



## Research Impact in a Year of Transition *FY25 Emory Research Summary*

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Dear Colleagues,

As we begin the 2025–2026 academic year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the resilience and accomplishments of Emory’s research community during a year of change and challenge. National shifts in federal research priorities and processes have impacted many of us here at Emory – but we have also continued to positively impact our community, Georgia, and the world around us, pursuing and producing research that drives real-world change. The Emory research enterprise remains vibrant, innovative, and deeply committed to discovery in the service of humanity.

### ♥ *Research Impact*

In FY25, Emory’s impact can be seen in our commitment to research and scholarship that serves our communities through groundbreaking studies that address urgent needs. Statewide, Emory’s impact extends to community organizations, small businesses, rural towns, and farms. Health sciences faculty are working to improve access to care and healthy environments by offering telemedicine services for rural ambulance systems that reduce emergency response times, creating healthy homes through campaigns to reduce secondhand smoke exposure, and tracking the long-term impacts of toxic contaminants in our coastal communities. Emory researchers are partnering with farm workers to improve cardiovascular health, training doulas to reduce maternal mortality in underserved regions, and expanding nutrition programs that increase access to healthy foods. Business scholars are helping hospitals generate more revenue by increasing nursing staff and reducing wait times. Thus, Emory research improves the lives of Georgians.

In Atlanta and our local communities, Emory faculty are building partnerships across all disciplines. In one initiative, researchers are using improvisational theater techniques to equip caregivers of individuals with dementia to improve care. A semester-long collaboration between a music composition class and an improvisational dance course at Spelman College culminated in a public showcase exploring the intersection of creative expression and AI tools. Scholars from Law created a new pro bono legal clinic that helps new inventors navigate the patent system. Scholars at the Oxford Organic Farm, one of the top sustainable college-run farms in the country, not only produce food for the dining hall, Emory Healthcare, and its community-supported agriculture subscription, but also provide a living laboratory for student research in sustainability, agriculture, and even natural-product applications in biomedical inquiry. Emory theology scholars have created a program with local churches to reimagine worship by centering children and their spiritual lives through art, movement, drama, and photography. And scholars at Winship Cancer Institute have established a diverse array of educational summer programs for students in middle school through college that immerse them in research, data analysis, and lab work that open doors to careers in science.

Emory's national research and scholarship impacts policy and practice through community partnerships and public scholarship. Emory faculty have testified before Congress to inform policy on natural resources, advised the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee on immigration enforcement, and expanded a YouTube series for preschoolers called Nature Time. Researchers have developed diagnostic tests to simultaneously detect multiple respiratory viruses, used an AI-guided protocol to reduce unnecessary antibiotic prescriptions, and discovered new therapeutic approaches for HIV, bringing us one step closer to a cure. Globally, researchers have collaborated with communities to implement mosquito control strategies in urban neighborhoods, fortify food to prevent birth defects, and advise small coffee farmers on growing their businesses. By translating knowledge into practice, Emory ensures its research and scholarship carries out our mission of serving humanity.

Read more about Emory's research impacts [here](#).

### ♥ *Telling Our Story*

Understanding the societal benefits of academic research is essential to rebuilding public trust in science. Seeing and feeling the impacts of our work in their daily lives and in their communities is more important now than ever before. We are deeply committed to ensuring that the public understands the value of the work we do as we steward taxpayer dollars and make research actionable.

Emory's Center for Public Scholarship and Engagement (CPSE), which launched in FY24, equips faculty with skills to share their work with broader audiences through op-eds, podcasts, public talks, and policy briefs. This initiative has spurred programming like the Ideas Festival and the Public Scholarship Academy aimed at elevating faculty narratives beyond academic circles. Through these programs Emory faculty have appeared in The Atlantic, NPR, The Hill, and state-level policy forums, and shaped public discourse on topics from artificial intelligence to maternal health. Read more about CPSE's Academy and the October 2025 Ideas Festival [here](#).

Emory research, scholarship, and storytelling is featured on more than two dozen Emory podcasts, such as Buried Truths with historian Hank Klibanoff and Foodie Pharmacology with ethnobotanist Cassandra Quave. These podcasts cover topics ranging from stories of injustice and resistance in the American South to demystifying the science behind trending national topics to investigating political, socio-economic, and cultural issues in contemporary Africa and the African diasporas. This fall, the Office of the SVPR will be debuting a new podcast series, "Impact in Progress" hosted by Kimberly Eck, highlighting the work of Emory faculty and staff and providing accessible audio storytelling about how campus scholarship intersects with everyday life. Listen to the trailer for Season 1 [here](#).

