Research Update for Spring 2019

CHHS in the Spotlight:

CHHS researchers generated just over $5 million in external awards in FY 2018. That was 19.45% of all awards at the University and second only to the College of Education and Human Development.

Some productivity nuggets:

- **Scholarly activity by the numbers:** During the 2017-18 year CHHS faculty published 122 journal articles, 20 book chapters and six books. Additionally, nine faculty were cited more than 1000 times each.

- **Decade of Impact:**
  Dr. Bob Bensley has developed an online nutrition education and behavior change program that is used by Women, Infants and Children (WIC) clients across 35 states and Indian tribes. He has generated over 10 million in external funding and impacted over 5 million WIC clients over the past decade.

- **Newest grant award:**
  Dr. Jing Shen, a new assistant professor in Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences received an R21 award from the National Institute of Deafness and Other Communication Disorders. She will continue a research agenda she has begun in identifying factors that contribute to older listener’s ability to recognize speech in noise and their benefit from dynamic pitch.

**Interdisciplinary Collaborations:**
CHHS faculty are part of a number of groups representing disciplines from across the college, and across the University, working on research and scholarly activities at WMU. If you are interested in working with any of these groups, let me know and I can put you in contact with the appropriate individuals.
• **Early-career faculty discovery group:**
  Providing assistance for early-career faculty in a variety of research and scholarly activities.

• **Health sciences education research collaborative:**
  Faculty from the College of Arts and Sciences, WMed and CHHS focused on the progression from basic science courses to disciplinary and clinical experiences for health science majors. Interests involve examining student attitudes/beliefs, core concept development, and instructional strategies.

• **Falls prevention collaborative research group:**
  A group of CHHS faculty interested in assessment of fall risk in populations such as the elderly, veterans, and individuals with TBI. The group is also interested in development of fall prevention programs and working with health care providers for systemic change in fall prevention.

• **Traumatic Brain Injury** and **Opioid** collaborative groups are forming to address a variety of topics as RFPs appear.

**Here to Help:**
There are resources to assist faculty and students with research proposals and paperwork.

- **Associate Dean, Ann Tyler**
  Open research office hours are Friday mornings (1st and 3rd of month) from 9 to 11 a.m. in the dean’s suite (CHHS 2475).

- **Program Officer, Denise Wheatly**
  Tuesday and Wednesday in the CHHS third floor grant suite (CHHS 3245).

**Grant Proposal Development:**
The Office of the Vice President for Research has established guidelines to help usher proposals through their process.

- **7/5/2 Rule:** PAF routed to OVPR by noon 7 days before sponsor deadline; administrative and supporting documents (final version) due 5 days before; final narrative proposal due 2 days before deadline. Rule exception requests must be submitted to associate dean.

CHHS researchers have made **$15.8 million** in submissions, which is **almost triple** what we had submitted by this time last year. Our actual award dollar amount is nearly **$6.5 million**, which is **almost double** last year at this time. Kudos to curiosity!

Thank you,

Dr. Ann Tyler, Associate Dean
College of Health and Human Services
Western Michigan University