

# **EVALUATION OF THE USF OFFICE OF RESEARCH & INNOVATION INTERNAL AWARDS PROGRAM 2008 – 2014**

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**A survey by the 2014/2015 USF System Faculty  
Senate Research Council  
RC Chair: John H Adams  
RC Co-Chair: Ivan Oleynik**

## USF Office of Research & Innovation Internal Awards Program

A total of \$500,000\* allocated to five awards programs in 2014/2014

Amounts shown are maximum \$ for each award/ total \$ for this type of award

(USF ORI generously provided additional funds this academic year)

- Creative Scholarship Grants<sup>§</sup> (CSG) - \$10,000/ \$125,000
- New Researcher Grants<sup>§</sup> (NRG) - \$10,000/ \$125,000
- Proposal Enhancement Grants<sup>§</sup> (PEG) - \$25,000/ \$125,000
- Faculty International Travel Grants<sup>†</sup> (FTIG) - \$2,500/ \$85,000
- Conference Support Grants<sup>†</sup> (CONF) - \$5,000/ \$25,000
- Research Faculty Pathway Grant (RFPG) - not funded this year (2014/2015)

\* allocation represents ≈0.12% of total research funding for USF System (based upon ORI Annual Report 2013/2014)

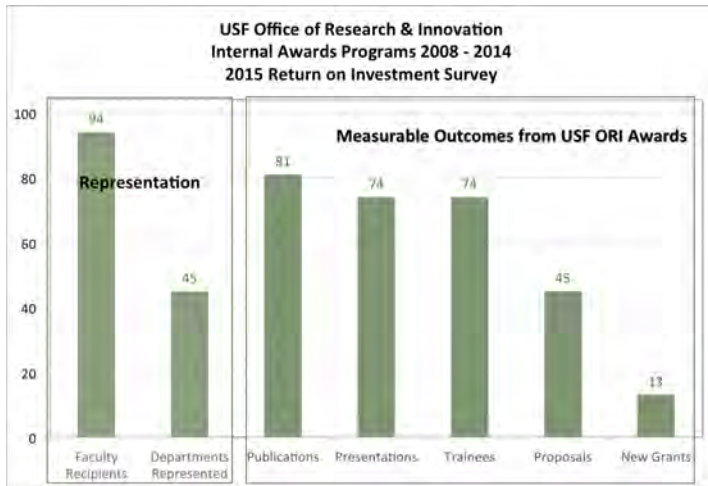
§ award program directly support research for an investigator initiated project

† award program mostly supports ancillary research activities of individuals and programs

## 2015 RC Survey of ORI Internal Awards Program

- Purpose of the Survey was to ascertain the impact of this Investment on individuals (faculty) and programs (Departments, Centers, Colleges)
- The survey had two parts:
  - Awardee Survey sent to recipients of Internal Awards from previous five academic years, 2008-2014
  - Stakeholders Survey sent to Associate Deans for Research, Center Directors, and Department Chairs
- The surveys were kept relatively simple to increase likelihood of participation & reduce burden in responding
- All data presented in the survey report are based upon the responses provided by Awardees and Stakeholders

## USF ORI Internal Awards Program 2008-2014 Summary of Measurable Outcomes Metrics\*



\*report is based of information provided by respondents

2015 Research Council Survey

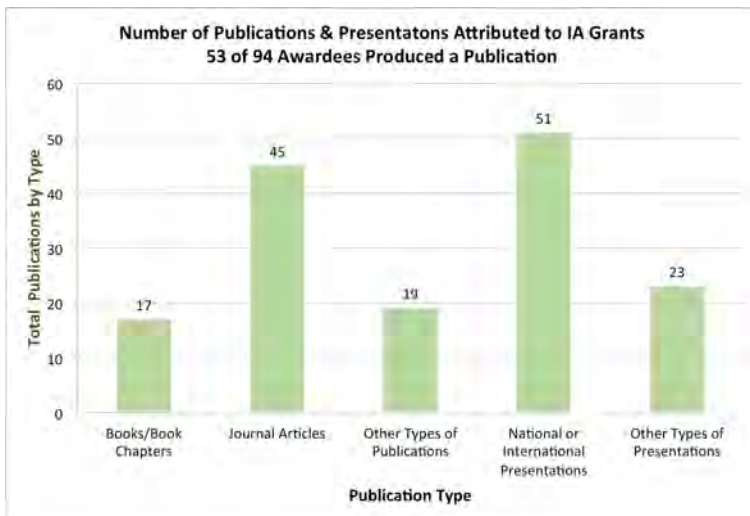
## Awardee Survey Question #1

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Books/Book Chapters											
Journal Articles											
Other Types of Publications											
National or International Presentations											
Other Types of Presentations											

Please list the publication (author, year, title, journal) and presentations (title, year, conference name, and location).