## ♥ Research Sponsorship

Emory's research is largely aligned with current federal priorities, and we believe we are well-positioned to continue receiving sponsorship that enables us to make positive contributions to our nation. At the same time, Emory has seen 101 awards terminated during this year of federal transitions, including 57 awards with Emory as the prime awardee and 44 subawards. These actions have affected some of Emory's leading scientists and staff and negatively impacted portions of our research portfolio. To date, 16 of the terminated awards (representing nearly 50% of the award dollars terminated) have been reinstated, while the schools and SVPR Office continue to collaborate to help faculty and staff pursue new avenues for funding and resources. These programs include RESUBMIT, co-sponsored by the Office of SVPR, for investigators in Emory College of Arts and Sciences to support peer review for resubmissions, and the Oxford College Grantseekers Cohort, a year-long series to support new investigators seeking funding.

For the third consecutive year, Emory secured over \$1 billion in sponsored research awards, with FY25 funding totaling \$1.075 billion. Sponsored research expenditures exceeded \$1 billion for the second year in a row as well, a major indicator of our research activity and economic footprint. These investments help advance Emory's mission while contributing substantially to Georgia's economy and workforce. Emory's research enterprise directly supports thousands of jobs and continues to attract industry, philanthropic, and federal investment to the state. Our State of Georgia funding rose over 50% this year, driven by initiatives with the Georgia Department of Public Health, and Emory appreciates the investments from the state in our research initiatives.

Funder	FY23	FY24	FY25
NIH	\$557,450,648	\$509,542,764	\$516,559,081
Asst. Secretary for Preparedness & Response BARDA	\$9,483,581	\$7,599,936	\$54,719,998
Department of Defense	\$7,790,976	\$8,920,764	\$26,927,095
Centers for Disease Control	\$57,222,205	\$66,696,979	\$23,491,756
National Science Foundation	\$16,817,703	\$16,863,985	\$20,959,848
ARPA -H		\$24,754,589	\$8,945,662
Other Federal Agencies	\$43,921,408	\$35,942,052	\$25,148,595
<b>TOTAL FEDERAL</b>	<b>\$684,895,546</b>	<b>\$661,400,305</b>	<b>\$676,782,035</b>
Foundations	\$170,196,373	\$199,686,792	\$157,501,059
Corporate Funders	\$91,472,858	\$102,333,855	\$77,085,402
State and Local Government	\$18,370,694	\$32,324,001	\$50,774,073
Other	\$99,996,789	\$111,702,711	\$112,620,103
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,064,932,260</b>	<b>\$1,107,447,664</b>	<b>\$1,074,762,671</b>

As a further indicator of Emory's robust research activity, our faculty are generating ideas that have resulted in 5,708 submitted proposals in FY25 (8% above our previous record in FY24). We have intentionally been diversifying our research portfolio in the past few years, resulting this year in proposals being sent to over 1,161 different agencies and partners, more than any other year and up 11% over FY24. The SVPR Office has sponsored the ARPA-H Initiative and the new Proposals for Unique Research Supports for Scholarly and University Endeavors (PURSUE) program to assist investigators who have not previously applied to these diverse funders.

As Georgia's leading research university, Emory plays a critical role in the state's innovation ecosystem. In FY25, Emory's Office of Technology Transfer (OTT) celebrated its 40th year of fostering faculty innovation through patent support and facilitating corporate agreements. Supported by the SVPR, OTT offers courses in entrepreneurship, the Faculty Founder's Forum, and the Widening Your Innovation Network (WIN) programming. Cumulatively these have resulted in 237 faculty invention disclosures, 62 patents issued, and 5 start-up companies in FY25. This activity has led to Emory recently being ranked among the top three public-sector institutions worldwide for discovery of FDA-approved therapeutics over four decades, following only the entire NIH and whole University of California system and outperforming its larger peers.

### 👉 *Looking Ahead*

This past year reminded us of the enduring power of research and scholarship, even amidst change, and demonstrated the resilience of the Emory research community--which has remained strong, collaborative, and committed to impactful work that changes lives and improves the world.

Our future success depends on nurturing these strengths. In the coming year, it is imperative to collaboratively continue:

- supporting interdisciplinary research through seed funding and programs that bring investigators together to network, explore and discover;
- investing in faculty development through expanded mentorship and proposal support programs;
- elevating the visibility of our research through strategic communications and public engagement efforts.

We look forward to working with all of our campus and community partners to achieve these aims.

I want to thank all of you—our faculty, staff, students, and partners—for your relentless pursuit of knowledge, your creativity in solving complex problems, and your passion for making a difference. Let us continue building on this momentum together.

*With appreciation,*

*Deborah W. Bruner, RN, PhD, FAAN*