THE MISSION OF THE OFFICE OF SPONSORED PROGRAMS IS TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO FACULTY AND STAFF IN IDENTIFYING, OBTAINING, AND MANAGING EXTERNAL FUNDING WHILE ENSURING PROPER STEWARDSHIP OF AWARDED FUNDS.

Cover photo: A $4.8 million grant from the Walton Family Foundation is helping the University of Hartford and the Montessori Training Center Northeast to establish an undergraduate Montessori education program at the University, and to conduct research over the next five years about Montessori educator preparation.
It is with great pleasure that I present the 2017 Annual Report of the Office of Sponsored Programs. Having recently taken office as president of the University, I am impressed and inspired by the range of grants and contracts received by our faculty and staff. As you will see in the report, the awards range from $2,000 to $4.8 million from a variety of funders in the public and private sectors, and support programs as diverse as the underlying programs offered at the University.

Our faculty and staff are to be commended for seeking out external funding and conducting research that raises the stature of the University, offers learning opportunities for students, and advances the body of knowledge in their field.

In addition to the grants and contracts received during the year, this report also presents a summary of several of the Centers on campus and a description of their work. These Centers are staffed and supported by the University, but they work extensively with the broader community in the Hartford region and beyond. The Centers’ work includes supporting entrepreneurs, particularly women- and minority-owned enterprises; community revitalization in the Upper Albany neighborhood; serving as the host institution for the Connecticut Space Grant Consortium; and developing and evaluating state social service programs.

The breadth and depth of activities supported by external funding are important components of the University’s overall mission. I am very proud of the faculty and staff involved in these endeavors and look forward to learning about the outcomes of these research projects, and providing support, encouragement, and opportunities for continued success in the area of sponsored programs.

Gregory S. Woodward
President

The Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) is the department within the Office of the Provost that is responsible for supporting and serving faculty and staff who seek out external funding for research and programmatic initiatives. The 2017 OSP Annual Report lists the awards received during the 2016–17 academic year, and I congratulate each of the recipients for their success in attracting research funding to the University.

There are many steps and much work required to go from conception of an idea to receipt of an award letter. Often times, the first proposal submission is not awarded. In that case, the applicant might need to identify other funders, wait for the funding cycle to occur again, or significantly revise the scope of work and budget. The faculty and staff listed on the following pages have overcome those hurdles and are to be commended for their work in attracting external funding to the University.

Congratulations and a hearty “well done” to all who submitted proposals and those listed in the report as having received an award.

H. Frederick Sweitzer
Interim Provost
FEATURED FACULTY GRANTS AWARDED FY2017

Paige Bray, EdD
Associate Dean for Research and Community
Associate Professor of Early Childhood Education
College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions

The enduring partnership between the University of Hartford and the Montessori Training Center Northeast (MTCNE), has yielded a $4.8 million award from a fund directed by James Walton of the Walton Family Foundation to establish an undergraduate Montessori education program at the University. It is one of the largest educational grants the University has been awarded in its 60-year history. The funds will be used to establish the program, provide tuition assistance to eligible students who reflect a commitment to degree completion, and conduct research to evaluate the effectiveness of the new program, as well as potential implications for Montessori educators and educator preparation. The grant is designed so that the Montessori bachelor’s degree becomes a University tuition-based, self-sustaining program by the end of 2022.

Marilyn Risi
Executive Director
Upper Albany Main Street

The Upper Albany Main Street’s (UAMS) mission is “to preserve, revitalize, and support the commercial district of Upper Albany by working with residents, merchants, and stakeholders to create a neighborhood of choice.” UAMS is the only accountable, transparent, community-based organization providing business training and technical assistance to micro enterprises in the Upper Albany commercial district, as well as administrative support for the Upper Albany Merchants Association. UAMS is making every effort to strengthen and improve the commercial climate of the Upper Albany business district from within to create economic opportunity. UAMS believes that neighborhood residents and civic associations that represent them must have a say as to what they want to see in business development along the avenue. The award of $2 million for the Phase I Albany Homestead Building Improvement Project will support the mapping of commercial properties along the avenues, as well as fund an architectural report that will include design guidelines with both renderings and visuals, and the restoration of historical properties.

“I am very proud of the faculty and staff involved in these endeavors and look forward to learning about the outcomes of these research projects.”

Gregory S. Woodward
Jean McGivney-Burelle, PhD
Professor of Mathematics
Executive Director of the Center for
Teaching Excellence and Innovation
College of Arts and Sciences

The Integrating Mathematics and Science (IMS) program, a collaboration between the Connecticut Science Center and the University of Hartford, supports a cohort of Connecticut middle school science teachers in their efforts to align their curriculum and teaching to newly adopted Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). The program combines an up-to-date understanding of how students learn with the most important concepts, practices, and thinking skills that make science knowledge powerful. Furthermore, because scientists routinely use mathematics, but students rarely use math in science classes, IMS will help teachers to integrate mathematics aligned to the Common Core State Standards into their science teaching. The program will begin with expert-developed lessons and instruction on how to integrate math into science curriculum units, and then transition into the teachers developing their own curriculum units. Data from the unit implementation and expert-developed protocols will support revision of the units, which will then be shared with other educators statewide.

