

Indirect Costs Outcomes Report

File Number **P0021**

Main Contact Information

Institution University of Guelph			
Contact Family Name Livernois		Contact Given Name John	
Contact Position Interim Vice-President, Research and External Partnerships		Contact Department Office of VP Research	
Contact Telephone number Area Code 519	Number 824-4120	Extension 53081	Contact E-Mail address at institution live@uoguelph.ca

Financial Contact Information

Financial Contact Family Name Miles		Financial Contact Given Name John	
Financial Contact Position Assistant VP Finance and Services		Financial Contact Department	
Financial Contact Telephone number Area Code 519	Number 824-4120	Extension 52900	Financial Contact E-Mail address at institution jmiles@uoguelph.ca

Statement of Account

Total Indirect Costs Funds available in 2014-2015 **A** **\$5,898,397**

Expenditures incurred in 2014-2015

Research Facilities	\$1,994,107
Research Resources	\$2,146,497
Management and Administration	\$1,438,513
Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation	\$215,123
Intellectual Property	\$104,157
Total Indirect Costs expenditures incurred in 2014-2015	B \$5,898,397

Outstanding Commitments (The expenditure was incurred but the invoice was not paid in the period ending March 31, but was paid before June 30. Be sure to include the commitments in the appropriate area(s) above.)

\$0

Health Research Affiliates

For organizations with health research affiliates only: for each area of priority, indicate the actual amount of your 2014-2015 grant that was spent by your health research affiliates.

Research Facilities	\$0
Research Resources	\$0
Management and Administration	\$0
Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation	\$0
Intellectual Property	\$0

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Section I - Facilities

Expenditures

Was your grant invested, completely or partially, in any of the following ways?

Note that A and B are not exclusive (i.e. for any given category, if you have covered both existing and new Expenditures, you would check both A or B).

Expenditure category	A) The grant covered existing expenditures	B) The grant covered new expenditures (not previously covered by grant)	C) The grant did not cover this category	In which category was the largest proportion of your 2014-2015 grant invested?
1. Renovation and maintenance of research facilities (excluding expenditures incurred to meet regulatory requirements - see Section IV)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Upgrade, operations and maintenance of equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Operating costs (custodial, security, maintenance, utilities, leasing, capital planning, insurance on research space)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. Technical support for laboratories, offices and other facilities (excluding technical support for animal care - see section IV)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Section I - Facilities (continued)

Impact Statement

Please explain how the expenditures made in this priority area have allowed your institution (and its health research affiliates, where applicable) to maintain and/or enhance the capacity of its research enterprise. The following questions can help guide your answer:

- what difference have your grant investments made?
- are there significant changes from the previous year?
- why are these investments vital for researchers?
- why are these expenditures vital to the university research administration?
- what would have happened if expenditures hadn't been possible?
- what are the major cost drivers in this category?
- what percentage of your O&M expenditure supports CFI-funded equipment?

The ICP grant has been a critical component in both enhancing and maintaining the University of Guelph's capacity for research. The ICP grant has continued to make it possible for the University to fund the costs of operations for a number of critical support facilities. These facilities constitute the major cost drivers in this category. Included in this category are the basic operating costs of buildings that house research facilities. Major cost categories are building maintenance, utilities and waste and chemical controls and related disposal costs. As we continue to establish innovative new infrastructure to support high demand areas of priority research, these funds provide critical life blood in support of operational excellence. Without them, it is unlikely that we could maintain our leading edge research capacity.

Operating our research buildings: Major facilities such as the University's science complex building (completed in 2009) and the Biodiversity Institute (completed in 2012) continue to have significant portions of space dedicated to federally sponsored research. These state-of-the-art buildings have many building support systems including complex continuous air-flow generation, full emergency power backup, energy efficient growth chambers, which ensure the safe and effective operation of the on-going research activities. The ICP has enabled the University to maximize the implementation and continuous operations of all aspects of these facilities. Without this funding, we would have had to defer commissioning of portions of the research space, severely limiting our ability to compete for, and conduct, critical research particularly in the physical, biological and engineering sciences areas. These are only two major examples of research space that we have been able to fully utilize for the delivery of federally funded (and related leveraged funding from other sources) research.

