



UNC CHARLOTTE

The WILLIAM STATES LEE COLLEGE of ENGINEERING

Contracts and Grants Office Newsletter



Greetings

Shanda L. Wirt, *Director*

The Contracts and Grants Office in ***the* William States Lee College of Engineering** is excited to introduce you to our inaugural newsletter. With each new semester, we will spotlight Research Faculty members within the **College of Engineering** and share their recent research and scholarly activities. Additionally, we will provide research administration updates, scheduled events and training opportunities, and general goings-on within the world of research administration.



Under the outstanding leadership and support of Dean Johnson and Senior Associate Dean Smelser, the Contracts and Grants Office aims to deliver exceptional customer service that balances flexibility with compliance, while building bridges of partnerships between our internal and external customers. We recognize that the Faculty at UNC Charlotte are exceedingly busy with teaching, research, publications, and numerous community engagement

initiatives. As evidenced by the recent milestone in sponsored awards exceeding \$50M in FY 17, research activities are clearly occupying a larger portion of the Faculty's time than in previous years. The Contracts and Grants Office is here to help and strives to curtail the administrative burden where we can.

We are grateful for our work with you and wish you a healthy and prosperous 2019.

Congratulations to the Following Individuals on Becoming Certified Research Administrators (CRA)!

Lori Brown, *Contracts & Grants Manager, EPIC*
Stacy Leotta, *Associate Director, Contracts & Grants Office*
Wendy Meier, *Senior Research Administrator, Contracts & Grants Office*

The CRA designation means that they have met the requirements of the Research Administrators Certification Council's (RACC) eligibility requirements and have demonstrated a level of knowledge necessary for a person to be a professional research or sponsored programs administrator.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT CRA EXAM](#)

Dr. Tony Schmitz, *Professor, Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Science/Assistant Director, EPIC*

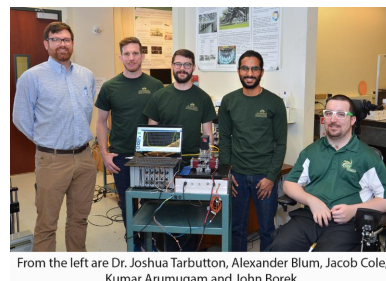
Winner of 2018 Bank of America Teaching Award



[LEARN MORE ABOUT DR. TONY SCHMITZ](#)

Congratulations to Mechanical Engineering Students!

Under the direction of **Dr. Joshua Tarbutton**, a team of **Mechanical Engineering** graduate students from The William States Lee College of Engineering precision engineering program won the Student Challenge competition at the American Society of Precision Engineering's 33rd annual conference, held Nov. 4-9 in Las Vegas. The UNC Charlotte team members include **Alexander Blum**, **Jacob Cole**, **Kumar Arumugam** and **John Borek**.



PI Portal is Now Available

Research and Economic Development announced the new **PI Portal** for Sponsored Awards Fiscal Management, a more user



friendly access point for UNC Charlotte Researchers to view their sponsored research financial data. The new tool is a web-based portal which makes it easier to search for specific sponsored award expenditure data (extracted daily from Banner) & includes graphics & drill-downs.

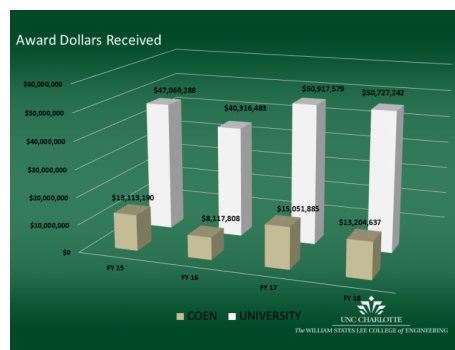
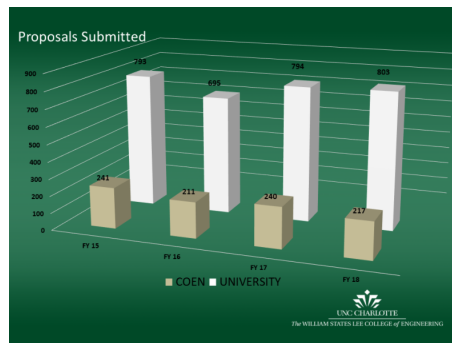
CANVAS LOGIN

Research Administration Update

As of January 2019, the **College of Engineering** has received **61 awards** totaling **\$8.7M YTD**. This is a **26% increase** in award dollars received from last year at this time.

Additionally, the **College of Engineering** has processed and submitted **140 proposals YTD**. This is a **16% increase** in number of proposals submitted from last year at this time.

