

Fast Forward

A college update from **A. Isabel Garcia, D.D.S., M.P.H**
Dean, UF College of Dentistry



To: UF College of Dentistry,

As we look forward to welcoming our new D1 students, I am reminded of the fast pace of our academic year. Just over a month ago, we welcomed 57 new residents and 17 interns and fellows to our advanced education programs and, since this time last year, 14 new faculty (seven full time and seven adjunct) have joined UFCD. As unsettling as it may seem, it is also extremely exciting that we have nine active searches for a range of faculty positions that, once filled, will bring even more strength (and relief to shorthanded departments!) to our college.

In this issue of *Fast Forward*, I am pleased to share with you highlights related to our research mission. During a recent Faculty Assembly, Robert Burne, Ph.D., our associate dean for research, presented an overview of research trends at UFCD that I thought you would find informative and encouraging. Dr. Burne's full presentation can be [accessed here](#).

Since then, we have received notification of two new Health Resources and Services Administration grant awards totaling \$3.9 million that will further our ability to provide scholarships for disadvantaged students, faculty loan repayment and special needs training. As you review these data, please bear in mind that we owe this great success and a growing national profile as a major research institution to years of hard work, dedication and incredibly skilled investigators who enjoy college programs that support them. I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge substantial contributions from both UF and UF Health, providing funding for new faculty hires, laboratory renovations and other infrastructure and support.

I would encourage you to review the UFCD Office of Research's a regular [online newsletter](#) for more information. Their [website](#) also contains a wealth of



2016 Summer Research Program students.

information including resources to support researchers, information on faculty seed grants, student research programs and much more.

The Office of Research also coordinates the Summer Research Program each year that brings students who will be beginning our predoctoral program in the fall semester for an intensive, ten-week research program. The students work with researchers on a project over the summer and present their findings at the end of the program. I had an opportunity to hear their research presentations at the end of the summer and they are a very impressive group.

In the next *Fast Forward*, I will provide an update on progress to kickoff the Strategic Planning process and, as always, I welcome your thoughts, input and comments.

Regards,
Dean Isabel Garcia



Spotlight on Office of Research

Research is an integral component of the college mission; the strategic plan includes a goal of continuing “to grow and sustain our research mission with an emphasis on collaboration and a strong translational component.” UFCD and the university are committed to the growth of the scope and the impact of a robust research program.

The UFCD Office of Research is housed on the north end of the dental tower’s third floor. Robert Burne, Ph.D., is a distinguished professor who serves as the associate dean for research and as chair of oral biology. Kathy Galloway is the associate director for research administration. Kathy and eight additional staff members make up the Office of Research. The members work together with faculty, staff, students, residents and others to facilitate research endeavors throughout the college. The office is a resource for research support programs, pre-award and proposal preparation, award administration with financial management, and compliance. They also act as liaisons between the college and the HSC, UF and external agencies to ensure compliance with rules and regulations relating to research protocols.

The UFCD Office of Research also sponsors the college’s dental clinical research unit (DCRU). In addition to providing clinical resources, the DCRU employs two skilled clinical research coordinators that assist with patient-based and/or translational studies.

The college strategic goals and objectives include growing the research enterprise, faculty development, curriculum enhancement, infrastructure improvement and integration of our mission with that of UF. UFCD also focuses on strategies that increase clinical and translational research with the goal of accelerating improvements in oral and systemic health while concurrently establishing research opportunities and role models for students and trainees.

One of UFCD’s measures of success is funding from National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIH/NIDCR) among dental schools in the U.S. While NIH/NIDCR funding is an important measure, the college also pursues grant support for research and training from other NIH institutes, federal agencies, corporations, foundations, and the state of Florida. In addition, our faculty engage in many interdisciplinary research endeavors within the university community, and with other national and international academic institutions.

The Office of Research has a robust [website](#) that includes a wealth of information about research successes, resources for investigators, research programs, news and more. They also publish a newsletter you can [access here](#).