Campus infrastructure in support of Research: As in previous years, a continuing challenge for the University's research program is to meet the ongoing demand for new, reliable and efficient utility and physical infrastructure delivery systems. The increasingly complex nature of research equipment and related operating demands of research operations have exposed the limitations of older support services. These include a number of utility and operational support services ranging from the delivery of distilled water, reliable power (electricity, natural gas), waste disposal, custodial and security services for research space etc, as well as a push to develop more sustainable and energy efficient long-term approaches to managing our costs. The ICP enables the University to not only maintain existing capacity but also to undertake improved services that focus on both reliability and efficient delivery. Without this infrastructure "platform", researchers would be exposed to a significant decline of support service levels and, of a more serious nature, loss or disruption of vital services. The ICP has greatly reduced this risk and encouraged and promoted research activity by providing reliable and effective facilities.

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Section II - Research Resources

Expenditures

Was your grant invested, completely or partially, in any of the following ways?

Note that A and B are not exclusive (i.e. for any given category, if you have covered both existing and new expenditures, you would check both A or B).

Expenditure category	A) The grant covered existing expenditures	B) The grant covered new expenditures (not previously covered by grant)	C) The grant did not cover this category	In which category was the largest proportion of your 2014-2015 grant invested?
1. Acquisition of library holdings (journals, books, collections, periodicals, Canada National Site Licensing project, etc.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Improvements to electronic information resources (access to databases, telecommunications systems, information technology systems, and research tools) (excluding technology to track grants and to provide financial services - see Section III)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Library operating costs and administration (custodial, security, maintenance, utilities, leasing, capital planning, staff salaries)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. Insurance on research equipment and vehicles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Section II - Research Resources (continued)

Impact Statement

Please explain how the expenditures made in this priority area have allowed your institution (and its health research affiliates, where applicable) to maintain and/or enhance the capacity of its research enterprise. The following questions can help guide your answer:

- what difference have your grant investments made?
- are there significant changes from the previous year?
- why are these investments vital for researchers?
- why are these expenditures vital to the university research administration?
- what would have happened if expenditures hadn't been possible?
- what are the major cost drivers in this category?
- what proportion of the acquisitions and operating budget of the library is covered by the Indirect Costs Program?
- do you participate in inter-institutional consortia or partnerships to assist in cost reduction in this expenditure category?

The ICP grant in this category contributes to two major elements of our research infrastructure;

- Information technologies are crucial contributors to successful research. High speed wireless connectivity, highly secure communication traffic and adequate bandwidth are absolutely essential to achieving research successes, to foster collaborations, and for overall effective communications. Much of our state-of-the-art equipment generates large amounts of complex data that must be transmitted on campus and to external partners. The University supports on-going investments in this area and maintains these services for access by all of our researchers. The ICP grant has made it possible for the University to continue to enhance our capacity, security and reliability of our communications and data transfer and storage services to researchers. In the grant's absence, we could not invest in this technology and related support services and second, over time we would see a major deterioration of communication and data transmission, security issues and storage capacities. The cost of maintaining secure and confidential systems, free from security breaches has gone up considerably. The loss of ICP support would be a significant loss in our ability to conduct research in a productive and cost effective manner and perhaps as importantly, to seamlessly access and distribute data and research outcomes to colleagues, students and the other organizations in a secure fashion.

- The library, and its constant evolution in the digital community, remains the backbone upon which new discoveries are contextualized, and the place where researchers can remain abreast of new information arising anywhere in the world. The University's library has been able to maintain first class positioning in spite of constant inflationary challenges, as a result of the on-going investment of the ICP in maintaining research support services in the library. In the absence of this investment we would see a significant erosion of our capacity to deliver this critical element of successful research, particularly in some of our cloud computing environment. Researchers' (both faculty and graduate students) access to new information would become limited and difficult to retrieve placing them at a major competitive disadvantage relative to peers (both domestic and internationally). ICP is key to maintaining information resources that are vital in building our competitive position and capacity to attract and grow research activity at the University. Currently the ICP supports about 10% of the university's total acquisitions and library operations budget. In managing the total overall costs the University is part of a tri-university consortium that shares the costs of library technology (shared information database and retrieval processes), physical storage (shared warehousing for collections storage) and the sharing of common information requirements. This effort has helped to contain cost increases for all participants and will remain an important initiative in meeting future the information needs of researchers.

