

# THE STATE OF RESEARCH FUNDING AND SUPPORT

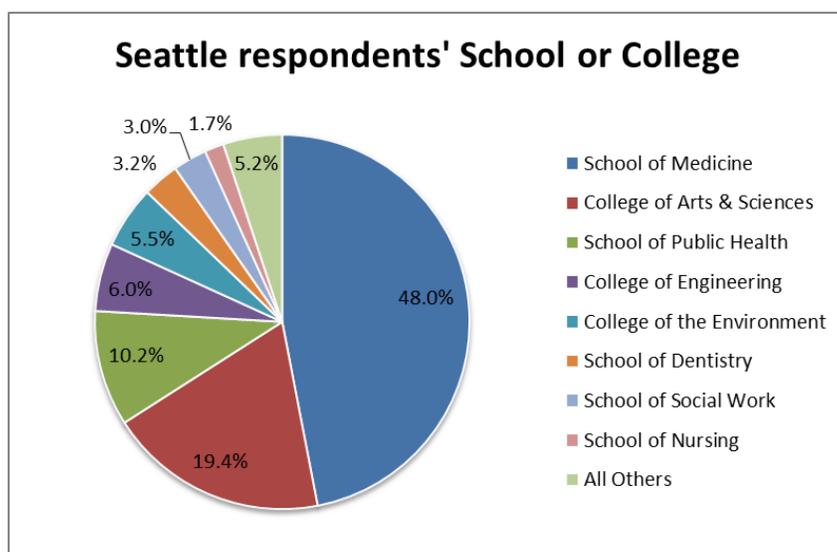
## AT THE

### UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

In October and November of 2015, the University of Washington AAUP chapter and the UW Faculty Forward union campaign conducted a survey on research funding at UW. 550 UW faculty members responded to a variety of questions on how much research they do, the amount of time they put into grant seeking, how they feel about the university's grant administration process, what cuts in funding mean to them and their research programs, and other subjects. We will be releasing the full results in a report later, but wanted to share preliminary findings with our colleagues today.

#### Who took the survey?

- 550 people took the survey
- 354 of the respondents reported receiving at least some research funding
- 48% of respondents listing their school or college were from the School of Medicine
- 19% listing their school or college were from the College of Arts & Sciences
- 45% of respondents have been at the UW more than 10 years



#### Where do our salaries come from?

- 57% of respondents receiving any research funding make the majority of their pay from research
- 73% of respondents receiving a state salary make the majority of their pay from the state
- Half of Clinical faculty get the majority of their pay from their clinical work

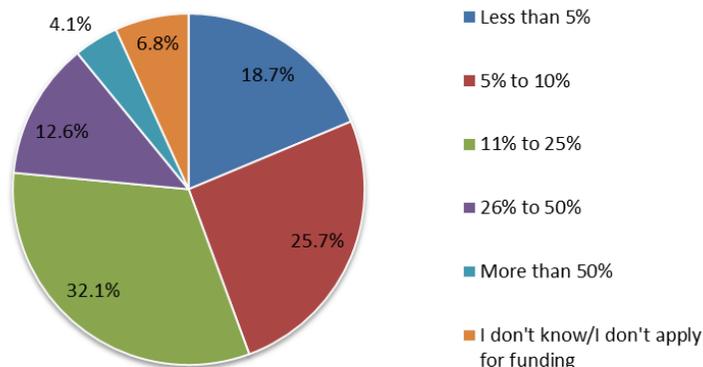
#### Where does our current research grant funding come from?

- 70% of us receive funding from at least one public source
- 24% receive funding from at least one private source
- Of those with federal support, 82% of funding comes from this source
- Of those with state support, 36% of funding comes from this source
- Of those with local support, 27% comes from this source
- Of those with support from industry or corporations, 33% comes from this source

### How much time do we spend working on grant proposals and seeking funding?

- 49% of respondents spend over 10% of their time writing grants or seeking funding
- 13% of respondents spend between 26-50% of their time seeking grant funding

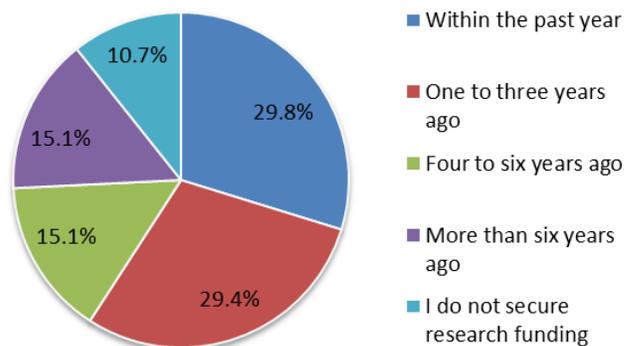
### In a typical year, what percent of your time do you spend writing grants or applying for funding?