Please list the title of the presentations, the name of the conferences, and the location of the conferences if applicable.

## Measurable Outcomes: Publications & Presentations



## Awardee Survey Question #2

How many students/fellows were supported under this grant?

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Undergraduate											
Graduate											
Post-doctoral											

Please list the names of the undergraduate/graduate students and post-doctoral fellows, if applicable.

## Measurable Outcomes: Trainees Supported by IA Grants





# Awardee Survey Question #3

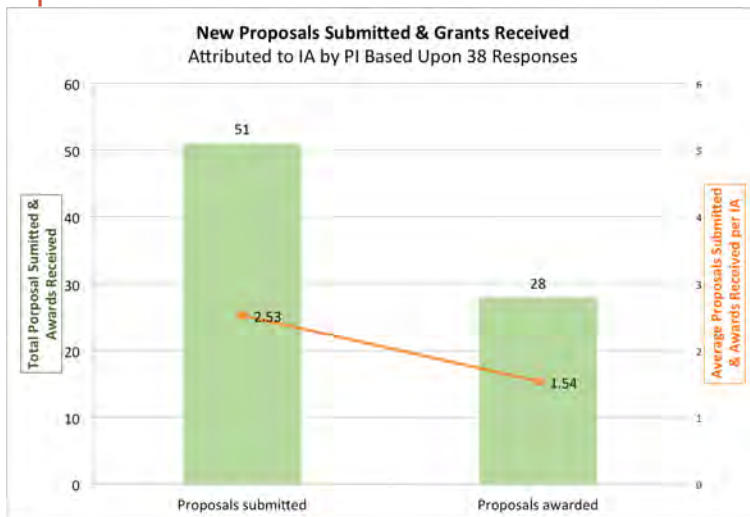
Number of grant proposals and/or grant awards based on this internal award

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Proposals submitted											
Proposals awarded											

Please list the proposals submitted and/or awarded.

## Measurable Outcomes:

### Proposals Submitted & Grants Received

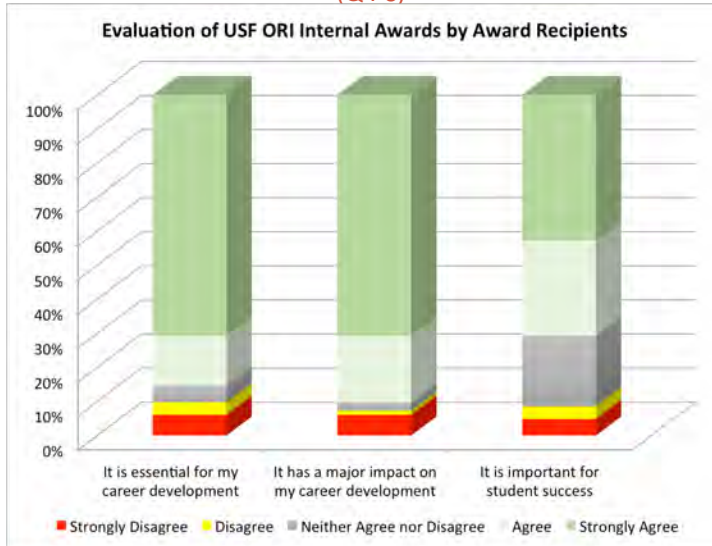


## Awardee Survey Question #4-6

Please indicate how you view the internal award program

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
It is essential for my career development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
It has a major impact on my career development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
It is important for student success	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Evaluation of USF ORI Award by Faculty Recipient (Q4-6)



# Departments, Schools, etc of IA Grant Awardees

(based of information provided by respondents)

- Africana Studies
- Anthropology
- Art and Art History
- Art History
- Cell Biology, Microbiology & Molecular Biology
- Chemical & Biomedical Engineering
- Chemistry
- Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Communication
- Community and Family Health
- Computer Science and Engineering
- Educational and Psychological Studies
- Electrical Engineering
- English
- Epidemiology & Biometrics
- Government and International Affairs
- History Humanities and Cultural Studies
- Industrial Engineering
- Information Systems Decisions Sciences
- Information, School of
- Integrative Biology
- Leadership, Counseling, Adult, Career and Higher Education
- Leisure Studies
- Marine Science
- Mathematics and Statistics
- McCormick
- Mechanical Engineering
- Molecular Medicine
- Molecular Pharmacology and Physiology
- Music
- Neurosurgery and Brain Repair
- Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine
- Pediatrics
- Pharmaceutical Science
- Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, School of
- Physics
- Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Social Work, School of
- Teaching and Learning
- Theatre and Dance
- Verbal and Visual Arts (St. Pete Campus)
- World Languages

