructional contracts reported, but not managed, through SPA.

Table 1

College	Organized Research	Instructional Programs	Other Sponsored Activities	FY24 - 2nd Qtr. Totals	FY23 - 2nd Qtr. Totals	% Change
Business	-	\$ 1,025,441	-	\$ 1,025,441	\$ 665,104	54%
Education	\$ 273,863	\$ 1,950,000	\$ 329,725	\$ 2,553,588	\$ 2,951,278	-13%
Engineering & Engineering Technology	\$2,093,820	\$ 78,300	\$ 15,304	\$ 2,187,424	\$ 746,007	193%
Health and Human Sciences	\$ 300,202	\$ 1,633,200	\$ 786,753	\$ 2,720,155	\$ 1,937,982	40%
Law	-	-	-	-	\$ 181,969	-
Liberal Arts and Sciences	\$5,862,840	\$ 750,000	\$2,066,870	\$ 8,679,710	\$ 8,662,075	0%
Visual and Performing Arts	-	-	\$ 10,600	\$ 10,600	\$ 20,111	-47%
Outreach, Engagement and Regional Development	\$ 157,500	-	\$1,795,323	\$ 1,952,823	\$ 9,779,983	-80%
Other Academic Units	\$2,467,472	\$ 141,046	-	\$ 2,608,518	\$ 2,885,775	-10%
Other University Units	\$ 1,000	-	\$ 210,946	\$ 211,946	\$ 36,000	489%
<b>Total</b>	\$11,156,697	\$5,577,987	\$5,215,521	\$21,950,205	\$27,866,286	-21%

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

## ANTHROPOLOGY

*National Park Service/Department of the Interior for "NAGPRA: Facilitating Visits by Tribal Representatives for Consultation at the Pick Museum of Anthropology, NIU Pick Museum." Christy A DeLair.*

Award: \$21,224.00.

October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Other.

This project will support successful consultations leading to repatriations of sacred objects and objects of cultural patrimony for the Navajo Nation and the Hopi Tribe of Arizona; and to develop internal practices to facilitate future consultations.

*National Park Service/Department of the Interior for "Consultation on Human Remains and Archaeological Materials in the Department of Anthropology Collections at NIU." Leila M Porter/Christy A DeLair.*

Award: \$100,000.00.

October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Other.

The project will support the rehire of a technician who will coordinate and manage efforts to bring the department and museum osteological and archaeological collections in compliance with NAGPRA regulations.

## **BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

*University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for "SHIELD Legacy at NIU: Leveraging COVID-19 Lessons Learned in Institutional Decision-Making and the Wastewater Surveillance Pathogen Testing Laboratory as a Forum for Training the Next Generation of Laboratory Technicians in State Workforce Development." Barrie P Bode.*

Award: \$145,573.03.

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

This project investigates the impact of SHIELD testing on institutional decision-making and policies during the pandemic, as well as the use of the wastewater surveillance testing lab as a forum for student training and workforce development.

*University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for "A Pilot Study on the Prevalence and Rise of Antibiotic-Resistant Genes in Urban and Rural Illinois." Pallavi Singh.*

Award: \$30,000.00.

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

The purpose of the proposed research is to build capacity at Illinois' institute of higher education for the detection of these antibiotics gene markers in soil, water, and sewage system.

## **CENTER FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES**

*Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs/Department of State for "PYLP 2021: Engaging Young Advocates in Environmental Preservation and Peacebuilding." Rhodalyne Q Gallo-Crail/Eric A Jones.*

Award: \$249,999.00. Cumulative \$749,998.00.

September 17, 2021 - December 31, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

Exchange program bringing teenagers and adult educators from the Philippines to the U.S. for exposure to/training in civic education, leadership, diversity, and community engagement, and preparation to conduct projects at home that serve a community need.

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

*Cherokee Nation Businesses for "Continuation: Subcontract Relating to Air Force Family Advocacy Programs." Joel S Milner/Joe A Ammar/Julie L Crouch.*

Award: \$223,000.00. Cumulative \$646,000.00.

September 30, 2023 - September 29, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

NIU will assist with the evaluation and enhancement of the Air Force Family Advocacy Program and New Parent Support Program.

## **CHEMISTRY AND BIOCHEMISTRY**

*National Science Foundation/NSF for "Collaborative Research: DMREF: High-Throughput Screening of Electrolytes for the Next-Generation of Rechargeable Batteries." Tao Li.*

Award: \$760,000.00.

October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2027. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

The research aims to uncover the structure-property relationships of battery liquid electrolytes to provide a scientific basis for the development of high-performance, safe, and sustainable energy storage solutions.