### When has securing our research funding been the most time consuming?

- 50% of tenure-line faculty said they have had to dedicate the most time to securing funding for their research in the last three years of their career
- 84% of research faculty have dedicated the most time in the last three years
- 73% of non-tenured faculty have dedicated the most time in the last three years
- 68% of medical school faculty have dedicated the most time in the last three years, with the last year being the most time consuming for the majority of them

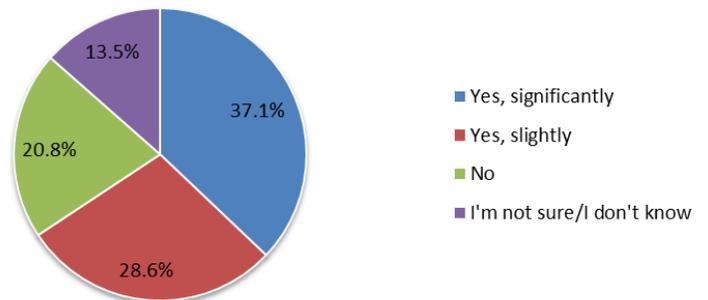
### Looking over your career, when have you had to dedicate the most time to securing funding for your research?



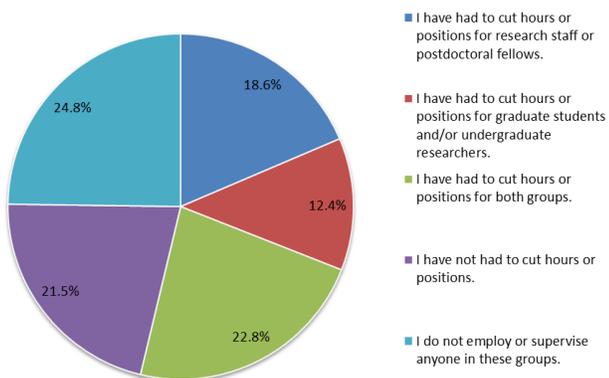
## How does grant funding -or lack of funding— determine how we do our work?

- 35% of faculty supported on grants have had periods when they were employed at less than full time because grant funding was unavailable
- 54% of respondents said they'd had to cut back on hours or positions for research staff, undergraduate or graduate students in response to cutbacks in grants
- 66% of respondents said the amount of time they spent securing funding or their dependency on certain funding streams limits their research's meaningfulness to society
  - 37% of respondents said that this limitation was significant
- 57% of respondents who work part time said they'd rather be working more time, but are restricted from doing so because of lack of funding
  - This is true for 58% of medical school and 67% of public health respondents

### Does the amount of time you spend on securing funding or your dependency on certain funding streams limit how meaningful your research is to society?



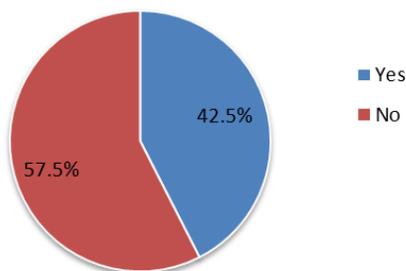
### If you employ or supervise research staff, postdoctoral fellows, graduate students or undergraduate researchers, have federal cuts or an inability to secure grant funding affected their positions with your project(s)?



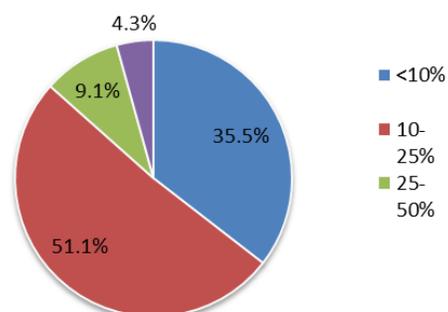
## How do we feel about how the university handles grant time, overheads and bridge funding?

