



Introduction to the Office of Grants and Sponsored Programs

Our office is committed to providing comprehensive support to faculty members engaged in grants and sponsored programs in support of their research, external impact, and curricular innovation efforts. We work with faculty across the grant lifecycle, from proposal development and submission to award management and close-out. As a small, primarily undergraduate institution, our faculty focus primarily on teaching. At the same time, many faculty maintain an impressive grant portfolio that supports their research, curricular change efforts, and External Impact activities while providing invaluable experiences for participating Olin students.

Susan is responsible for working with faculty to support proposal development and submission. Lori is responsible for working with faculty to manage their awarded grants.

FY 23 Proposal Statistics

- 23 proposals submitted:
 - 10 pending proposals.
 - 10 awarded.
 - 3 declined (one submitted in FY22).

New Awards Received FY23

PI	Project Title	Sponsor	Total Award
Barrett, David	Harmonic Propulsion System Development and Control Project	Electric Boat	\$10,000
Barrett, David	Using Vortex Generators to Increase Lift Effectiveness at Low-Speed	Electric Boat	\$10,000
Barrett, David	Explore new forms of warehouse robot	Hummingbird	\$86,000
Graeff, Erhardt	Long Motion Data Tools Project	Gardiner, Howland, Shaw Foundation	\$28,292
Hersey, Scott	HAFTRAP - Home Air Filtration for Traffic-Related Air Pollution – Renewal	NIH / Uconn	\$133,113
Johansen, Elizabeth	Early Hearing Loss Detection for Positive Life Outcomes	The Peabody Foundation, Inc.	\$38,525
Lee, Chris	Nationwide Eclipse Ballooning Project (NEBP)	National Space Grant Foundation	\$16,500
Mbanisi, Kene	Quadcopter Fleet Technology for Warehouse Fulfillment	Hummingbird	\$90,500
Pratt, J Townsend, J, McCarthy, J.	Developmental Learning Modules to Enhance Student Learning	Davis Educational Foundation	\$153,561
Vanasupa, Linda and Goenka, Chhavi	Just Energy Hub: A learning lab for thriving together	VentureWell	\$30,000

Current Active Awards

PI	Project Name	Sponsor	Total Award
Barabino, Gilda	Engineering Deans Forum on Broadening Participation	NSF	\$68,624
Barabino, Gilda	EAGER: Quantitative Studies of Career Trajectories for African American Women in Engineering and Computing	NSF	\$141,382
Barrett, David	Indoor Flying Hummingbird Prototype	Hummingbird	\$183,000
Chachra, Debbie	Public Utility - Book writing grant	Alfred P. Sloan Foundation	\$36,442
Dabby, Diana	PFI-TT: Development of a Novel Audio Technology that Applies Dynamic System Variability to Create Musical Variations for Personal and Public Applications	NSF	\$250,000
del Rosario, Zach	NSF ERII: Towards Data-Capable Engineers with a Variability-Capable Mindset	NSF	\$186,861
Ferzoco, Alessandra	Pervasive Monitoring of Offshore Aquaculture Installations using Moored Profilers	US Dept of Commerce/NOAA (subaward from MIT)	\$190,128
Goenka, Chhavi	Just Energy Hub: A learning lab for thriving together	VentureWell	\$30,000
Hersey, Scott	HAFTRAP - Home Air Filtration for Traffic Related Air Pollution	NIH (subaward from University of Connecticut)	\$230,081
Hersey, Scott	East Boston AirProofing: Air Partners	Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA	\$92,800
Hersey, Scott	Grant to support community-driven air pollution reduction in Roxbury	Barr Foundation	\$715,000
Huang, Jean	Research for All (R4A): Expanding and Improving Undergraduate Participation in Research	Kern Foundation (subaward from George Washington University)	\$148,199
Lee, Chris	Nationwide Eclipse Ballooning Project (NEBP)	NASA (subaward from National Space Grant Foundation)	\$16,500
Lee, Chris	MIT Massachusetts Space Grant	NASA (subaward from MIT)	\$107,450
Linder, Ben	Native RE/ Sustainable Design	MIT	\$5,008
Linder, Ben	The Social and Environmental Entrepreneurship and Design Fund	Individual Donors	\$25,000