## Summary of Awardees' responses

- There was a high level of enthusiasm for the importance and significance the awards had for a faculty's career development and success.
- Awardees had a strong sense of importance the grants provided a meaningful level of support for trainees.
- The measurable outcomes reported by the 94 award recipients is impressive.
- The responses indicate the ORI investment in the Internal Awards program had its intended impact on enhancing research productivity at USF.

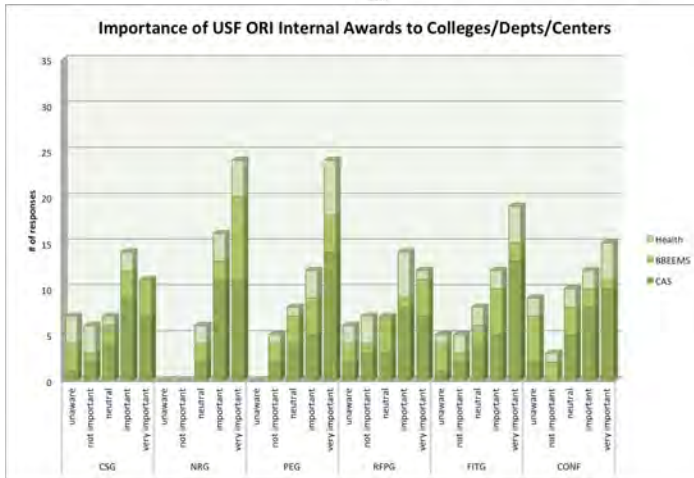
## RC Survey of USF Research Stakeholders

- USF Research Stakeholders survey include Associate Deans for Research, Center Directors, and Department Chairs
- This separate survey of Stakeholders was intended to provide greater detail about the impact and importance of the current internal awards program as well as how the program might be improved.
- In addition to scored questions, Stakeholders were asked to provide written responses about specific topics.
- Approximately 50 responses were received from Stakeholders (some responses were subdivided by affiliation):
  - CAS – College of Arts & Sciences (25 respondents)
  - BBEEEMS – Colleges of Behavioral & Community Sciences, Business Administration, Education, Engineering, Marine Sciences (15 respondents)
  - Health – Colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health (12 respondents)

# Stakeholders Q4

OR  
Please rate the importance of each program for your College/Department/Center.

	Unaware	Not important	Neutral	Important	Very important
Creative Scholarship Grant CSG	1	0	0	0	0
New Researcher Grant NRG	0	0	0	0	0
Proposed Doctoral Research Grant PEG	0	0	0	0	0
Research Faculty Pathways Grant RFPG	0	0	0	0	0
Faculty Professional Travel Grant FITG	0	0	0	0	0
Conference Support Grant CONG	0	0	0	0	0



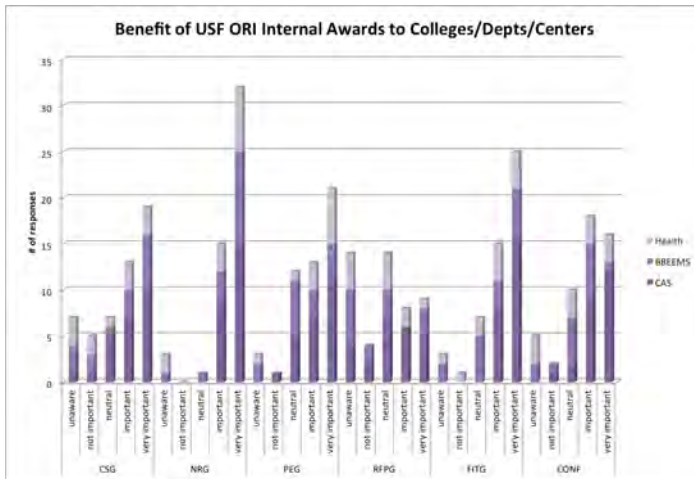
2015 Research Council Survey



# Stakeholders Q5

Q5. Rate the benefit of each program in helping faculty in your College/Department/Center to obtain extramural funding.

