

With Gratitude to ISU

My tenure in the Office of the Vice Provost for Research is rapidly drawing to a close. As September 1 approaches, my thoughts keep returning to the same two points: my gratitude for having had the opportunity to serve ISU in this position for the past five years and the efforts the members of our group have made to generate the many innovations and changes we've implemented.

My gratitude for having had this opportunity reflects the tremendous admiration I've developed for ISU's faculty and my colleagues in central administration as well as the enjoyment and sense of accomplishment I've experienced working in collaboration with them. There is no question that we faced many challenges in our efforts to grow research and scholarship at ISU over a five year period during which the university received several significant budget cuts. Our capacity to improve the research environment under these circumstances rested heavily on the commitment and effort generated by our staff at a time when it was very difficult to increase the number of employees consistent with the evolving increase in workload. The staff not only met this challenge, but they also accepted additional responsibilities required to initiate new innovations in research management at ISU. Furthermore, the successes we experienced together reflect the high quality of our faculty and their tenaciousness in acquiring support for their research during a period in which many excuses could have been cited as reasons for a lower level of achievement.

That said, none of the accomplishments and innovations would have been possible without the commitment and effort of an outstanding group of colleagues in our Office and affiliated units. In an effort to express my gratitude to this fantastic group of friends and co-workers, I would like to review very briefly several of their most significant accomplishments.

Significant Growth in Sponsored Funding

One of the most visible contributions was the significant growth in **sponsored funding**, an increase of 36% over five years, attaining a new record each year. This was associated with an increase in research funding (50%) and an increase in external funding from the federal government (42%) over the same period. In addition, there has been significant growth in federally funded training programs as well as grants focused in the area of education. To improve the competitiveness of our faculty, the Office introduced ISU's first university-wide grantsmanship

program. We also initiated faculty recognition programs and awards and implemented the Bailey Program to provide funding opportunities for senior faculty. A major achievement was the generation of an indirect cost policy that has resulted in the return of millions of dollars to the campus for equipment, facilities, matches, recruitments and retentions. This year the return will total approximately \$6 million dollars. Through the incentive process related to this policy, the indirect costs returned to ISU have more than doubled over the last five years.

OSPA

The **Office of Sponsored Programs Administration (OSPA)** has for the first time in ISU history been combined into one office suite housing all of OSPA's pre- and post-award administration services. Through the efforts of this office, the grant application process was enhanced by initiating a paperless GoldSheet. Furthermore, by receiving a federal grant specifically for this purpose, a collaboration between OSPA and the Office of Research Compliance will generate an expansion of this paperless process that will include compliance applications. Through another collaborative effort, OSPA and the ISU Foundation worked closely over the past few years to create a unique partnership to better differentiate between gifts and contracts. In addition, to better serve ISU's partnerships with business and industry, a position was established recently focused primarily on improving the processing of industry-related contracts and agreements. All of these efforts will undoubtedly lead to more efficient operations and better customer service.

Office of Research Compliance

Prior to my administration, ISU did not have an **Office of Research Compliance**. It was mandatory that an office be initiated and research compliance procedures updated in order to meet federal requirements. With strong support from the Vice President for Business and Finance, an Office of Research Compliance (ORC) was initiated, policies in all areas updated, training opportunities provided, and important partnerships were developed with other units on campus as well as institutions and hospitals in the Ames-Des Moines area. In addition, the Compliance Office has provided campus leadership in several security-related initiatives that have enhanced the security of our research facilities on campus.

ISURF and OIPTT

The **ISU Research Foundation (ISURF)** and the **Office of Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer (OIPTT)** continued to enhance their excellent programs, and they

adjusted to the budgetary realities of the previous five years. In addition to adjusting to the fiscal requirements that it be self sufficient, ISURF/OIPTT doubled the royalties shared with faculty and academic units, increased licensing income by 47%, and increased the number of licenses and options signed by 19% over this period. ISURF established a new policy for taking equity in start-up companies and also maintained its national leadership as one of the top two universities in the number of licenses and options executed per year. ISURF also successfully nominated two of the five ISU R&D 100 Award winners in the past five years, helping to keep ISU second in the country in this statistic.

