

Dear Colleagues,

elcome to the 2024-2025 academic year! With the fall semester now underway, I'd like to take a moment to express my appreciation to all Emory faculty and staff. Thanks to you, Emory continues to be at the forefront of institutions that turn research insights into meaningful outcomes. Emory faculty secure resources that make research possible and guide teams toward innovative research breakthroughs.

I am thrilled to announce that for the second consecutive year Emory University has secured more than \$1 billion in sponsored awards, surpassing our FY23 total with \$1.1 billion in sponsored research in FY24. This achievement reflects the growth in the total number and dollar value of proposals submitted by our faculty over the past few years. Our sponsored expenditures, which serve as a key indicator of our research activity and economic impact, nearly crossed the \$1 billion mark in FY24. This sustained excellence within all facets of research enables us to continue to fulfill our mission of creating, preserving, and applying knowledge in the service of humanity.

"I am proud to see that Emory researchers have once again transcended \$1 billion in sponsored awards during the past year," says Emory President Gregory L. Fenves. "This is a tremendous accomplishment for our university, reflecting the talent and ambition of our faculty and researchers across all of our disciplines. They are producing scholarship and making discoveries that serve society at the highest level."

Throughout FY24, we secured several significant awards that will enable us to further build, support, and innovate in all the areas where Emory excels. Our federal awards continue to grow with NIH as our major sponsor, and we are proud of our continued ARPA-H (Advanced Research Projects Agency – Health) success. We also received a \$2 million award from the U.S. Department of Justice, our first in over twenty years. Our corporate funding continues to grow, increasing our FY23 total by 9%, now up to \$113 million, a new record for Emory. Our foundation funding reached another milestone, bringing in over \$200 million for the first time. Our State of Georgia funding nearly doubled from \$17.4 million to \$31.3 million including

nearly tripling our Georgia Department of Public Health funding from \$5.9 million to \$16.7 million. And finally, our university funding (awards and sub-awards we receive from partner universities) has exceeded \$97 million for the first time.

"Surpassing \$1 billion in sponsored research for the second consecutive year is a reflection of Emory's deep commitment to addressing the critical issues and challenges our world faces," says Ravi Bellamkonda, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at Emory. "These investments support our game-changing faculty and their diverse fields of study, ranging from public health and infectious diseases to artificial intelligence, social issues and the humanities. We are proud of our faculty, staff and students who engage in this important work every day as they advance knowledge to serve humanity."

And there are more first in class announcements! It was recently announced that Emory is #1 (and leading all universities by a wide margin) in U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) grants, bringing in over \$52 million in FY23. This total represented more than 30 awards Emory received, including the 5-year \$50 million Diabetes MATCH (Mobilizing Access Through Capacity Building and Health Equity) Initiative, the 5-year \$41.5 million Together TakeMeHome program (the largest nationwide HIV self-testing program to date), and a \$17.5 million award to be a part of the CDC's Center for Forecasting and Outbreak Analytics, a national network creating a nationwide resource for outbreak analytics, disease modeling, and forecasting to support a more effective response during public health emergencies. We are projected to continue this trend in FY24 with \$67 million already awarded.

"While these funding numbers are impressive," says Ravi Thadhani, executive vice president for health affairs of Emory, "what makes us most proud is the positive impact on human health that they represent – in areas including child health, cutting-edge cancer therapy, cardiovascular and neurological disease interventions, and many other fields of inquiry. The more our research enterprise grows and thrives, the more we can do to improve lives and provide hope to the people we serve through discovery and innovation."

For example, Yang Liu, professor in Rollins School of Public Health and Chair of Environmental Health, received \$3.8 million from the NIH for the Climate & Health Actionable Research and Translation (CHART) Center, establishing a center to study the impacts of climate change on health and help develop action-oriented strategies to protect the health of individuals and communities. Michael Chung in the Division of Infectious Diseases at the School of Medicine received a \$4.6 million award from the National Cancer Institute for Enhanced Cervical Cancer Screening Adoption and Treatment Linkage for HIV positive Women in Kenya (eCASCADE-Kenya). Alex Hall, Gustavo Pradilla, and Jonathan Ratcliff are Co-PIs on a \$25.9 million grant for the Rapid Evacuation and Access of Cerebral Hemorrhage (REACH) project, an adaptive, prospective, multi-center, randomized, controlled clinical trial and prospective registry to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of minimally invasive parafasicular surgery in patients with acute intracerebral hemorrhage. And David Gutman in the Department of Biomedical Informatics in the School of Medicine received \$2.2 million from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke for a Brain Digital Slide Archive, an open-source platform for data sharing and analysis of digital neuropathology.