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Section III - Management and Administration

Expenditures

Was your grant invested, completely or partially, in any of the following ways?

Note that A and B are not exclusive (i.e. for any given category, if you have covered both existing and new expenditures, you would check both A and B).

Expenditure category	A) The grant covered existing expenditures	B) The grant covered new expenditures (not previously covered by grant)	C) The grant did not cover this category	In which category was the largest proportion of your 2014-2015 grant invested?
1. Institutional support for the completion of grant applications / research proposals.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Acquisition, maintenance and/or upgrade of information systems to track grant applications, certifications, and awards.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Eligible training of faculty and research personnel (excluding training to meet regulatory requirements - see Section IV)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Human resources and payroll	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Financial and audit costs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Research planning and promotion, public relations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Section III - Management and Administration (continued)

Impact Statement

Please explain how the expenditures made in this priority area have allowed your institution (and its health research affiliates, where applicable) to maintain and/or enhance the capacity of its research enterprise. The following questions can help guide your answer:

- what difference have your grant investments made?
- are there significant changes from the previous year?
- why are these investments vital for researchers?
- why are these expenditures vital to the university research administration?
- what would have happened if expenditures hadn't been possible?
- what are the major cost drivers in this category?
- do you participate in inter-institutional consortia or partnerships that assist in cost reduction in this expenditure category?

The ICP grant was directly responsible for increased capacity in a wide range of research services that our university faculty have come to rely upon. Services supported by the grant include the administration of grants and contracts, and legal review and triage, an activity that is core to any research intensive university. The major cost drivers in this category are personnel costs including professional and support staff that are dedicated in the Office of Research and other key central support service units as well as staff located in major college/research units across the campus.

- In the Office of Research, the grants and contracts office is able to provide assistance on proposal preparation and submission, manage issues around intellectual property and regulatory compliance, and coordinate efforts to provide training to faculty on how to conduct federally-supported research in a manner that is compliant with federal guidelines (for example in ethics and animal use protocols). We have a number of staff throughout research services who track applications and awards. The ICP grant contributes to the maintenance of this capacity. We made significant progress in the past year on our project to introduce on-line application and tracking of research proposals for all of our researchers, a project designed to improve the efficiency and level of service to our researchers and ensure effective interactions with researchers and sponsors. In 2014-15, we issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) to seek responses from vendors who specialize in the provision of electronic research administration and information management systems. Vendors' responses were evaluated and the university is currently negotiating an agreement with the top-ranked vendor. In addition, the Office of Research conducted a search for a project manager to lead the implementation of the new electronic system.

- The Office of Research provides various levels of support and orientation for new and continuing faculty/researchers. This includes workshops on grant preparation, research ethics, regulatory requirements, etc., for the tri-council programs in particular. Our Research Ethics Coordinator provides a variety of programs to assist those who engage human participants in their research. The Catalyst Centre provides support and workshops on various aspects of partnerships and commercialization. The monthly seminar series for faculty focused on topics in support of their research programs was continued. Topics included advice to new researchers on how to get started, grant writing tips, crowd funding for research, knowledge mobilization, patenting etc. In addition, a 10 week non-credit research and project management course was offered by the Office of Research to graduate students. The Office of Research coordinated CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC grant writing workshops for both new and established faculty. New this year was a workshop on the NSERC Collaborative Research and Development program.

- The research office has an active communications team focused on dissemination of results to external audiences. We place a priority on being able to translate research discoveries into messages that the broader public can understand and appreciate. In 2014-15, a special research magazine edition was released in celebration of the University's 50th anniversary. It highlighted the top 50 University research discoveries in the past 50 years. New in 2014-15 was the hosting of a research panel event in downtown Guelph to communicate interesting research programs to the public; three University professors presented their research programs/findings at the event. The University plans to continue this form of public engagement in research in 2015-16.

- In the area of research financial reporting, we have enhanced the skill levels of our staff and developing our systems with a focus on improving both reporting and control of federally funded research. Staff within Research Financial Services continue to expand their use and knowledge of Cognos. This allows us to develop new reports (eg.

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Section III - Management and Administration (continued)

Impact Statement

exception reports) which assist with the management of research awards. Staff within Research Financial Services have also taken some courses to assist them in the creation of a centralized task list for the unit. As the volume of reporting and tasks increase, Research Financial Services must find efficient ways to utilize technology to ensure a high level of management of research awards. These improvements will continue to enhance the service provided by Research Financial Services and the internal controls around the use of research funds.