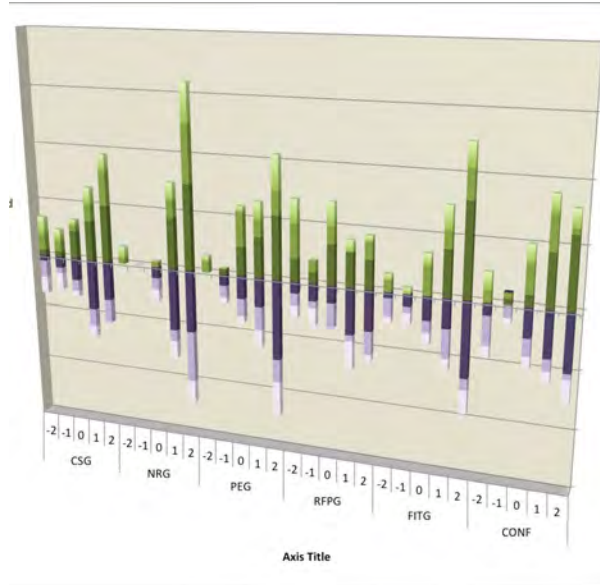
	Not beneficial	A little beneficial	Somewhat beneficial	Beneficial	Very beneficial
Creative Scholarship-Grant CSO	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
New Researcher Grant NRG	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Proposal Enhancement Grant PEG	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Research Faculty Pathway Grant RFPG	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Faculty International Travel Grant FITG	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Conference Support Grant CONF	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



2015 Research Council Survey

## Comparing relative benefit & importance of the IA program

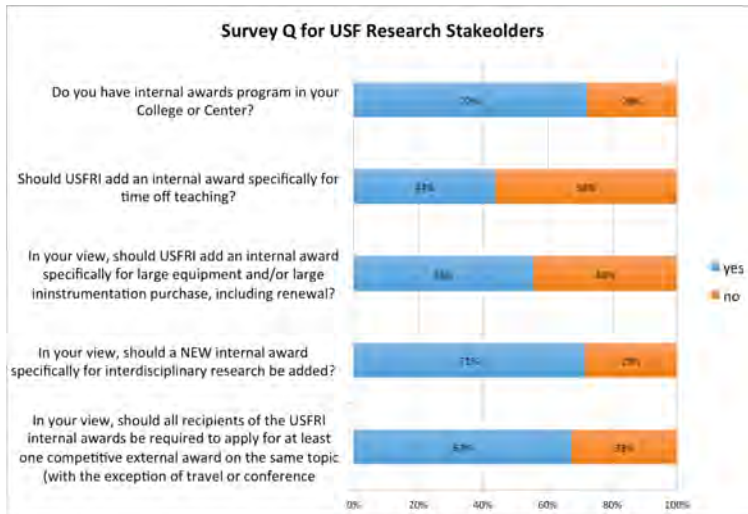
There is a decidedly higher level of enthusiasm for the importance of the Internal Awards program compared to the perceived benefit. This difference suggests that a weakness of the benefit is due to the low level of funding put into the program by ORI. This viewpoint is reflected in a number of the written comments about how the program could be improved. (Numerical values were given to answer options.)



# Comments for Improving IA Program (by Increasing Funding Level)

- “Greater number of awards and larger award amounts (esp. NRG)”
- “Although all of these programs are important and beneficial, the research funds dedicated to them are insignificant. The university needs to get serious about establishing a research infrastructure and these programs are a good place to start. Triple or 5x the total funding level would be a good start.”
- “If possible, increase the number of Creative Scholarship, New Researcher, and Faculty Internal Travel grants. The amounts do not have to be increased.”
- “greatly increase the capital investment.”
- (Additional comments) Several Colleges operate their own research award program to fund faculty projects (some on par with the level of ORI IA funding), indicating that the current ORI program is insufficient to meet perceived needs. Therefore, a relevant question is whether the total investment, by the individual colleges and ORI’s 0.12%, is comparable to USF’s peer institutions and AAU members?

# Stakeholder questions



Q9. If yes was selected for adding an internal award for interdisciplinary research please complete your recommendations below.

Recommended amount per award:

Recommended total amount to award per year:



Individual Stakeholder Responses

2015 Research Council Survey

## Potential for an internal USF program to support interdisciplinary research?

Q8. In your view, should a NEW internal award specifically for interdisciplinary research be added?