PI	Project Name	Sponsor	Total Award
Lohmeyer, Whitney	CubeSat Ideas Lab: Space Weather Atmospheric Reconfigurable Multiscale Experiment (SWARM-EX) CubeSats	NSF	\$330,956
Lohmeyer, Whitney	SII-Center: SpectrumX – An NSF Spectrum Innovation Center	NSF (subaward from Notre Dame)	\$482,785
Lohmeyer, Whitney	Olin Satellite + Spectrum Technology & Policy (OSSTP) Group and Olin Collegiate Amateur Radio Club (OCARC) ARDC 2021	Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC)	\$671,878
Lohmeyer, Whitney	Lohmeyer MIT Massachusetts Space Grant	MIT	\$5,595
Mbanisi, Kenechukwu	Quadcopter flight control and simulation development	Hummingbird	\$90,500
Michalka, Sam	Social Technology Enterprise with Purpose (STEP)	VentureWell	\$29,600
Millner, Amon	The MIRROR Project	Anonymous	\$100,000
Millner, Amon	Collaborative Research: Using Culturally Sustaining STEM+C Learning Environments to Explore Computational Learning & Identity	NSF (subaward from Boston University)	\$98,915
Millner, Amon	MathWorks Olin Partnership - MIRROR Project	MathWorks	\$51,000
Nugent, Carrie	NEAT Revival: New Discoveries	NASA	\$326,194
Pratt, Joanne; McCarthy, Jessica; Townsend, Jessica	Developmental Learning Modules to Enhance Student Learning	Davis Educational Foundation	\$153,561
Ruvolo, Paul	CHS: Small: RUI: Creation of Assistive Technology for the Blind Through Largescale Co-Design	NSF	\$343,842
Ruvolo, Paul	Co-Designing Assistive Apps with Students Who Are Blind	Peabody Foundation	\$173,145
Tow, Emily	Ultra-Efficient Solar-Thermal Batch Reverse Osmosis with Novel Thermal RO Engine	USBR (subaward from Purdue University)	\$47,342
Tow, Emily	CBL Research Fellowship Program	Henry Luce Foundation	\$256,000
Tow, Emily	Bureau of Reclamation's More Water Less Concentrate Challenge	Common Pool	\$265,000
Vanasupa, Linda	Transformative learning by doing - seeding a sea change across engineering education.	Kern Foundation	\$25,000
Woodard, Jason	KEEN 2022-23 Annual Support Package	Kern Foundation	\$25,000

PI	Project Name	Sponsor	Total Award
Zastavker, Yevgeniya	Collaborative Research: Mixed Reality Transformation of Engineering Education	NSF (subaward from Northeastern University)	\$282,096

Academic Year and Summer Student Research Support from Sponsored Projects

In summer 2023, 66 summer student research positions are funded by grants across 23 sponsored projects. During the 2022-2023 academic year, 45 students had paid research positions in the fall and 49 students in the spring.

Overview of Support for Grant Seeking

Resources and recent faculty support activities include:

- Launched updated Grants web pages to support Olin faculty and staff members engaged in grant-seeking.
 - Includes resources from proposal development and submission to award management and close-out, and links to various funding resource databases, templates, policies, and more.

Website key elements include:

- [A comprehensive guide to finding funding](#)
- [Proposal preparation guide](#)
- [Sponsored research policies and guidelines](#)
- Host individual meetings with all faculty interested in submitting grant proposals and we meet individually with faculty once they receive an award.
- Starting in the AY22-23, as part of her Building and Sustaining the College portfolio, Carrie Nugent has served as a resource for faculty who are looking for grant opportunities. She will remain in this role in AY23-24, and we will try to find a replacement for her when she is on a Fulbright fellowship at the University of Aalborg in spring 2024.
- At the start of each new academic year, we host orientation sessions with new faculty about the Office of Grants and Sponsored Programs. This is part of the new faculty onboarding program.
- We have also held information sessions, such as a December 2021 faculty meeting Zoom session with several NSF Program Officers, and we will plan to do so again.

Centralized Student Research Application Website

Funded via a KEEN grant, and led by Jean Huang, we launched year two of a centralized portal for hiring student researchers. Faculty posted open research positions for the academic year and summer 2023.

Community Research Seminar Series

Led by Zach del Rosario and the Research committee, we hosted 11 research talks by Olin community members during the 2022-2023 academic year, including talks by faculty, staff, students, alumni, and a parent.

Zach del Rosario: The Myth of The Single Value

Gati Aher '24: Using Large Language Models to Simulate Multiple Humans

Chhavi Goenka: Why Care About Light in Healthcare?

Callan Bignoli: Yes, You Can Find Way Worse Stuff Online: Why People Ban Books in 2022

Jessie Oehrlein '16: Math in the Sky: From Future Weather to Winter Climate

Jon Adler: Our Stories, Our Selves: Why The Stories We Tell About Our Lives Matter

Dave Platt P '23, P '25: Security Versus Usability: The Eternal Tension

David Shuman: Signal Processing on Graphs: Extending High-Dimensional Data Analysis to Networks and Other Irregular Domains

Kene Mbanisi: Towards a Safer and More Inclusive Society

Bill Fan '24: Soft Robot Modeling - practice talk?

Deb Chachra: Works: Energy, Networks, and Cooperation

Human Subjects Research at Olin

Since 2011, Olin College has contracted with the Institutional Review Board (IRB) of Brandeis University for oversight of human subjects research. The Brandeis IRB provides excellent service at a reasonable cost (reduced this year when our contract was renewed for the next five years). On June 6th, the Brandeis IRB director and staff came to Olin to meet with our faculty members to provide an overview of their services and to answer questions about best practices in the ethical treatment of human subjects.