Note that, for the last two years, the **College of Engineering** has led UNC Charlotte in research award dollars totaling **\$15M for FY 17** and **\$13.2M for FY 18**.



GCA has added a new section of Post-Award "**Grants and Contracts Administration Documents**". It includes AOR, Internal and External Budget Revision, No Cost Extension, etc.

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS DOCUMENTS

PI F&A Return

Last year Chancellor Dubois announced that starting in fall 2018, a portion of the Facilities and Administration Receipts (F&A) collected on extramural research funding during the previous fiscal year will be shared with faculty and staff members. A brand new process has been introduced by the Research and Economic Development Office in which individual faculty members will now receive up to 10% of the F&A receipts associated with their sponsored research grants and contracts.

READ MORE

Faculty Research Spotlights

USDOT Grant: Center for Advanced Multimodal Mobility Solutions and Education (CammSE) is a five-year \$7.7M multi-campus Tier 1 University Transportation Center (UTC) funded by U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT). **Lead PI is Dr. Wei Fan, Civil & Environmental Engineering.**

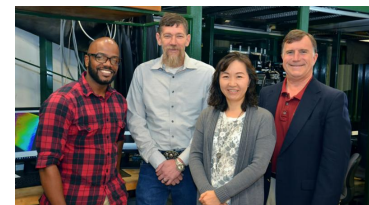


CammSE addresses the FAST Act research priority area of “Improving Mobility of People and Goods”. The vision of CammSE is a collaborative research, education and outreach partnership that will harness advanced (computing, smartphones and communication) technologies and ubiquitous data for creating sustainable, efficient and growth-enabling multimodal transportation systems (including highway, air, rail, freight, public transit, bicycle and pedestrian) using cutting edge analytical methods and models. **Dr. Martin Kane, Dr. Dave Weggel, Dr. Miguel Pando, and Dr. Yu Wang** are Co-PIs for this project.

NSF STEM Grant: Engineering Academic Pathways. The NSF Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S-STEM) program supports the retention and graduation of high-achieving, low-income students with demonstrated financial need at The University of North Carolina at Charlotte. This is a five-year **\$999,591** grant. Lead PI is **Dr. Brett Tempest, Civil & Environmental Engineering.** Throughout its five years, this project will fund sixty scholarships in four groups of fifteen students who are pursuing bachelor’s degrees in engineering fields. This program will focus on increasing applications from three Title I schools in Charlotte, NC by delivering programs that prepare students for college entry exams, and provide professional development to guidance counselors so that they can best advise and encourage students who may be interested in engineering majors. **Dr. Stephanie Galloway, Dr. Sejal Foxx, Dr. Chance Lewis** are Co-PIs for this project.



DOD DN Office of Naval Research (ONR) Grant: Military Veterans in Engineering PhD Program. This is a new **three year \$750,000** grant to help attract and support military veterans in earning graduate degrees in STEM disciplines, with particular emphasis on advanced degrees in mechanical engineering. Lead PI is **Dr. Peter Tkacik, Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Science.** **Dr. Jae Hoon Lim, Dr. Russell Keanini, and Dr. Navid Goudarzi** are the Co-PIs for this project.



Welcome New Faculty to the College of Engineering

Jerry L. Dahlberg

Associate Professor of Practice/Senior

Design Committee Chair
Office of Student Development and
Success

Ashley D. Spry

Lecturer

Engineering Technology and
Construction Management
M.S., North Carolina State University



Richard G. Price

Lecturer

Engineering Technology and
Construction Management
M.E.M., Duquesne University



Kathryn L. Smith

Assistant Professor

Electrical & Computer Engineering
Ph.D., University of North
Carolina at Charlotte



Chen Chen

Assistant Professor

Electrical & Computer Engineering
Ph. D., The University of Texas at
Dallas



Jun Xu

Assistant Professor

Mechanical Engineering
Ph.D., Columbia University
in the City of New York



Justin Biller

Lecturer

Engineering Technology
M.S. in Fire Protection Engineering
California Polytechnic State
University





Upcoming Events and Training

Research Administration Conferences

NCURA: Financial Research
Administration (FRA), Las Vegas, NV
3/11-12/2019. Workshop day: 3/13/19

SRAI: Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA
10/19-23/2019

GCA Training Series

GCA has developed a Grants
Management Training Series. Emails will
be distributed to the appropriate
individuals regarding time and location of
each session.

Tuesday, January 22nd

Tuesday, February 5th

Tuesday, February 19th

Tuesday, March 5th

Have News To Share?

Please send any news, awards, photos, etc. along to [Joanne Zhang](#) to be included in Contracts and Grants
Office newsletter.

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