## **COLLEGE OF BUSINESS**

*Lakeview Precision Machining, Inc. for "MBA Schaumburg." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.*

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

*National Express, LLC for "MBA Schaumburg." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.*

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

*84.51 Stratum for "MBA Schaumburg." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.*

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

*University of Illinois Extension for "MBA Schaumburg." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.*

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

*Wolters Kluwer for "MBA Schaumburg." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.*

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Apollo Program II, Inc. for "MBA Schaumburg." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Zurn Elkay Water Solutions for "MBA Schaumburg." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Danfoss LLC for "MBA Schaumburg." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Chase Bank for "MBA Schaumburg." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Conexiom for "MBA Schaumburg." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Motorola Solutions for "MBA Schaumburg." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***AT&T for "MBA Schaumburg." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Kenco Group for "MBA Schaumburg." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Krex, Inc. for "MBA Schaumburg." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***U.S. Army Reserve/Department of the Army/DoD for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Abbott Laboratories for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,659.09.

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

***Schmid Tool & Engineering Corporation for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,659.09.

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

***Huntington National Bank for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,659.09.

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

***Insurance Auto Auctions, Inc. for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,659.09.

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

***Lakeshore Recycling Systems for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,659.09.

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

***State Farm Insurance Companies for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,659.09.

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

***Rubicon for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,659.09.

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

***AbbVie Inc. for "MBA Schaumburg." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Metra Commuter Rail for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Access Community Health Network for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Youth Guidance Chicago for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Deloitte for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Inner-City Muslim Action Network for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Structure Re-Right Inc. for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Abbott Laboratories for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***City of Chicago for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Misericordia Heart of Mercy for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Brookfield Properties for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Amazon.com, Inc. for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$3,300.00.

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

***CDK Global, Inc. for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Hi-Tech Polymers, Inc. for "MBA Schaumburg." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***NDTR Center Inc. for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Greater Chicago Food Depository for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Walgreens Company for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Amazon.com, Inc. for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Amada Senior Care South Shore for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Department of the Air Force/DoD for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Plant Moran for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Tata Consultancy Services for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,659.09.

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

***Northwestern Medicine for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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



***Danfoss LLC for "MBA Schaumburg." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Daniel Management Group for "MBA Chicago." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,400.00.

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

***Housing Finance Specialist for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,250.00.

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

***PRIME Bogota for "Workshop." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$37,100.00.

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

***PRIME Bogota for "Workshop." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$25,000.00.

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

***CVS Health for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,250.00.

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

***Siemens for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,250.00.

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

***Onbe for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,250.00.

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

***Harting, Inc. for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,250.00.

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

***Lakeshore Recycling Systems for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,250.00.

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

***Allstate Insurance Corp. for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,250.00.

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

***Flinn Scientific Inc. for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,659.09.

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

***Rush-Copley Medical Center for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,250.00.

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

***Fortune Brands Innovations for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,250.00.

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

***Rush University Medical Center for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,659.09.

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

***Ring Container Technologies for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,250.00.

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

***Nestle Brands Company for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,250.00.

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

***Enlighten & Fulfilled LLC for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$9,750.00.

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

***The Good Fruit Company for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,250.00.

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

***Global Contract Manufacturing for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,250.00.

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

***QuidelOrtho for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,250.00.

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

***METRIE for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,250.00.

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

***New Plan Learning Inc. for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,250.00.

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

***Elite Dental Partners for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,250.00.

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

***Boyarski Development Co. for "MBA Executive." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.***

Award: \$14,250.00.

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

### **CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION**

*Occupational Safety and Health Administration/Department of Labor for "Susan Harwood Training Program 2023-2024: Targeted Training Program." Pettee Borissova.*

Award: \$158,531.00.

September 30, 2023 - September 30, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

This project will fund the development and delivery of machine guarding training to prevent fatalities and amputations.

### **CENTER FOR CHILD WELFARE AND EDUCATION**

*Illinois Department of Children and Family Services for "FY24 Education Access Project." Yasmina Sefiane.*

Award: \$1,117,892.00.

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

The overall purpose of the Educational Access Project (EAP) is to promote academic success and improve opportunities for graduation for youth who are in the care in the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

### **EARTH, ATMOSPHERE AND ENVIRONMENT**

*Columbia University for "US Advisory Committee (USAC) Chair, Justin Dodd." Justin P Dodd.*

Award: \$71,354.00.

October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

The project includes 4 months of salary support for the PI (Dodd) to serve as the chair of the US Advisory Committee for Scientific Ocean Drilling for a 1-yr period (10/1/2023 - to be administered as a subaward from Columbia University (USSSP-IODP).