All of these enhanced services are a direct result of funding received under the ICP grant. Without it, we would have to either eliminate or seriously curtail these activities, including a downloading of administrative responsibilities to researchers, reducing their time and focus dedicated to direct research activities and outcomes. This is already a growing challenge as sponsors seek more accountability and transparency regarding the achieved outcomes and uses of their funding. The ICP funds are essential to maintaining our ability to meet these requirements.

In terms of inter-institutional consortia or partnerships that assist in cost reduction in this expenditure category, while only a very small component of this category, our purchasing services actively participates in inter organizational consortia to reduce the overall costs of procurement and related services. Some examples include laboratory supplies, customs clearances and shipping serves and duplication, photocopying and printing services. These cooperative activities improved both pricing and services to researchers.

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Section IV - Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation

Expenditures

Was your grant invested, completely or partially, in any of the following ways?

Note that A and B are not exclusive (i.e. for any given category, if you have covered both existing and new expenditures, you would check both A and B).

Expenditure category	A) The grant covered existing expenditures	B) The grant covered new expenditures (not previously covered by grant)	C) The grant did not cover this category	In which category was the largest proportion of your 2014-2015 grant invested?
1. Creation and support of regulatory bodies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Training of faculty and other research personnel in health and safety, animal care, ethics review, handling radiation and biohazards, and environmental assessments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. International accreditation costs related to research capacity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Upgrades to, and maintenance of facilities and equipment to meet requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Technical support for animal care, handling of dangerous substances and biohazards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Section IV - Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation (continued)

Impact Statement

Please explain how the expenditures made in this priority area have allowed your institution (and its health research affiliates, where applicable) to maintain and/or enhance the capacity of its research enterprise. The following questions can help guide your answer:

- what difference have your grant investments made?
- are there significant changes from the previous year?
- why are these investments vital for researchers?
- why are these expenditures vital to the university research administration?
- what would have happened if expenditures hadn't been possible?
- what are the major cost drivers in this category?
- to what extent is compliance with Canadian and international regulations required to access research funds from international sources?

The University has many research programs that are subject to detailed and stringent regulatory oversight (eg. biohazards, transgenics, environmental guidelines, animal use protocols, human ethics). In addition, some of our research capacity contributes to our ability to meet standards of accreditation, particularly with respect to animal care services, and other related activities in our veterinary college. Like all veterinary schools, the Ontario Veterinary College requires accreditation by professional bodies for it to offer full services and continue to confer degrees. The ICP support that goes toward animal care at the University of Guelph plays an important role in helping us to meet the required standards. This past year we used a small portion of the ICP grant (3.6%) to help support key staff positions dedicated to regulatory matters and risk management, including a Director, Research Risk Management. This is enabling us to place a greater emphasis on environmental health and safety issues associated with research, on identification of research activities that have regulatory compliance needs, and on animal care services. Over the past year, significant resources were allocated towards the University's compliance with the Tri-Agency Framework: Responsible Conduct of Research.

All of these efforts are helping us to minimize risk to researchers and to the University, and helping us to ensure that research funds are used only on projects that meet regulatory and other compliance guidelines.

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Section V - Intellectual Property

Expenditures

Was your grant invested, completely or partially, in any of the following ways?

Note that A and B are not exclusive (i.e. for any given category, if you have covered both existing and new expenditures, you would check both A and B).

Expenditure category	A) The grant covered existing expenditures	B) The grant covered new expenditures (not previously covered by grant)	C) The grant did not cover this category	In which category was the largest proportion of your 2014-2015 grant invested?
1. Creation, expansion, or sustenance of a technology transfer office or similar function	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Administration of invention patent applications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Support for technology licensing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Administration of agreements and partnerships with industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Administration of agreements and partnerships with the public sector (federal, provincial, municipal governments; including health, education, and social services)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Section V - Intellectual Property (continued)

Impact Statement

Please explain how the expenditures made in this priority area have allowed your institution (and its health research affiliates, where applicable) to maintain and/or enhance the capacity of its research enterprise. The following questions can help guide your answer:

- what difference have your grant investments made?
- are there significant changes from the previous year?
- why are these investments vital for researchers?
- why are these expenditures vital to the university research administration?
- what would have happened if expenditures hadn't been possible?
- what are the major cost drivers in this category?