- Yes  
 No

Q9. If yes was selected for adding an internal award for interdisciplinary research please complete your recommendations below.

Recommended amount per award:

Recommended total amount to award per year:

- An internal USF interdisciplinary research program was strongly favored (yes for 71% of respondents).
- The range of support suggested for such a program varied considerably.
  - Overall average recommended for individual grants = \$24,703
  - Overall average recommended for total level of funding = \$107,781
- By affiliation the recommended average grant size was highest for Health (\$34,714) while for overall funding level by CAS respondents was highest (\$129,219)

Q11. If yes was selected for adding an internal award for large equipment and/or instrumentation purchases including renewal please complete your recommendations below.

Recommended amount per award:

Recommended total amount to award per year:



# Potential for an internal USF large equipment/ large instrumentation program?

Q10. In your view, should USFRI add an internal award specifically for **large equipment and/or large instrumentation** purchases, including renewal?

- Yes  
 No

Q11. If yes was selected for adding an internal award for large equipment and/or instrumentation purchases including renewal please complete your recommendations below.

Recommended amount per award:

Recommended total amount to award per year:

- The support for an internal USF large equipment/large instrument program was moderate (yes for 56% of respondents).
- The range of support suggested for such a program varied considerably.
  - Overall average recommended for individual grants = \$169,400
  - Overall average recommended for total level of funding = \$373,450
- By affiliation Health had the highest recommended average grant size (\$280,600) and for overall funding level (\$491,800)
- There was no consistent pattern by affiliation of support for the program, recommended grant size, nor overall funding level.



## RC 2015 survey summary of Stakeholders' responses

- Overall responses from the Stakeholders indicate that the USF ORI Internal Awards program is important and beneficial for both faculty and programs.
- There is support for enhancing the current program by:
  - increasing the total funds allocated to the program
  - Expanding the categories to include new grants for:
    - interdisciplinary research;
    - large equipment/large instrumentation, or continue equipment matching;
    - faculty salary (time off teaching, summer);
    - pilot grants for mid career – senior faculty;
    - more for 'non NIH/NSF' fields of research (business, humanities);
    - foreign travel not linked to a conference presentation.
- There is a concern that awareness of the programs is inadequate among potential applicants, especially on regional campuses.
- A greater emphasis should be placed on funding outcomes that enhance competitiveness for new extramural funding, especially to support research infrastructure.

## RC 2015 Survey of USF ORI Internal Awards

- Members of the 2014/2015 Research Council helped prepare the questions included in the survey.
- RC Chair John Adams and Co-Chair Ivan Oleynik had responsibility for all aspects of the survey (preparing, administering and analyzing the results).
- Julia Dunn from ORI provided valuable administrative support for preparing the survey and archiving the results.
- Hongdao Meng from the School of Aging Studies, College of Behavioral & Community Sciences provided helped convert the survey into Qualtrics format.
- The RC is greatly appreciative of the assistance of the Internal Award recipients, ADRs, Center Directors, and Department Chairs for their high level of participation in providing responses to the survey questionnaires.

## SUMMARY OF USFRI INTERNAL AWARDS FUNDING, FISCAL YEARS 2008 – 2014

GRANT CATEGORY	SUMMARY OF USFRI INTERNAL AWARDS FUNDING, FISCAL YEARS 2008 - 2014							
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	TOTAL
CSG	\$ 9,350.00	\$ 20,580.00	\$ 21,990.00	\$ 164,805.00	\$ 55,485.00	\$ 71,027.00	\$ 126,654.00	\$ 469,891.00
NRG	\$ 94,516.00	\$ 91,234.00	\$ 200,649.00	\$ 198,422.00	\$ 192,481.00	\$ 96,330.00	\$ 121,601.00	\$ 995,233.00
PEG				\$ 317,985.00	\$ 172,175.00	\$ 97,191.00	\$ 132,032.00	\$ 719,383.00
CONF			\$ 20,000.00	\$ 107,248.00	\$ 85,984.00	\$ 30,578.00	\$ 28,180.00	\$ 271,990.00
FITG	\$ 21,953.00	\$ 10,675.00	\$ 37,711.00	\$ 53,693.00	\$ 101,348.00	\$ 44,961.00	\$ 90,532.00	\$ 360,873.00
TOTAL	\$ 125,819.00	\$ 122,489.00	\$ 280,350.00	\$ 842,153.00	\$ 607,473.00	\$ 340,087.00	\$ 498,999.00	\$ 2,817,370.00