

Incremental Project Grants INSTITUTIONAL PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES 2022-2023

In 2022/23, the University of Alberta received Incremental Project Grants funding of \$3,603,621 and invested the funding to the following projects:

| Project Description | Priority area(s) | Amount Invested | Institutional Performance Objective | Indicator | Targeted Outcomes | Outcomes Reported at end of the year |
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| Advancing Innovation, Commercialization, and Entrepreneurship | Innovation and commercialization activities | \$ 1,260,659 | A stronger and more valuable IP portfolio that can be commercialized by university inventors and other industry partners; more university-based spinoff companies with greater viability and investment into those companies; increased commercialization activity; increased industry partnerships; increased profile and reputation of university innovations. | Number of patents acquired on university technology innovations; number of licensing deals executed for university IP; licensing revenue; number of quality ventures created and revenue invested/attracted; number of industry partnerships. | By 31-Mar-2025: More Canadian IP developed and retained in Canada, leading to economic benefits in the form of new products and services that enter the economy; new high quality jobs; greater economic development and positive social impacts. | In Progress: Identifying more patentable research results and filing patents on these. Developing clearer pathways for our innovators, providing additional training to those who want to commercialize their technologies resulting in spinoff companies that are of higher quality and are more attractive to investors. Promoting U of A abilities to industry resulting in greater collaborations with our researchers. |
| Indigenous Initiatives and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Research Resources | Equity, diversity and faculty renewal | \$ 65,121 | Greater understanding in our research community of the key concepts and terms of EDI, assistance for researchers with the knowledge needed to work in, with, and for Indigenous communities in Alberta, respecting different sovereign nations, cultural and linguistic differences, governance structures, geographical territories, treaty relationships and other key points. | Videos of first EDI 10 terms and concepts available on VPRI EDI site by March 2023; then 10-15 more each year for next 2 years; Completion of first 5 short videos of Indigenous research primer and FAQs completed by March 2023. Researcher resources and templates developed by March 2023. | By 31-Mar-2025: Greater success of our researchers in incorporating EDI principles and practices into their research programs, environments and applications. Researchers who are better prepared to work in, with, and for Indigenous communities, better relations with Indigenous nations, communities and organizations. More and stronger relationships and partnerships. Greater success in external funding. | In Progress: - 5 videos on EDI completed Videos in support of indigenous initiatives in development Strategic plan for EDI published (EDI in research: An action plan) Guidance for ethical engagement with Indigenous communities in development Other documents: - EDI in research: Considerations for NSERC Alliance grants - EDI: The essential guide for CRC applications at the UofA - SSHRC-related research: List of contacts. |
| Research Excellence and Researcher Development Network Initiatives | Information resources including digital resources open access and databases | \$ 38,731 | Increase the visibility of Black scholarly research accomplishments, Indigenous scholarly research engagement, etc. through the establishment of these interdisciplinary networks of researchers. Increased funding capacity; support and retention of researchers and professors from equity-denied groups. Expansion of successful grants library, targeted supports for specific external grants to support research success across the University. | Number of collaborative activities and proposals that require administrative or operational support; survey data on perceptions of benefit to participating members of the four federally designated groups. Published library of successful grant applications accessible to UofA researchers; more support materials and workshops for researchers to support successful grant applications. | By 31-Mar-2025: Increased funding capacity; support and retention of researchers and professors from equity-denied groups. More interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary activity, leading to more large team grants. | In Progress: Institutional Black-led Research Network Initiative (BRNI) setup. Enabled Black researchers to increase funding from SSHRC, ISED, MITACS, and from community partners (e.g., Black Business Ventures Association) by more than \$800,000. Additional funding from Edmonton Community Foundation and RBC are being negotiated by the researchers. Developed a life cycle concept for grant development and support that will be integrated into the support system. Developed institutional templates for strategy guidelines for proposal development to feed into the grants library database. |

| Support and Performance Database Development | Information resources including digital resources open access and databases | \$ 391,500 | Easy-to-use platform with functionalities to support searching, uploading, and downloading of targeted supports for specific grants | Number of documentary resources; survey results from users regarding ease of platform use; access rate per month and at specific times in the year (e.g., Fall term grant development season) | By 31-Mar-2023: Increased grant application submissions; Improved success in securing external funding; Larger funding envelope collaborative grants | In Progress: Revamped research and innovation website that can successfully host the searchable software-based database. Acheived: Addressed deficienies in the REB Exchange platform (platform to streamline the review of multisite researchers conducted within Alberta). Over 200+ participating site applications with an average time from submission to approval of 3 days (compared to the average for initial review of 22 days). This platform is significantly facilitating the conduct of multisite research in the province of Alberta, with plans to expand to University of British Columbia in 2024. |
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| Management of International Developing and Emerging Regions Research Initiative | Equity, diversity and faculty renewal | \$ 155,014 | Expansion of our international research collaborations to include institutions from developing and emerging countries that align with our research priorities and relationships with international priority partners. | Number of new partnerships with institutions from emerging and developing nations, with emphasis on underrepresented minority groups. | By 31-Mar-2023: Broader international collaborations that support our research priorities. | In Progress: Initiated a Joint Research and Innovation Network with six Indian Institutes of Technolgy and the Indian Institute of Science and have approved two projects through the WUN RDF program for health-based research in Africa. Preliminary framework developed for our international research priority partners list. |
| Strategic Research and Innovation Plan Initiative | Equity diversity and faculty renewal | \$ 94,596 | Feedback, data, diverse perspectives on a research and innovation plan that will have impact on all institutional stakeholders, including those from five designated groups (women, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ2S+, and members of visible minorities). | Number of participants at engagement events, including data on participants who identify as members of one or more of the five designated groups. | By 31-Mar-2023: A robust plan that addresses the needs of the institution's diverse stakeholders and support inclusion in the institution's research and innovation ecosystem. | Achieved: Hosted more than 20 consultation sessions to diverse communities across our institution (between 12 to 40 attendees per 2 hr session). Produced three "What we Heard" documents and three drafts of the SPRI after each round of consultation - a final version will be designed shortly. |
| Renewal/modernization of research laboratories in Biological Sciences Building - Zoology Tower Levels 4, 5, 10, and 11 | Facilities renewal, including deferred maintenance | \$ 1,198,514 | Creating additional modernized research laboratory space to house additional researchers and their equipment in the Biological Sciences BuildingZoology Tower. | Additional renewed and modernized research lab space that is ready for additional researchers in the building. | By 31-Mar-2023: Design and procurement/mobilization for space renewal and modernization of space that is in compliance with modern research pedagogy. | Achieved: Design and some construction portions of the project are complete; remainder of construction is being funded through other sources. |
| Animal Facility Equipment Funding | Facilities renewal, including deferred maintenance | \$ 399,487 | Replace HSLAS older rat housing systems with new systems to maintain CCAC accreditation along with eligibility for Tri-Council funding. | Rat housing systems replaced with new systems. | Increased capacity for animal research in HSLAS. Achieve CCAC readiness. | Achieved: Cages purchased; 35% of rat cages upgraded which is on target with CCAC requirements. |