The University of Guelph places a high priority on maximizing the social, economic and environmental benefits of its research for society. In order to maximize the benefit of intellectual property (IP) developed at the University of Guelph, the institution commits significant resource to the operations of the Catalyst Centre (the University's business development office), and to funding the protection of the IP developed by researchers, staff and students.

The mission of the Catalyst Centre is to change lives and improve life by bringing University of Guelph inventions and ideas to market. The Catalyst Centre actively promotes the commercialization of research outcomes through technology transfer and industry liaison activities. The university's investment in protection of intellectual property (IP) through patents, copyright, trademarks, etc. have enabled the adoption and commercialization of IP by industry partners.

Technology Transfer and Industry Liaison personnel costs represent a major operating expense for the University. The Catalyst Centre is staffed by highly skilled, experienced and specialized personnel. Each Industry Liaison Officer is expected to return a 7.5x value by impacting industry sponsorship worth ~7.5x the value of their salary. The Technology Transfer team returned \$2.31M in royalties to the University in 2014-15. The majority of these returns are distributed to inventors, partners, or reinvested in new technologies through patents. Despite these returns, the Catalyst Centre functions as a cost center to the university.

The Catalyst Centre works with all levels of government to leverage industry research funding with government R&D support programs (e.g. FedDev ICP program, OCE VIPs and Talent Edge, and NSERC Engage and CRD). Networking between technology transfer offices at other universities enables staff to call on colleagues with various expertise at other institutions to help guide the best course for commercialization for a particular technology.

The ICP grant supports the operations of the Catalyst Centre, staff in both Technology Transfer and Industry Liaison functions, and investment in IP protection. The Technology Transfer team works with faculty to generate and evaluate inventions disclosures, to seek patent protection, to negotiate licensing agreements, and to work with entrepreneurial third party partners to facilitate the creation of spin-off companies. Without the support and expertise of this team many innovations with potential commercial application would not reach the intended market. The assets that are created through the IP protection function attract companies to make further investment in the commercialization of technologies. Without the benefit of IP protection and market exclusivity university technologies, which tend to be early stage, would not be adopted for commercialization. Last year the UofG filed 41 patent applications and received 14 issued patents.

The Catalyst Centre received >100 technology disclosures annually. The prolific disclosure rate is reflective of the interest in applied commercial opportunities of research outcomes at Guelph. Without ICP funds it would not be possible to provide the necessary support at the earliest stages of the commercialization process to ensure bench research reaches the market. (i.e. research proposal creation, identification of applicable research outcomes, invention disclosure and provisional patent protection).

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Section V - Intellectual Property (continued)

Impact Statement

The Catalyst Centre provides an important link between industry partners, and University research expertise. The Industry Liaison Officers connect University of Guelph expertise and resources with the R&D needs of companies and entrepreneurs to form valuable research partnerships and leverage funding opportunities. This support is a critical area of activity, and often leads to valuable new partnerships and collaborations.

Existing partnerships and collaborations also benefit from the services provided by the Catalyst Centre. The value of these relationships is enhanced through support in negotiating IP arrangements, leveraging funding and securing additional investments in research including the establishment of Industrial Research Chairs. ICP funding helps ensure that the necessary resources and supports are available to ensure applied ideas and research reach the market to benefit society.

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Section VI - Overall Impacts

We strongly recommend that the Vice-President of research (or equivalent) answer the following questions pertaining to the overall impacts of the Indirect Costs grant.

1. Attraction and retention of researchers

Has the Indirect Costs grant contributed to the attraction and retention of high-quality researchers at your institution?

Yes No

If "yes", please provide an explanation.

