

Research funding at Florida State University brings in record \$233 million

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Florida State University researcher Sandra Brooke, who will serve as the scientific director for FSU's Apalachicola Bay Systems Initiative funded by an \$8-million grant from Triumph Gulf Coast. (Photo: Special to the Democrat)

Researchers at Florida State University received \$233.6 million in funding for fiscal year 2019, the university announced today.

The record figure exceeds the amount generated from federal, state and private sources for the 2018 fiscal year by \$7 million. The funding goes toward research into areas such as health sciences, high energy physics and marine biology.

"We are seeing a return on the critical investments we've made over the past several years to support our researchers, and we hope to continue that trend in the years to come," said Gary K. Ostrander, vice president for research.

This year's total received a boost from the university's focus on nontraditional funding pathways, Ostrander said.

For instance, FSU was awarded nearly \$8 million from Triumph Gulf Coast as part of a 10-year initiative to restore Apalachicola Bay and revive the region's imperiled oyster industry.

Triumph Gulf Coast is a nonprofit corporation organized to distribute money recovered by the state for economic damages that resulted from the 2010 Deepwater Horizon spill.

Florida State also ranks fifth in the state for National Institutes for Health money, placing it ahead of the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville.

NIH funding goes toward traditional biomedical research into diseases and conditions such as stroke, the flu and cancer, in addition to behavioral health issues and neurological disorders such as learning disabilities.



Gary K. Ostrander, Vice President for Research at Florida State University (Photo: Michele Edmunds)

“These dollars represent our faculty’s dedication to pursuing science that helps improve lives,” Ostrander said. “Biomedical researchers are working on treatments for stroke, migraines, cancer and Alzheimer’s. The money the university has received from the NIH demonstrates the faith that federal officials have in FSU researchers to make big scientific breakthroughs in areas critical to public health.”

FSU’s record year of funding 2014 when researchers brought in \$230.1 million. However, that total was boosted by federal stimulus dollars that had to be used during a certain period.

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