



Report on FY23 Research Funding and Sponsored Programs

Office of Research & Creative Activity and The Graduate School

Presented to the WKU Council of Academic Deans

March 13, 2024

WKU submitted 212 external funding proposals requesting a total of \$42,948,343 in FY23. Faculty in all five academic colleges contributed to the submission of external funding proposals in FY23. 88 faculty served as principal investigators. 38 additional faculty served as co-investigators, and 43 additional faculty served as key personnel. Many of these faculty served as principal investigators, co-principal investigators, and/or key personnel on multiple proposals. In total, 169 faculty were involved in external funding efforts in FY23. 191 external proposals were funded in FY23, for a total of \$22,229,252 (including \$3,498,065 in COVID funding). NOTE: This total does not equate perfectly to a percentage of FY23 proposals funded because some proposals funded in FY23 were submitted in FY22.

In addition to external funding awards which promote knowledge creation, WKU funded five internal award programs. These programs serve as seed money for growing external funding proposals as well as actively engage undergraduate and graduate students in research. Through the Office of Research and Creative Activity, WKU awarded \$786,518 in internal funding for research and creative activity in FY23. This included:

- \$298,500 in Faculty Undergraduate Student Engagement (FUSE) grants. FUSE grants are awards of up to \$3000 made to undergraduate students conducting research and creative activity under the direction of a faculty mentor. 79 FUSE awards were made in FY 23.
- \$288,018 in Research and Creative Activity Program (RCAP) awards. RCAPs are awards of up to \$16,000 (RCAP I) or \$8,000 (RCAP II) to support faculty research and creative activity. RCAP I awards require submission of an external funding proposal as an outcome of the awarded project. 26 RCAP awards were made in FY 23.
- \$200,000 in Quick Turn Around (QTAG) grants. QTAG grants are awards of up to \$3000 made to faculty to support critical and immediate research needs. 70 QTAG awards were made in FY23.

Through the Graduate School, WKU awarded \$74,507 in internal funding for graduate student research and conference travel in FY23. This included:

- \$58,525 in Graduate Student Research Grants. Graduate Student Research Grants are awards of up to \$2000 awarded to graduate students to support their research or creative activity. 32 students received Graduate Student Research Grants in FY23.
- \$15,982 in Graduate Student Travel Grants. Graduate Student Travel grants award up to \$500 to graduate students for travel to present their research or creative activity at a conference. 31 students received Graduate Student Travel Grants in FY23.
- Some students received both a Graduate Student Research Grant and a Graduate Student Travel Grant; in total, 55 students were awarded in FY23.