1. Enhanced service and support to faculty: The University of Guelph has placed a significant emphasis on "building the front end" to enhance the level of service and support to faculty in the development of their research programs. Since 2007-08 the Associate Vice-President (AVP) Research Services position has been oriented towards both academic and administrative leadership to the enhancement of the research enterprise. The Managing Director, Research Operations that was hired in 2012 focused on implementing the new 5 year strategic plan. Numerous initiatives were moved forward including the release of an enhanced website with improved navigation, evaluation of the request for proposal to acquire and implement an electronic research administration and information management system and contract negotiations with the top-ranked vendor, completion and dissemination of new Responsible Conduct of Research policy, delivery of new workshops such as revised Tri-Council grant writing workshops, NSERC CRD workshop, planning for a workshop on Ontario Centres of Excellence, etc. The search for a new Vice-President Research was also a key focus in 2014-15. The Managing Director, Research participated on the search committee.
2. Associate Deans for Research have been added for each of the Colleges and four Research Managers are now in place. These positions are critical in the mentoring of new faculty and provide a level of focused support at the College level.
3. A collaborative and coordinated effort to support faculty occurs through the Research Services Council which provides an interface between the colleges and the Office of Research. The RSC strategies for the recruitment and retention of researchers are explored through the ability to maintain leadership in research as a result of the level of support and services provided by the University.

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Section VI - Overall Impacts

2. Attraction of additional funding

Has the Indirect Costs grant contributed directly to your institution's ability to attract additional funding to support the research environment?

Yes No

If "yes", please provide an explanation.

1. Enhanced Service and Support to Faculty: This occurs through additional staffing who are available to support faculty initiatives. This level of support exists within the Office of Research and at the College level through either the Associate Deans or Research Managers.

2. Communication: Improving our internal communication strategy through the Director of Communications in the Office of Research and in the development of improved information management are contributing significantly to the University's ability to inform researchers on a timely basis of opportunities, initiatives, and the status of their research funds. The e-newsletter for researchers was developed to meet this goal. It is issued every two weeks and it is becoming a primary vehicle through which the Office of Research communicates funding opportunities and news to researchers. This year the Office of Research initiated a large scale web site redesign project aimed at helping researchers more quickly and readily access information (e.g., funding opportunities, agency information, internal forms and policies, etc.). The redesigned website was launched mid-February 2015.

Other Investments: The Office of Research has provided targeted administrative support in the development of large multi-year and multi-partner proposals. In 2014-15, significant support was required for the development of our Canada First Research Excellence Fund proposal (Competition #1). The establishment of Project Managers who report through the Office of Research has been a significant benefit to large research programs and their ability to attract further funding and to better manage the resources. The Office of Research made investments to aid the Biodiversity Institute of Ontario (BIO) in creating a sustainable future, from funding to governance. A new CEO has joined the University to lead the development of a strategic plan for the Institute that addresses the long term sustainability of the Institute.

3. Redirection of funds

In the case of a number of institutions, the incremental impact of the Indirect Costs Program includes not only the results of investing the grant itself, but also the results of the other investments the institution is able to make by re-directing its own funds away from the areas covered with the grant. These impacts may be in the area of research support or also in the institution's renewed ability to meet the other aspects of its mandate.

Has your institution redirected some of its own operating funds as a result of the Indirect Costs Program?

Yes No

If "yes", please provide an explanation.

The ICP along with overhead and indirect costs associated with other government and with private sector funds invested in research at the University of Guelph do not fully address the total indirect costs associated with the research enterprise across our campuses. It has not been possible with the level of ICP funds received at this time to redirect funds in a significant way to meet other aspects of our mandate.

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Section VI - Overall Impacts

4. Other overall impacts

If the Indirect Costs Program has had other overall impacts on your institution, which were not listed in the previous questions, please provide details.

n/a – no additional info provided.

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Section VII - Public Disclosure Requirement for Institutions

As of June 30, 2012, institutions are required to post a few elements of information on the indirect costs of research and the Program on their website. Please copy and paste below the URL of the webpage where this information is posted.

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/finance/report/research-support-fund>

Section VIII - Your comments

Describe any problem you have experienced with the Indirect Costs Program, suggest improvements to the program, or highlight particular successes of the program at your institution.

The indirect costs program is a critical program and one in which recognition is given to the total costs associated with a research enterprise at a research intensive institution such as the University of Guelph. While we are grateful for the continued support offered through the FICP, we do need to draw attention to the reality that the true overhead or indirect costs associated with the research enterprise exceed 50% of direct costs.

Equally important, a uniform and consistent policy and commitment to the support of indirect costs across all federally funded research programs and contributions to research and development activities at universities is needed. The inconsistency and lack of recognition of the total costs associated with research in various ministries and departments provides considerable challenges to our ability to work collaboratively with our federal partners.