Hisham Alnajjar, PhD
Associate Dean College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture
Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Director, Connecticut Space Grant Consortium
Co-Director, The Engineering Application Center

The NASA Connecticut Space Grant Consortium (CTSGC) is a federally mandated grant, internship, and scholarship program that is funded as part of NASA's Office of Education. Professor Hisham Alnajjar and his team were awarded a two-year augmentation grant through the CTSGC that supplements NASA's base award. This funding will support the consortium's efforts to continue to support faculty research, STEM education research, and programming, as well as graduate research fellowships and student scholarships. NASA also funded the team's work to design and build a payload that was attached to a high-altitude balloon to capture the solar eclipse event on August 21, 2017. The payload and the balloon were launched in Kentucky and streamed video of the eclipse to NASA, which made it available for public viewing. Additionally, in collaboration with the University of Bridgeport and Wesleyan University, NASA awarded the team an additional two-year $200,000 grant to support the development of an interactive robotic monkey that will be launched on a high-altitude balloon to engage students in grades K-6 in real time, while they are visiting a local children's museum.
The Center for Social Research (CSR) is recognized for its expertise in developing and evaluating human service programs aimed toward improving social disparities. The CSR team strives to inform public policy by understanding the population receiving program services and assessing the effectiveness of those services, using both qualitative and quantitative methods. All CSR activities and staff positions are fully grant funded. During the 2017 fiscal year, the CSR team completed its 21st consecutive annual outcome evaluation of the Nurturing Families Network, a statewide program that supports families at risk for child maltreatment, completing the fifth year of a contract with the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood (for a total of $1.45 million in funding). The team also completed a three-year evaluation of Hartford Public Library’s YOUmedia program, which engages teens from disadvantaged urban neighborhoods through its innovative digital learning space and programs.

The Entrepreneurial Center (EC/WBC) focuses on assisting new and expanding Connecticut small businesses, especially woman- and minority-owned, as well as aspiring entrepreneurs. Participants in the Center’s programs gain business skills and confidence, and make the connections needed to succeed. The Center offers a variety of services, including business advising, technical assistance, training workshops, mentoring programs, and networking events and also leads the annual statewide Connecticut Business Matchmaker event. Externally funded by grants, sponsorships, and program fees, the EC’s largest initiative is the Women’s Business Center, with programs focused on the needs, issues, and learning styles of women entrepreneurs. In 2017, the EC/WBC expanded its operations, opening new offices in both Hartford and East Hartford.

The Maurice Greenberg Center’s director, Professor Richard Freund, received multiple grants and private donations in 2017 for his work in Vilnius, Kaunas, and Silute, Lithuania. These included two separate allocations from the U.S. Embassy in Lithuania, the Municipality of Kaunas, the U.S. Commission for the Preservation of America’s Heritage Abroad, the French Foundation for the Shoah, and the
Targum Shelishi Foundation based in the United States. The Center’s work has received both national and international news coverage, and one of the research projects will be the subject of a full-length documentary in 2018 about at a labor camp on the outskirts of Vilnius. The Lithuanian discoveries will be featured in the University’s Museum of Jewish Civilization in an exhibition entitled: *Vilna: The Jerusalem of the North*, which is opening in fall 2017. The Museum, under the direction of the Philip D. Feltman Professor of Modern Jewish History Avinoam Patt, received grants from the Connecticut Humanities Council, the Marion and Maximillian Hoffman Foundation, and the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Hartford for the exhibit *Hartford Remembers the Holocaust*. This exhibition is a multimedia, interactive educational experience that teaches the history of the Holocaust through the life stories of six Hartford-area Holocaust survivors. The Museum welcomed nearly 1,000 students and educators in 2017.

**NASA CONNECTICUT SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM**

The NASA Connecticut Space Grant Consortium (CTSGC) leadership team was awarded a two-year augmentation grant in the amount of $569,956 to supplement its base award. The augmentation grant supports the effort of the consortium to continue to award grants for: faculty research, faculty STEM education research, faculty STEM education programming, faculty travel, graduate research fellowships, undergraduate research, student projects, internships, undergraduate scholarships, community college scholarships, and student travel. Additionally, the consortium offered two unique programs: the Community College Quadcopter Challenge and Undergraduate Student-Faculty Summer Research. NASA CTSGC also funded two Next Generation Science Standards summer workshops for K-12 educators. The augmentation grant supports the design, build, and launch of two high-altitude balloons by the University of Hartford and University of Bridgeport that monitored the solar eclipse on August 21, 2017. In collaboration with the University of Bridgeport and Wesleyan University, a two-year $200,000 grant was awarded from NASA to fund the development of an interactive robotic monkey, which will be placed on a high-altitude balloon to engage students (K-6) in real time, while they are visiting a local children’s museum. The NASA CTSGC center impact is to:

- Establish and promote NASA-related research opportunities that draw on the collaborative strength of private, academic, and government sectors
- Support education initiatives that will inspire students to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)
- Promote workforce development that recognizes the current and future needs of the Connecticut economy

