The Future of Scholarship at CSUN

Crist Khachikian + CoF Reps (Sean and Claire)
“If you don’t know where you are going, you’ll end up someplace else”

- Yogi Berra
Objectives

Gain an understanding of:
• current state of scholarship at CSUN
• evolution of RGS
• strategic planning to get us there

And then, help us:
• identify gaps / blind spots / misconceptions
• participate and contribute
Myths
Misconceptions
Misunderstanding
True or False

“Research” is mission creep

“Research” is all about $s

We are trying to become an R1

The indirect cost (IDC) belongs to those generating it

We have to double “research” expenditures

It’s all about the faculty
Game Time
California State University, Northridge exists to enable students to realize their educational goals. The University’s first priority is to promote the welfare and intellectual progress of students. To fulfill this mission, we design programs and activities to help students develop the academic competencies, professional skills, critical and creative abilities, and ethical values of learned persons who live in a democratic society, an interdependent world, and a technological age; we seek to foster a rigorous and contemporary understanding of the liberal arts, sciences, and professional disciplines, and we believe in the following values.
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Context...

• RGS has been all about $ (grants submitted, awards, $s generated)

• These are the only data we have

• We are changing, morphing, expanding

• Lots of work ahead

• **We need help**
One more time...

Scholarship at CSUN is not just about research (basic or applied)

Scholarship at CSUN is not just about how many grants you got, how much money you brought in, and how many papers you published
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99-now review

$ Awarded

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CARE Report

- Center for Assessment, Research, and Evaluation
- Assess/Evaluate Data in RGS Database
- Report (available upon request)
spike due in part to the submission of two grants ($19 & 18 million) that were not funded; and an additional $14 million in Minority Biomedical Research Support (MBRS) funding that was awarded. The year 2007 dips largely due to the economic recession. The year 2009 spikes likely due to the American Recovery Act government stimulus funding.

In looking at the receipt of awards, generally, they track submissions. Reports from a number of Federal agencies identify 2013 as marking one of the lowest years in funding success. The dip in 2013 award amounts can be, in part, attributed to this notable decline.

In 2009, CSUN PIs submitted approximately $56M in ARRA funding, nearly one-third of the total amount submitted that year; and, received $10M in awards. For more information on recent funding dynamics at the national level see: http://issues.org/301/the-new-normal-in-funding-university-science/

For an example of one report, see: http://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/2014/01/10/fy2013-by-the-numbers/

For a method of computing awarded amounts on an annual basis, please see Appendix B.
Count / $ of YTD Awards
Type of YTD Awards
trend lines are no table in that they visually display the way awards tend to track submissions. Younger (under 34 years) and older (over 65 years) PIs have a greater rate of award success than their mid-career counterparts. Corresponding to the distribution of submission and award counts by PI age, a similar pattern is found for submitted and award amounts. As illustrated in Figure 7, most PIs submit proposals for funding requests between the ages of 39 and 63. While this is a broad age range, PIs most likely to submit and be successfully awarded a grant or contract are between the ages of 44 and 55, with the highest award amount occurring at age 50. After the age of 55 PI activity begins to drop off considerably.

Figure 6. New Submissions and Awards by Age (1989 - 2013)
Proposal Submissions and Awards by PI Years at CSUN

New submissions, and subsequent awards, trend downward based on the number of years a PI has been at CSUN (see Figure 8 below). The greatest number of grant submissions and awards occurs in a PI's first year at CSUN. Again, awards track submissions, indicating improving the culture of grant activity at CSUN will likely result in additional grant funding over the long term.

Figure 7. Amount Submitted and Awarded by Age (1989 - 2013)

Figure 8. New Submissions and Awards by Years at CSUN (1989 - 2013)
New submissions, and subsequent awards, trend downward based on the number of years a PI has been at CSUN (see Figure 8 below). The greatest number of grant submissions and awards occurs in a PI's first year at CSUN. Again, awards track submissions, indicating improving the culture of grant activity at CSUN will likely result in additional grant funding over the long term.

Figure 8. New Submissions and Awards by Years at CSUN (1989 - 2013)
A similar pattern is found among PIs in the amount of awards they have submitted and received. As shown in Figure 9, submission and award amounts are highest during the early years of a PI's time at CSUN, with the highest period of award coming during a PI's fifth year (around the time of a tenure-track faculty member's application for tenure). Other periods of high-level submissions and awards come during the mid-career years of a PI, between 12 and 22 years of service at CSUN.

As seen in Table 14, men (65% awarded) were more successful achieving grant awards than women (30% awarded) in the College of Business and Economics, Health and Human Development (men = 44%; women = 32% awarded), and Social and Behavioral Sciences (men=50%; women = 40% awarded), whereas women (43% awarded) in Science and Math were more successful than their male (34%) counterparts. For all other Colleges, there is relative
data by:

College
Department
Gender, ethnicity, etc.
Agency
Type of grant
Success rates
Rank
...

takeaways

submissions are up

awards fluctuate

new grants: 35-55 yr olds

largest submitted: 46-56 yr olds

largest won: 42-66 yr olds

Most grants submitted: first 15 yrs.

Most awards: first 10-12 yrs.

Key:

The first 10 years

Continuous support

Targeted Development
Game Time
Basic and applied research is an essential part of the university’s mission. Research engages the expertise of the faculty to address compelling challenges and address problems facing our region, state, and world. When involving students, research activity provides for the highest form of educational experience and mentoring. Funded research is an important source of support for both faculty and students beyond state appropriations. California State University, Northridge will seek to:

- Substantially increase the volume of grant and contract activity over next 5 years
- Continue to strengthen administrative support for PIs
- Continue to support faculty research through time, space, assistance in pursuing grants, and recognition
- Continue to engage both undergraduate and graduate students in research
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So, where are we?

NCURA report:

The response:

- staffing up (14/15) - now 21 staff
- retreats and working groups (14/15)
- strategic planning (now; 15/16)
What’s going on right now...

CoF

RGS Initiatives

RGS Strategic Planning

College Research Planning
The Future...

CoF articulate the vision, define the future, and plan for it

RGS reorg. coaching ERA retreat

the campus research strategic plan

Other campus units

???
We need help
prompts

how can/should departments and colleges get involved with planning? how should they integrate their “research” plans into a campus strategic plan?

what role does/should RGS play in assisting the campus to get to where it’s going?

what are our blind spots?

how do we engage more students more meaningfully in “research”? 