New Initiatives in Economic Development

Our Office also has undertaken several new initiatives related to **economic development** in the State of Iowa. Specifically, we have worked diligently to develop an appreciation of ISU's role in economic development and evolve programs that enhance the University's contribution in this area. Together with the efforts of several other units and the Economic Development Council (formerly CCOTT), the System for Innovation was developed that includes programs ranging from the disclosure of intellectual property to the establishment of new businesses and special types of assistance to existing businesses. Many members of our Office have collaborated to develop master agreements that facilitate interactions with industry. The newly established Director of Industry Relations, in addition to playing a key role in developing and contributing to the System for Innovation, also has broadened our economic development program significantly. In addition to facilitating key interactions with specific businesses, the Director has initiated the annual Economic Development Open House as well as the quarterly Biotech Mixers. All of these have greatly enhanced our work in this area. Our Office also has played a leadership role in the state-wide BioAlliance of Iowa program initiated following the recommendations of the Battelle Report. In addition, we have played a significant role in bringing international companies to Iowa and to our Research Park.

Research Park

The **Research Park** continues to grow and contribute significantly to several aspects of economic development associated with the initiation and support of new businesses. As a consequence of a very persistent effort and funding from the Iowa Values Fund, the Park has successfully initiated the Biologics Facility project, a facility that will make it possible to extract valuable proteins from either plants or animals. In addition, the staff of the Research Park have worked with many faculty to initiate new businesses based on the technology they have developed in their laboratories. Since 2000, 26 businesses have been initiated through this process. Over this same period, 20 new companies were started at the Research Park. Some of these were initiated from ISU technologies and are included among the 26 businesses cited above, while

others originated from technologies developed outside the University. Also, the Research Park continues to provide an excellent environment for large companies. Very important, the Park's staff together with the Pappajohn Center have played a major role in the development of educational entrepreneurship opportunities for ISU's students.

During the period of time our Office had the responsibility for administering the **Graduate College**, several initiatives were undertaken. These included the initiation of Preparing Future Faculty, full tuition scholarships, and a doubling of first time registration of underrepresented minority students.

New Interdisciplinary Initiatives

Our Office is particularly pleased with the number of new **interdisciplinary initiatives** we've supported. We played a pivotal role in the program and review process that resulted in the six new Academic Initiatives that focus on the enhancement of research and scholarship in key interdisciplinary areas. In addition, we established the Center for Excellence in the Arts and Humanities, the first initiative of its kind at ISU in these disciplines. In addition to making unique contributions to the intellectual atmosphere at ISU, it has stimulated several NEH Summer Stipends for ISU faculty as well as the establishment of the Distinguished Scholar Award in the arts and humanities. The Publication Subvention Grants program was established, and we were responsible for establishing ISU's first interdisciplinary center focused on computer science, the Center for Computational Intelligence, Learning & Discovery. Our Office also contributed significantly to the continuity and growth of social science research at ISU, providing a mechanism for the survival of ISBR and the establishment of PPSI. The Center for Transportation Research and Education established a Center for Portland Cement Concrete, which will be designated the national center in this area. The newly formed Center for Survey Statistics and Methodology is off to a great start, having received a five year \$11.5M contract for work related to the National Resources Inventory.

Finally, I want to emphasize that it would have been impossible to make these contributions without a phenomenal Associate Vice Provost for Research, Wolfgang Kliemann. During the past four and one half years, our Office was truly a partnership, and that was the basis for its success. Wolfgang is a friend and colleague of impeccable integrity, unsurpassed commitment to ISU, and boundless ideas and insights. His contributions have been immeasurable.

Thanks to all of you for the opportunity to serve ISU in this capacity. I look forward to many conversations, enjoyable and productive collaborations, and the opportunity to interact with students again as I return to the faculty. I hope you will be as patient with me as I reorient myself to this new chapter of my life as you were when I became your VPR. Thanks again!

Jim Bloedel

Reception for Jim Bloedel
Tuesday, August 30, 3-5 pm
First floor atrium, Beardshear Hall
 A program will begin at 3:30 pm

Community of Science

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Research Compliance

If your research, teaching or testing activities involve research in the areas given below, you must obtain approval from the committee indicated before you can initiate any work related to that area.

- Live vertebrate animals—Committee on Animal Care
- Human research participants—Institutional Review Board

• Radioisotopes or radiation producing devices—Radiation Safety Committee

• Recombinant DNA including transgenic plants or animals; human, animal or plant pathogens; biological toxins; administration of experimental biological products (vaccines, sera, etc.) to animals; or field releases of plant pests or genetically engineered organisms—Biohazards and Public Health Committee.

To obtain applications for committee approval or for more information about the committees, go to the Office of Research Compliance website at: www.compliance.iastate.edu/ or contact their office at 294-4267.

Welcome

- Laura Rendon, professor and chair of educational leadership and policy studies, from Cal State University, Long Beach.
- James Alleman, professor and chair of civil, construction, and environmental engineering, from Purdue University.
- David Engle, professor and chair of natural resource ecology and management, from Oklahoma State University.
- Roger Elmore, professor of agronomy, from the University of Nebraska.