*National Science Foundation/NSF for "Investigating Motivation to Participate in STEM Disability Communities of Transformation." Megan R Brown.*

Award: \$259,580.00.

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

The proposed pilot research investigates the motivation of individuals to participate in a special type of Community of Practice, Communities of Transformation (CoT), which work to increase inclusion and accessibility for disabled people in STEM.

***National Aeronautics & Space Administration/NASA for "Testing Early Mars Climate from Global Spatial Distribution of Valley Network Geomorphology." Wei Luo.***

Award: \$114,427.00. Cumulative \$335,067.00.

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

The goal of this project is to test which climate scenario on early Mars is most consistent with the spatial distribution of valley network geomorphology (e.g., Hack's law exponent, basin hypsometry, circularity, and valley depth) on a global scale.

## **INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF THE ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABILITY, AND ENERGY**

***Illinois Department of Natural Resources for "IDNR Planning and Data Support." Thomas S Skuzinski.***

Award: \$500,000.00.

October 3, 2023 - October 2, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

This project engages ESE in activities supporting the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) in the ongoing planning and data needs of the state and local parks and open space lands in Illinois.

## **SCHOOL OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES**

***Illinois Network of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies for "Smart Start Transition Grant." Kristin E Schulz.***

Award: \$29,900.00.

October 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

This grant will provide funding to support the Child Development and Family Center.

***Illinois State Board of Education for "NIU Preschool for All Expansion." Thomas W Pavkov/Amy S Lofthouse.***

Award: \$352,949.00.

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

This project will enhance cohesive and comprehensive early learning opportunities for preschoolers in the DeKalb community.

## **INDUSTRIAL AND SYSTEMS ENGINEERING**

### ***Woodward, Inc. for "Lean Six Sigma Workshops." Gary Chen.***

Award: \$34,200.00.

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

### ***Werner Co. for "Lean Six Sigma Workshops." Gary Chen.***

Award: \$21,600.00.

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

### ***Motorola Solutions for "Senior Design." Gary Chen.***

Award: \$7,500.00.

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

### ***SPX Flow for "Senior Design." Gary Chen.***

Award: \$7,500.00.

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

### ***Suncast Corporation for "Senior Design." Gary Chen.***

Award: \$7,500.00.

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

### ***University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for "Integrated Manufacturing and In-situ Computer Vision-based Inspection for Robotically Automated Production." Niechen Chen/Christine V Nguyen/Purushothaman Damodaran.***

Award: \$25,000.00.

December 1, 2023 - November 30, 2024. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

The purpose of the project is to develop an integration of manufacturing and inspection processes using collaborative robots (cobots).

### ***Werner Co. for "Improving Manufacturing Operations and Developing Automation Solutions." Purushothaman Damodaran/Niechen Chen.***

Award: \$673,528.61. Cumulative \$832,598.08.

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

The project aims to analyze an assembly line to identify and mitigate bottlenecks. The project also will aim at implementing automation solutions for some of the operations.

***University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for "Forging the Shield: Creating and Optimizing a Supply Chain for Disease Testing in A Pandemic." Ziteng Wang.***

Award: \$118,398.00.

June 30, 2023 - June 29, 2025. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

The purpose of the project is creating and optimizing a supply chain for disease testing in a pandemic.

## **INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS**

***Great Lakes Athletic Trainers' Association (GLATA) for "To Disclose or Not to Disclose: Insight Into the Professional Interactions of LGBTQ Plus Athletic Training Students." Ashley C Bosch/Tyler A Wood.***

Award: \$1,000.00.

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

The purpose of this study is to determine what factors impact the rate of disclosure of LGBTQ+ identities and what the implications of disclosure are for athletic training students.

## **MECHANICAL ENGINEERING**

***University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for "Engineering Sustainable Composite Membranes for Water Filtration and Remediation." Bobby Sinko/Sabrina Nilufar.***

Award: \$30,000.00.

November 1, 2023 - October 31, 2024. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

To ensure equitable access to clean water, filtration solutions that are affordable, customizable, and rapidly deployable are needed. This work will develop new composites that are low-cost, sustainable, and easily manufacturable for this purpose.

***National Science Foundation/NSF for "The Role of Posture and Stress in Human Crowd Dynamics During Emergency Situations." Sachit Butail.***

Award: \$197,535.00.

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

The goal is to develop data-driven modeling of contagion in evacuating crowds.

## **NURSING**

***University of Iowa for "Smart Tablet Education for Healthy Living for Community Dwelling Older Adults." Anitha Saravanan.***

Award: \$10,000.00.

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

The STEHL program is aimed to develop an intervention and evaluate the effectiveness of the STEHL intervention to older adults dwelling in the Dekalb community to improve their knowledge on healthy living and improve their quality of life.