- 43% of respondents were concerned the university was appropriating some of their grant-funded research time to subsidize teaching, administration or other UW business
  - 64% of those concerned said it took up at least 10% of their research time
  - 9% said this took up 25-50% of their research time
  - 4% said it took up over half their research time
- 68% of respondents said they thought there was insufficient transparency in how overhead charges are used at UW
- 39% thought their immediate departments should get more overhead than they do
- 42% thought they ought to be able to bank some for times when soft money runs thin
- 53% said “bridge funding” was available in their departments to cover salaries when grants are not available
- 9% of respondents reported having concerns about third party using their intellectual property in ways they don’t approve or having concerns about sharing their expertise

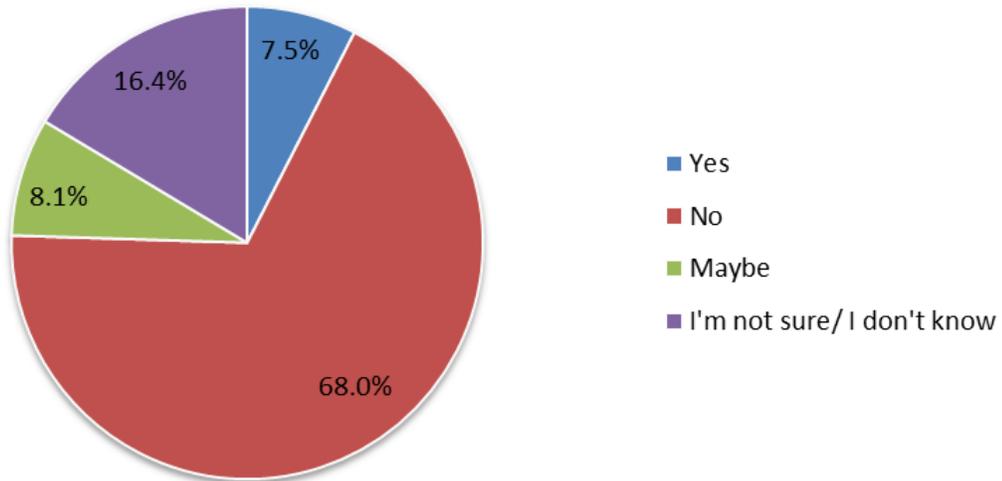
**Are you concerned the university is appropriating some of your time paid for by research grants to subsidize teaching, administration or other UW business?**



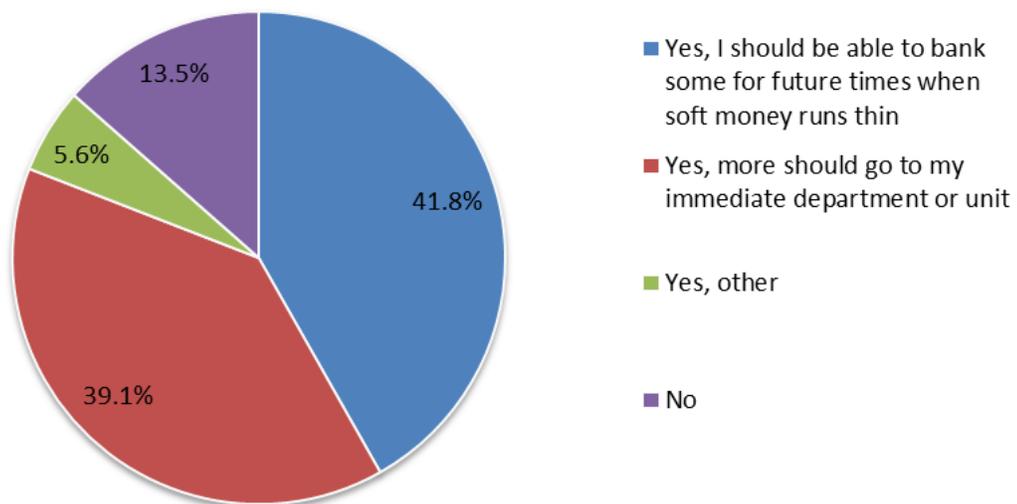
**If you are concerned, what percentage of your research time do you feel goes into subsidizing non-grant UW business?**



**Do you feel there is transparency in how facilities and administrative (F&A, indirect, overhead) charges are used at the university?**



**Do you think you should have more control over the distribution of the indirect cost rate recovery that your grants generate?**



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## How do we feel about how the university advocates for grants?

- Only 5% of respondents said the UW properly advocates for increased funding for research from state, federal or other sources
- 43% said UW does not do enough advocacy at either the state or federal levels
- 36% said they weren't sure
- More than half of respondents said they saw a role for a unified UW *faculty* voice in advocating for increased state and national funding for academic research

### Do you see a role for a unified University of Washington faculty voice in advocating for increased state and national funding for academic research?

