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Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, Wright State University

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research news BRIEFS

A Supplement to the RSP Newsletter

September 1989 Vol. 22 No. 1

Office of Research and Sponsored Programs

Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio 45435

25 Years of External Funding at Wright State University

To celebrate Wright State University's 25th Anniversary, the RSP staff has prepared this newsbrief to highlight the growth in external funding and to compare Wright State to a number of other universities.

Growth in External Funding

As the chart illustrates, Wright State's volume of external funding has continued to grow over the years.

- Total external dollars have increased from about \$300,000 in FY68 to almost \$12M in FY89.

- During this same period, external dollars for research have risen from \$200,000 to more than \$7M.

- Since 1968, the number of proposals and awards has grown from fewer than 30 to almost 500 and from 20 to more than 200, respectively.

In FY68, almost three-fourths of the total external funding received by faculty and staff came from the federal government. Today the percentage is about two-thirds.

In FY68, almost all of the Wright State nonfederal funding came from the state of Ohio. Today

almost half comes from industry and only one-third from the State.

During the last two bienniums, faculty and staff received state funds for seed grants through the Ohio Board of Regents' Research Challenge Programs. The preliminary data generated from these seed grant projects has resulted in more than 100 external awards totalling more than \$16M over a four year period. With an initial investment of \$2M, this equates to an \$8 return on each state dollar.

Comparisons with Other Universities

The Carnegie Foundation's classification of institutions of higher edu-

cation lists Wright State as a Comprehensive I Institution.

When comparing the NSF data on the average 1983-85 federal research dollars generated by Wright State in the fields of science and engineering against those generated by other leading institutions selected by the November, 1987 *U.S. News and World Report*, Wright State would rank:

- third among the top 34 Comprehensive I Institutions,
- 21st among the 59 Doctoral Granting II Institutions (the category directly above Comprehensive I in the Carnegie Classification),
- 21st among the 51 Doctoral Granting I Institutions.

Wright State is on the Department of Defense's list of 131 nonprofit organizations receiving contracts totalling more than \$1M. Of the 427 Comprehensive I Institutions, only five made this list.

Finally, data obtained from the Ohio Board of Regents for FY84-87

shows that Wright State ranks third among the 13 state universities in Ohio for research expenditures per faculty FTE. Only the University of Cincinnati and Ohio State University had higher expenditures.

Over the past 25 years, Wright State's research has grown to encompass a wide range of educational, social, scientific and technological specialties. Wright State's researchers are on the leading edge of high-technology research and development. ■

Growth in External Dollar Awards
FY67 - 89