Robert Burne



Kathy Galloway



Beverly Davies



Christi Mason



Denise Webb



Ronda Breton



MarQuelle Rawls



Lori Wooten



Janice Braddy

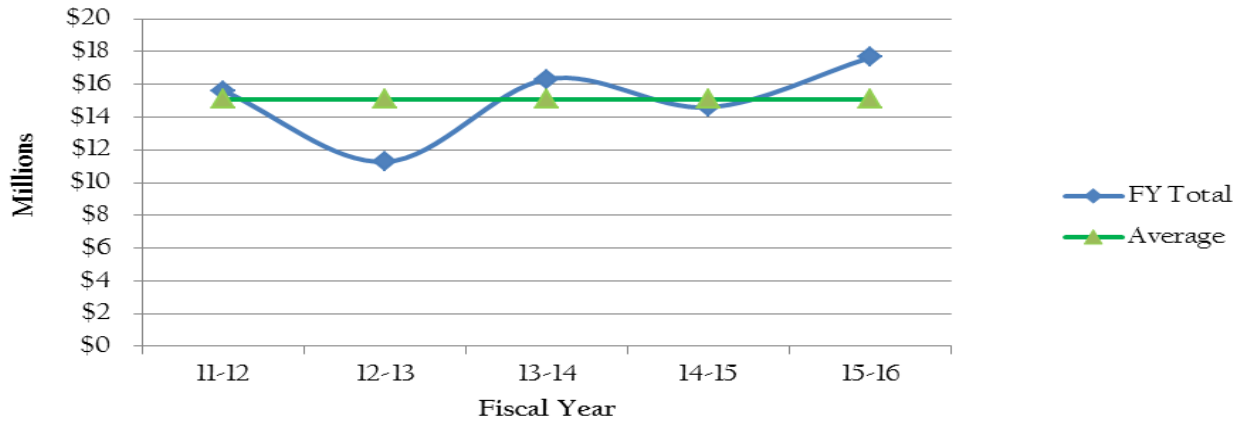


Renita Jenkins

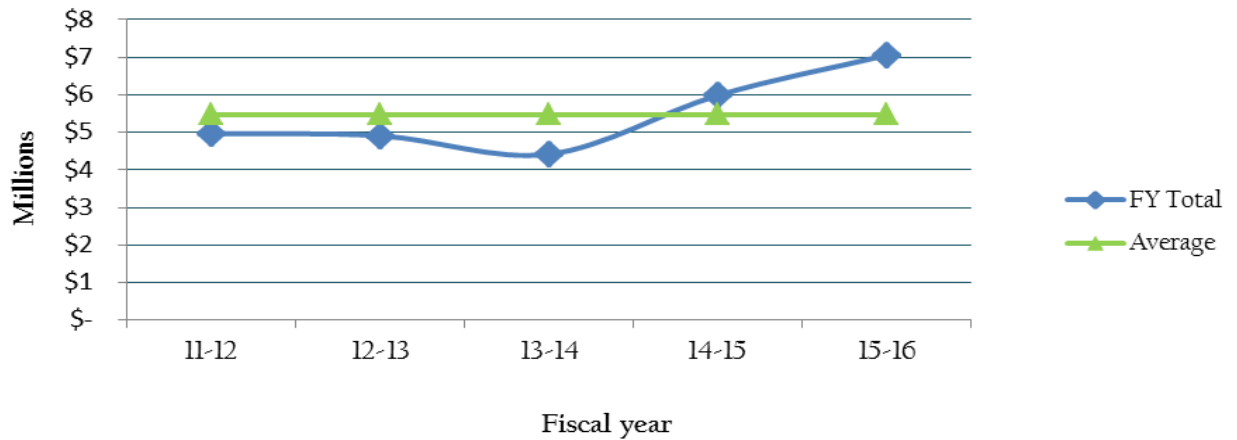
OFFICE OF RESEARCH

DCRU

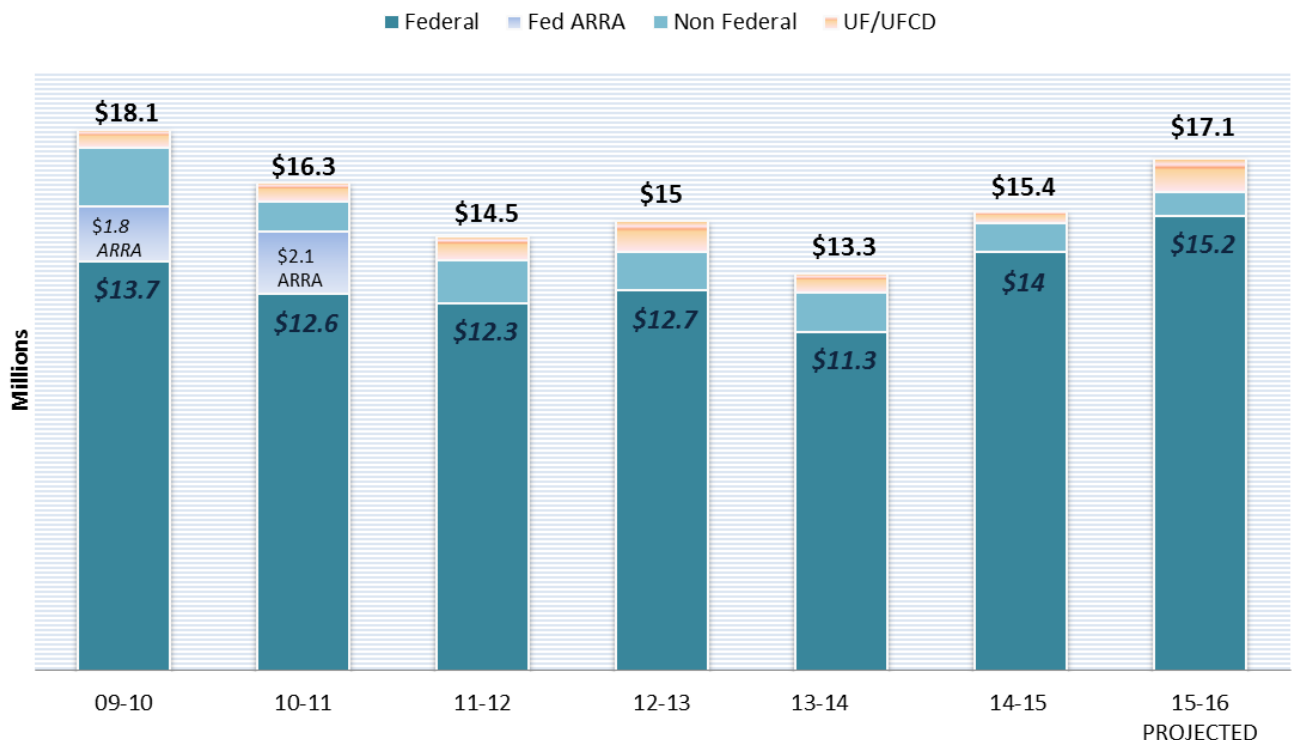
FY TOTAL - Awards Vs Fiscal Year



FY TOTAL - New Grants Vs Fiscal Year



UF College of Dentistry Awards





HUNTING FROM THE Y?

Many of us at the college are thrilled with our new sign and it turns out that local wildlife might be too. Dr. Nini Sposetti snapped this photo of two hawks calling to each other early one morning between an 11th floor windowsill and the top of the Y in dentistry.

For birds of prey who like to hunt from on high, the dental tower would qualify as a desres*. And they already scored free parking!

* desirable residence

2016 Dominican Republic Mission Trip



Students who volunteered during the 2016 Dominican Republic Mission Trip were kind enough to share some great photos with the college. You can access these photos, and thousands of additional college images, in All UFCD Shared Drive. Navigate to the Public folder and then to the Photos folder. *Enjoy!*

Important Dates

August 22-26

DMD Summer Semester Break
Incoming Class Orientation
SOS Clinic Closed

August 22

Graduate Program Classes Begin

August 29

DMD Classes Begin

September 5

UF Holiday

October 14 & 15

Dental Fall Weekend & UF Homecoming

The college's [online calendar is here](#).
To add events to the calendar, email details to [Karen Rhodenizer](#).