

Dear Members of the UI Community:

I'm delighted to report that external support to the University of Iowa for the 2009 fiscal year rose 10.3 percent from the previous year, to a record-setting \$429.5 million. This significant increase over the 2008 fiscal year continues a continuous trend of growth in extramural funding at UI over the past 23 years.

This remarkable accomplishment by our faculty is even more impressive considering most of these grants were obtained under the relatively flat federal research budgets prior to the recent ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) stimulus and potential increases associated with the fiscal year 2010 presidential budget proposals. This seventh successive record year again demonstrates our commitment to discovery and applied research that produces important new knowledge while helping address many important issues facing Iowans and society in general.

The total for fiscal 2009, the 12-month period ending June 30, 2009, exceeded one-third of a billion dollars for the eighteenth consecutive year. Since 1967, when overall records were first kept, the university has attracted \$6.7 billion in total external support. This outstanding productivity continues to place the University of Iowa among the nation's elite public research universities and is especially significant in the face of challenging economic conditions in Iowa and the serious impact of the flood of 2008.

According to the most recent National Science Foundation survey (2007), the UI is ranked 20th among public universities in terms of federally financed expenditures for research and development. In the National Institutes of Health (NIH) 2005 report, the UI ranks 13th in NIH awards among all public universities.

The major up-tick in funding includes more than \$5 million in ARRA funding. "These funds represent the very early stages of ARRA funding. With a large number of grant applications for federal stimulus monies still pending, we anticipate continued success as funding announcements are made in FY 2010," Cohen said.

UI President Sally Mason praised UI faculty and staff for this outstanding increase in grant productivity and said it demonstrates the university's "passion for the pursuit of knowledge and the swift progress of discovery."

Especially significant were the increases seen from all major funding agencies relative to fiscal year 2008. These included:

- Department of Health & Human Services (includes NIH): \$216.4 million (up 5.5 percent)
- National Science Foundation: \$12.6 million (up 38.4 percent)
- NASA: \$9.3 million (up 5.8 percent)
- Department of Education: \$18.6 million (up 35.9 percent)
- Department of Defense: \$9.1 million (up 14.0 percent)
- States: \$48.1 million (up 51.2 percent)
- Industry: \$38.7 million (up 5.4 percent)
- Private Organizations: \$40.3 million (up 17.6 percent)

So thanks to all of you -- faculty, staff and students -- for your ongoing commitment to making the University of Iowa one of the top research universities in the world.

Jordan Cohen, Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development