

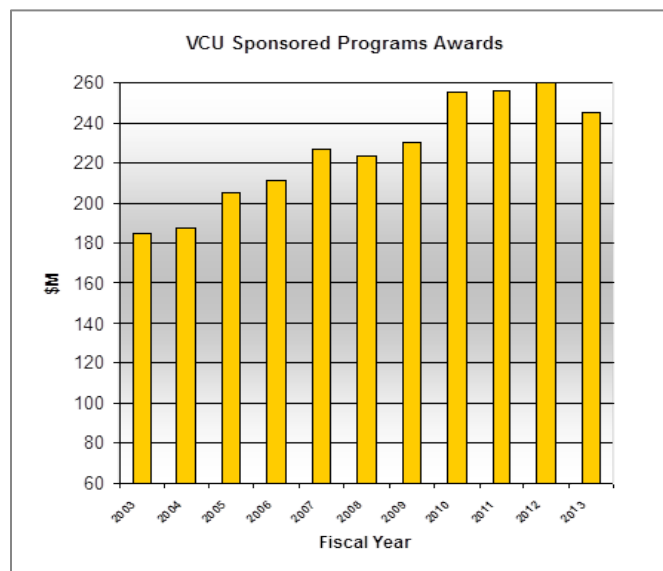


FY 2013 Research Highlights

Designated as a research university with high research activity by the Carnegie Foundation, Virginia Commonwealth University sponsored programs support has significantly increased in the past decade.

Between awards for sponsored programs and gifts directed towards research activity, VCU garnered more than \$248 million in FY 2013. According to National Science Foundation (NSF) statistics, VCU ranked 101st nationally in total R&D expenditures and 81st in federal R & D expenditures in FY 2012, the latest year that data were available from NSF.

VCU's research excellence has been buoyed by the commitment to interdisciplinary approaches, the university's investment in its research infrastructure, and the concomitant growth of the sponsored research budget.



- VCU is classified by the Carnegie Foundation as a Research University-Very High Research Activity, the highest ranking afforded by the Foundation. Carnegie has also placed the university in the status category of Community Engaged, making it among just 28 public research institutions that enjoy both of these accolades.
- VCU is among a limited group of universities that hold both a National Institutes of Health (NIH) core grant to support its National Cancer Center and a NIH Clinical and Translational Science Award that supports pan-university translational research.
- The majority of VCU's extramural funding in FY 2013 came from federal sources, including the National Institutes of Health (\$79 million), the Department of Education (\$9 million), the National Science Foundation (\$7 million), and the Department of Defense (\$5 million). Private funders awarded VCU more than \$61 million.
- VCU's research excellence has been buoyed by the commitment to interdisciplinary approaches, with particular strengths in the areas of cancer; neuroscience; substance abuse and addiction; the human microbiome; and nanoscience, nanomedicine, and nanotechnology. Examples of extramural support received in these areas are the \$62 million grant from the U.S. Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs to oversee a national research consortium of universities, hospitals, and clinics to study mild traumatic brain injuries or concussions among service members and veterans; and the \$18 million grant from the Federal Drug Administration and the NIH to study electronic cigarettes and to develop an evaluation tool to help inform United States tobacco regulatory policy.
- To date, VCU has five active National Institutes of Health-funded research training grants specifically aimed at increasing the university's potential to make a positive impact on the number of underrepresented minority biomedical research scientists.
- The university's Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Site grant was renewed once again by the NSF in FY 2013. This long-running program, headed by the Department of Chemistry, provides valuable research experiences for students predominantly from non-PhD-granting schools whose research opportunities are limited.
- In FY 2013, VCU researchers filed 150 patents, and 6 patents were issued. This was due to the support of VCU's Innovation Gateway, which has expanded to include building strategic industry collaborations and regional partnerships, and supporting entrepreneurship and new venture creation.