**UPPER ALBANY MAIN STREET**

Upper Albany Main Street (UAMS) is an economic development and community revitalization organization located in Hartford’s Upper Albany neighborhood. UAMS is a 2017 accredited National Main Street Community by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and is the principal catalyst for economic revitalization of the Albany Avenue Commercial Corridor. UAMS received a $2 million grant from the State Department of Economic and Community Development to implement a Façade Improvement Program for Albany Avenue, which is coordinated with the Connecticut Department of Transportation’s Route 44 Safety and Streetscape Project that is currently under construction. This major grant will help spur additional economic development in the community. In July 2016, UAMS was honored with a Community Service Award from State Sen. Eric Coleman, in recognition of exceptional community leadership, dedication, and service to the Hartford community.
## BARNEY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROJECT NAME</th>
<th>FUNDER</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Milena Erwin Entrepreneurial Center/</td>
<td>Small Business Administration</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s Business Center</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Milena Erwin Entrepreneurial Center/</td>
<td>Connecticut Department of Economic and</td>
<td>$135,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s Business Center</td>
<td>Community Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marilyn Risi Micro Business Incubator</td>
<td>City of Hartford</td>
<td>$71,000</td>
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<td>Marilyn Risi Albany/Homestead Building Improvement Project–Phase 1</td>
<td>Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fred Wergeles Community Development Block Grant–Economic Development</td>
<td>City of Hartford</td>
<td>$33,000</td>
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## COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROJECT NAME</th>
<th>FUNDER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Richard Freund Geoscience Non-Invasive Sub-surfacing Mapping of Fort VII, Kaunas, Lithuania</td>
<td>U.S. Embassy Vilnius</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Freund Geoscience Survey of Forts IX, VII, and IV in Kaunas, Lithuania</td>
<td>U.S. Commission for America’s Heritage Aboard</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<td>Marcia Hughes Farmers Market Support Grant Program</td>
<td>Billings Forge Community Works</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
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<td>Marcia Hughes Help Me Grow Norwalk Initiative</td>
<td>United Way of Connecticut</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jean McGivney-Burelle and John Tapper Integrating Common Core State Standards Math into Next Generation Science Standards Science–Year Two</td>
<td>Connecticut Office of Higher Education</td>
<td>$125,768</td>
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### COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROJECT NAME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paige BrayMontessori Bachelor’s Program</td>
<td>The Walton Family Foundation</td>
<td>$4,781,125</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paige BrayCommunity Politics Learning Exchange</td>
<td>Kettering Foundation</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duffy FelmleeOutcome Measure How-to-Videos</td>
<td>American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adam GoodworthVestibular Contribution to the Control of Human Upright Stance</td>
<td>National Institute of Health</td>
<td>$23,772</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph OlzackiRwanda Teacher Education Program–Phase VI</td>
<td>Ministry of Education/Rwandan Education Board</td>
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### COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, TECHNOLOGY, AND ARCHITECTURE

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<tr>
<th>PROJECT NAME</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hisham AlnajjarNear Space Balloon Missions</td>
<td>NASA</td>
<td>$199,737</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hisham Alnajjar, Connecticut Space Consortium Augmentation</td>
<td>NASA</td>
<td>$569,956</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary AricoBiomedical Engineering for STEM</td>
<td>Connecticut Health and Education Facilities Authority</td>
<td>$11,675</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary AricoOne Handed 10mm ReliaCatch Redesign</td>
<td>Covidien/Medtronic</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<td>Mary AricoMedtronic B.E. Senior Design Project</td>
<td>Covidien/Medtronic</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Louis Manzione and Thomas EppesReal Time on Board Video for Gun Launched Munitions</td>
<td>Custom Electronics</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul SlabochEffect of Aft Rotor on Blade Wake of Counter Rotating Open Rotor</td>
<td>NASA</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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### COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

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<tr>
<th>PROJECT NAME</th>
<th>FUNDER</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jeffrey Burda and Kenna GrantTransforming Youth Recovery Early Stage Collegiate Recovery Grant</td>
<td>Stacie Mathewson Foundation</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
FISCAL YEARS
2015 | 2016 | 2017

SOURCE OF FUNDING

2015
Total Funding: $3,960,698
- Private: $544,659
- Federal: $1,540,980
- State: $1,360,277
- Federal Pass-through: $514,682

2016
Total Funding: $3,954,308
- Private: $783,296
- Federal: $1,511,717
- State: $1,086,306
- Federal Pass-through: $572,989

2017
Total Funding: $8,547,383
- Private: $2,146,675
- Federal: $1,294,043
- State: $2,653,125
- Federal Pass-through: $4,853,125

EXTERNALLY FUNDED RESEARCH EXPENDITURES 2015-17*

2015
- 66 GRANTS
- $3.9 MILLION

2016
- 62 GRANTS
- $3.9 MILLION

2017
- 62 GRANTS
- $2.6 MILLION

*Awarded funds expended during a fiscal year.
To help NASA live stream the total eclipse in August 2017, University of Hartford students and professors worked with the NASA Connecticut Space Grant Consortium to launch an eight-foot tall helium-filled weather balloon that carried a video camera, still camera, and GPS tracking system.
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