## **PHYSICS**

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

Award: \$77,058.00. Cumulative \$461,117.00.

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

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

***Columbia University for "EF Tracking - ACTS Interface Toolset." Jahred A Adelman.***

Award: \$271,468.00.

May 1, 2023 - April 30, 2024. (Organized Research) Basic Research.

The award will fund a Software Engineer to work on the ATLAS experiment with a focus on charged particle tracking in the trigger system. It also includes issuance of NSF's portion of funds to CERN for hardware purchases.

***Cornell University for "Monte Carlo Modeling of Photoemission from Semiconductors." Oksana Chubenko.***

Award: \$130,639.00. Cumulative \$252,729.00.

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

This project will improve emission capabilities of conventional and novel electron sources through detailed modeling of electron emission from bulk semiconductors and layered structures, identifying and reducing performance limiting mechanisms.

***Cornell University for "Optical Transport and Beam Manipulation for Optical Stochastic Cooling." Philippe Piot.***



Award: \$157,080.00. Cumulative \$581,447.00.

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

Funds are requested to develop subsystems (laser amplifier and electron-beam bypass beamlines) associated with the Optical Stochastic Cooling technique.

## **PSYCHOLOGY**

*Department of Education for "Projects SMARTS." Julia A Ogg/Michelle Demaray.*

Award: \$500,000.00.

October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

The program will recruit, train, and graduate five scholars that will gain faculty positions to train, produce and fund research, mentor, and demonstrate leadership to support mental and behavioral services for all students.

## **SCHOOL OF HEALTH STUDIES**

*University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for "A Comprehensive Public Health Approach to Asthma Control Through Evidence-Based Interventions: Asthma Program Evaluation." Arlene M Keddie.*

Award: \$74,130.00. Cumulative \$93,290.00.

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

The project involves implementing the data collection, analysis and manuscript writing of qualitative evaluation, and creating the plan for at least one other one.

## **SCHOOL OF INTERDISCIPLINARY HEALTH PROFESSIONS**

*Illinois Department of Human Services for "Peer Recovery Training." Paul E Priester.*

Award: \$233,585.00. Cumulative \$1,280,251.00.

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

This program will train individuals with a lived experience of mental illness and/or substance use disorders to become certified mental health professionals.

## **SPECIAL AND EARLY EDUCATION**

*Department of Education for "Project Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI); Preparing Diverse Scholars in Teacher of the Visually Impaired and Orientation and Mobility Programs to Serve Diverse Children with Visual Impairments and High-Intensity Needs." Stacy M Kelly/Molly A Pasley.*

Award: \$250,000.00.

October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

The purpose of this project is to increase the number and improve the quality of personnel who are fully credentialed as teachers of students with visual impairments (TVIs) or orientation and mobility specialists (OMSs) to serve diverse children.

## **STATISTICS**

***Argonne National Laboratory for "Design, Conduct, and Analyze the Annual User Survey for the Argonne National Lab." Lei Hua.***

Award: \$23,952.57.

October 23, 2023 - April 30, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Testing/Evaluation.

Design, conduct, and analyze the annual user survey for the Argonne National Lab.

## **STUDENT AFFAIRS**

***Illinois Board of Higher Education for "FY24 MHEAC Mental Health Early Action on Campus Act." Clint-Michael Reneau/Kelly L Olson.***

Award: \$171,513.00.

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

The goal of this project is to address gaps in mental health services on college campuses across Illinois through training, peer support and community-campus activities.

## **VP MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS**

***Illinois Board of Higher Education for "Common Application FY24." Sol D Jensen.***

Award: \$89,800.00.

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

Funds will be used to support NIU's implementation and membership in the Common App.

## **VP RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PARTNERSHIPS**

***National Science Foundation/NSF for "Conference: INTEGRaL: Innovation Network To Enhance and Grow Research Infrastructure and Links." Kellie M Dyslin.***

Award: \$99,631.00.

October 1, 2023 - March 31, 2025. (Organized Research) Conference.

This project will convene regional institutions to discuss how they can collaborate and share expertise to attract and retain talented research administrators and scale the research administration infrastructure across the research enterprise.

**NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDIBLE CAMPUS PROGRAM AN  
EXAMPLE OF FOOD SYSTEMS INNOVATION COLLABORATIONS**

Assistant Director for Food Systems Innovation, Bryan Flower will give a presentation on food systems innovation and collaboration with NIU, ComEd and EPRI. This presentation supports University Goal 5B by expanding opportunities to create knowledge and community engagement related to food systems and educate the next generation of environmental scientists and stewards.