No SPRIG Competition This Fall

Please note that there will NOT be a Special Research Initiation Grants (SPRIG) competition this fall. When the Board of Regents, State of Iowa, requested that funds be redirected last year, the Council of University Research Institute Administrators (CURIA) recommended that SPRIG funding, as well as University Research Grant (URG) funding, be suspended for three years. During this time, those funds will be directed towards faculty start-ups, retention packages and matching equipment needs. As soon as the new Vice Provost for Research, John Brighton, is on board, we will begin exploring the possibility of a seed grant program for new faculty using other sources of funds. If such a program can be funded, there may be a competition in the Spring.

Working with the University of Iowa



(Standing: Sonja Klocker, Bill Decker, Chitra Rajan and Wolfgang Kliemann. Seated: Jim Bloedel and Meredith Hay)

Meredith Hay, the new vice president for research at the University of Iowa (front row), along with Bill Decker, senior associate vice president, paid a visit to Iowa State in July to discuss research and economic development collaborations.

Farewell

- Michael Apley, associate professor of veterinary diagnostic & production animal medicine, resigned July 31 to go to Kansas State University.
- Joe Gilbert, associate director of IPRT, resigned July 15 to go to Georgia State University.
- Craig Allen, associate professor of human development & family studies, retired July 31.
- James Espenson, distinguished professor in liberal arts and sciences (chemistry), retired August 15.

Recent Sponsored Funding Awards

- To Claire Andreasen and Steve Sorden, Vet Path, and James Roth, VMPPM, *A Digital Image Database to Enhance Foreign Animal Disease Education* from the USDA, \$141,262
- To Janice Buss, BBMB, and Lynn Mumm, IPRT Company Assistance, *Anti PSCA Allosteric Clamps* from Molecular Express, \$40,000
- To David Hunter, Phil & Rel Studies, *Priestly Celibacy in the Catholic Church: Foundation and Future* from Monsignor James A. Supple Endowment, \$44,976
- To Christopher Seeger and Mary Erickson, Land Arch, *The Urban Forest: A Contributor to Physical Activity Levels in the Built Environment* from the USDA, \$48,102
- To Manju Reddy, FSHN, and Maneesha Aluru, GDCB, *Ferritin Quantitation in the Staple Food Crop: Plant Hemoglobins in Improving Iron Bioavailability of Maize* from International Food Policy Research Institute, \$49,719
- To Manimaran Govindarasu, ECpE, *End-to-End TCP Enhancement* from Architecture Technology Corporation, \$60,000
- To Amit Sharma, AESHM, *Mozambique - Tourism Sector Study* from The World Bank Group, \$46,225
- To Larry Halverson, Plant Path, *Does Composition of the Exopolysaccharide Matrix of Pseudomonas Putida Control Biofilm Architecture and Fitness in Low-Water-Content Environments* from the National Science Foundation, \$145,001
- To Hailiang Liu, Math, *Multiscale Wave Dynamics in Nonlinear Balance Laws* from the National Science Foundation, \$66,576
- To Marcia Rosenbusch, C&I, *National K-12 Foreign Language Resource Center* from the Department of Education, \$345,250
- To Patrick Patterson, IMSE, *Assistive Technology Design and Development* from Woodward Resource Center, \$43,900
- To Mark Hargrove, BBMB, *Structure and Function of Human Hexacoordinate Hemoglobins* from the National Institutes of Health, \$217,005
- To Chris Minion, VMPPM, *Construction of Listeria Monocytogenes Microarrays* from the USDA, \$16,000

Some Research to Directly Benefit the State of Iowa:

- To Jeannie Sneed and Catherine Strohbehn, AESHM, and Sam Beattie, FSHN, *Impact of Employee Training on Mitigating Contamination in Retail Foodservice Operations* from the USDA, \$532,224
- To Stuart Birrell, ABE, *Combine Cleaning Shoe Development* from Deere & Company, \$75,000
- To Roberta Vann, John Levis and Danny Douglas, Engl; Joanne Olson and Katherine Richardson Bruna, C&I; *Enhancing Science Instruction for English Language Learners* from the Iowa Department of Education, \$70,000
- To John Mabry and Mark Honeyman, An Sci; Pat Halbur, VDPAM; and Rich Pirog, Leopold Center; *Enhancing Small Farm Prosperity: An Integrated Research, Education, and Outreach Program for Niche Pork Production* from the USDA, \$400,000
- To Randy Shoemaker, Agron, *SoyMap: An Integrated Map of Soybean for Resolution and Dissection of Multiple Genome Duplication Events* from Purdue University, \$194,708

Funding opportunities may be found at <http://www.vpresearch.iastate.edu/Funding/homepage.html>

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