This past fiscal year was also notable for the way Emory built upon its diverse areas of inquiry and continued investment in research aimed at addressing critical questions in areas of ongoing social importance.

For the first time in three years the American Council of Learned Societies funded two Emory faculty members, both of whom received ACLS fellowships in FY24. Jinsook Kim, assistant professor in the Department of Film and Media in the College of Arts & Sciences, received a fellowship for her project "Sticky Activism: Online Misogyny and Feminist Activism in South Korea", and Marissa Nichols, Department of History PhD graduate and postdoctoral fellow in the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, was named a fellow for her project "The Backbone of Rural Health: Nursing and Indigenous Healing in Oaxaca".

Kristin Wendland, teaching professor of Music Theory in the College of Arts & Sciences, in collaboration with Madeleine Hackney and J. Lucas McKay, both in the Emory School of Medicine, and Pablo Palomino in Oxford College, received a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) award for their project titled "Tango in the Humanities: Examining a Multidimensional Art Form Across Disciplinary and Geographic Boundaries". With collaborators from around the world, Molly McGehee, professor of English & American Studies, and Erin Tarver, professor of Philosophy, received a Teagle Foundation award to explore embedding a common set of transformative texts in a subset of first-year Discovery Seminars that would fulfill requirements for a certificate or concentration as part of developing the Humanistic Inquiry Cohort Program.

Too many of our Emory faculty have received prestigious awards to list, so to mention just a new record for Emory, six of our faculty received the highly esteemed National Science Foundation (NSF) Career Awards in FY24, making this the highest number in Emory's history. This unprecedented achievement was driven in part by the NSF CAREER Proposal Academy, offered by the Center for Faculty Development and Excellence in collaboration with the Emory College of Arts & Science. These faculty include:

- Yolanda Alysia Rankin, associate professor in the Department of Computer Science, for "Black Feminist Epistemologies: Building a Sisterhood in Computing"
- Raphael Florentino Ribeiro, assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry, for "Statistical Theory of Energy Flow and Chemical Reactivity in Polaritonic Materials"
- Jennifer Rieser, assistant professor in the Department of Physics, for "Linking Form and Function in Fire Ant Architecture"
- Nic Vega, assistant professor in Biology, for "Heterogeneity and alternate states in hostassociated microbiomes"
- Emily Wall, assistant professor in Computer Science, for "Promoting Metacognition in Visual Analytics," and
- Yuanzhe Xi, assistant professor in the Department of Mathematics, for "Data-driven Numerical Linear Algebra: Foundations, Methods and Applications."

And finally, our Emory faculty, with the support of the Office of Technology Transfer, have been recognized as a leader not only in the nation but across the world. The most recent AUTM Licensing Survey ranked Emory #2 in licensing revenue, earning \$266.7 million, nearly double the amount of the 3rd place university. Further, the Journal of Technology Transfer last year showed that Emory was the third top contributor of FDA-approved drugs and vaccines in the world among public institutions – only behind the NIH and the entire University of California system.

There are many more stories to share, and we plan to continue featuring Emory successes in my monthly Research in Review newsletter and our Annual Report in early 2025. Emory's research milestones are important because of what they represent: our ability to impact the lives of people all over the world. Our continued impact is only accomplished through the persistence of our research community's pursuit of new innovations, new breakthroughs, and new frontiers.

I would like to thank the faculty of Emory for their hard work and commitment. My appreciation goes out to the research administration leadership, staff, and countless research students, trainees, and research teams across the university without whom none of this could happen. On behalf of everyone in the Office of Research, thank you all for your passion, persistence, and partnership in helping us reach every new milestone.

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