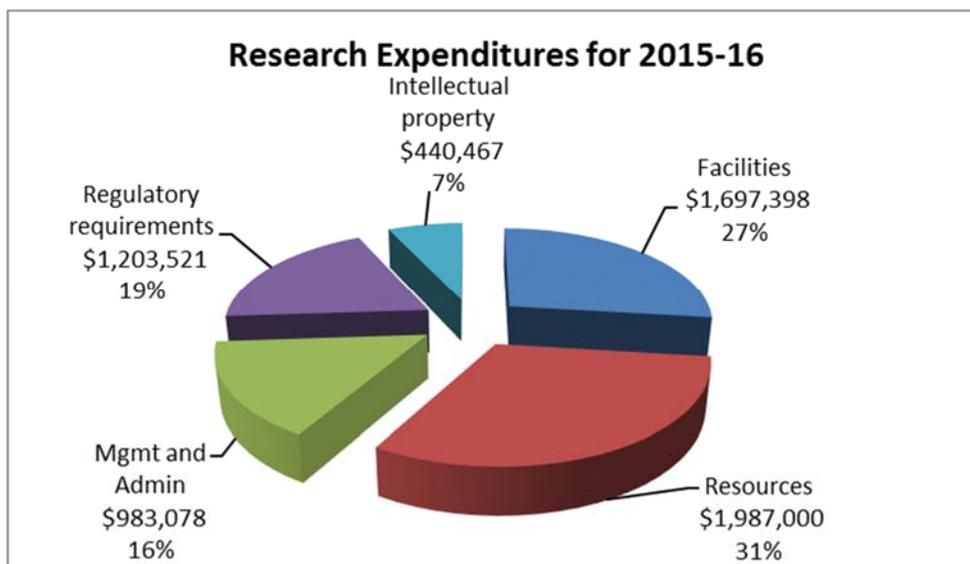


2015 -2016 Indirect costs of research expenditures supported by Federal Research Support Fund at UVic



Overview of Institutional Allocation of Grant Funds

Facilities

Funding in this category is 27% of the total RSF.

High quality research requires access to and the availability of the right tools and facilities in which Faculty, their associates and students can conduct their research. It is vital that laboratories are as modern as possible, have the right equipment and that the space is adequate and appropriate for the type of experiments that the researchers need to conduct. For the University of Victoria, annual access to research support funds has, since inception, enabled the institution to renovate and support its research laboratories and facilities in ways that would never have been possible without the program. These funds are essential to the continued enhancement of research space on campus.

Over the life of the program these funds have been utilized to support the renewal and renovation of research space across multiple disciplines.

Research support funds each year are also used to cover a portion of the operating costs that result from research (utilities and maintenance). Research spaces typically have large power draws (e.g. fume hoods or significant computing resources) and often have specialized needs (i.e. cleanliness within animal care).

Research Resources

Funding in this category is 31% of the total RSF.

The major portion of the funding allocated under this category is spent on library acquisitions. The expenditures in this area allow us to continue to improve the capacity of the university to make available information critical to the success of our many diverse research programs across campus. For many disciplines, these expenditures are critical to providing the research environment needed by faculty, other researchers and students.

Access to library resources is a significant faculty recruitment and retention issue in many areas. The library is frequently asked to purchase research materials that are critical to the success of our research programs. If these needs were not met, many faculty members' research would be negatively impacted. RSFs are essential for these types of purchases.

In addition, the library needs to be able to purchase new forms (e-books, texts, newspapers, statistical information, historical materials, and journals) of digital research sources, both historical and current.

Since most research grants do not allow for the costs of insurance, funds in this category are also used to purchase insurance for research vehicles. Lastly, some of the funding in this category is allocated to information resources in the form of databases, telecommunications, information technology and research tools.

Management and Administration

Funding in this category is 16% of the total Research Support Funding (RSF).

Expenditures in this category provide support for key positions, both administrative and management, in the Office of Research Services.

Vital services are provided in the review and negotiation of research funding agreements between the University of Victoria and our funding partners and collaborators. Timely review and effective negotiation are required in order to respond to the significant growth in the numbers and increasing complexity of research agreements. Partnerships with government, industry and other organizations are pre-requisites for the University of Victoria to take advantage of a number of Tri-Council programs.

The RSF also provides support for the development of applications for awards, prestigious fellowships and other significant academic honours. This support ensures the detailed processes required to meet competition requirements are met. The University of Victoria has had significant success in winning awards and our faculty members continue to be inducted into prestigious societies in significant numbers across all disciplines.

Personnel in research accounting and purchasing departments dedicated to assisting researchers with budget submissions, reporting and purchases are also supported by the RSF. Increasingly, the reports and proposal submissions are complex and the dedication of support to this area is crucial to the effective support for budget development and the effective administration of research funding at the University.

Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation.

Funding in this category is 19% of the total RSF.

The large number of applications, renewals and amendments for research ethics approvals each year has made the effective management of the human research ethics (HRE) review process critically important. The RSF supports critical positions for the effective review and administration of human research ethics protocols as well as administrative support to the HRE Chair, Vice-Chair and the HRE Board.

The University of Victoria supports significant infrastructure related to research with animal models. The RSF provides substantial support for the required regulatory committees, technical support, equipment and renovations required for animal care. This support is critical to the ability to effectively manage animal care facilities and to ensure that the regulatory requirements of the Canada Council on Animal Care (CCAC) are met.

The administrative and management in support of our animal care program personnel supported by the RSF are critical to ensuring that we are able to provide high quality animal care and adhere to the standards required for successful renewal of our CCAC certificate of Good Animal Practice (GAP).

Expenditures in this category also include the handling of dangerous substances and biohazards as well as costs of regulatory compliance. The funds enabled renovations to support improved biosafety through a number of labs as required under Canadian Biosafety Standards and Guidelines.

An example of how the RSF has contributed to sustaining a strong research environment at UVic is the RSF provided the resources to support our ethics staff members, who participated in the province-wide BC Ethics Harmonization Initiative. <https://bcethics.ca/>

This initiative involved all of the research universities and health authorities in BC, with the aim of creating efficient, coordinated, and high-quality processes that support and encourage multi-jurisdictional human health research. The goal is to make BC a more attractive environment for research activity.

The outcome of the BC Ethics Harmonization Initiative has been very positive, with the implementation of harmonized models that make the ethics review process more timely and efficient and allow researchers to submit a single ethics application, regardless of the number of BC jurisdictions involved in a project.

Harmonization also ensures that there is consistency and high quality of ethics review, in compliance with TCPS-2, across all research ethics boards.

Our capacity to participate in this initiative is directly related to the support provided by the RSF.

Intellectual Property

Funding in this category is 7% of the total RSF.

The RSF is used to support a portion of the costs associated the UVic Research Partnerships and Knowledge Mobilization (RPKM) unit within the Office of Research Services which includes:

- Supporting the development of research partnerships with external community, including industry, government and non-government organizations. The liaison staff also provide technology transfer services to the entire UVic community (including faculty, staff and students);
- Costs of filing, prosecution and maintenance of new and existing patent applications based on UVic faculty or student research innovations; and
- External legal costs to develop option to license and research agreements with industry partners.

The funding is critical in assisting UVic to protect, manage and transfer intellectual property for the benefit of society and the Canadian economy.