



LEADING WITH STRIDE

Despite the challenges of 2020, our office was hard at work, empowering the Rutgers University community to create knowledge and advance discoveries that benefit the citizens of New Jersey and across the world.



OUR BUSINESS UNITS

RESEARCH
ADMINISTRATION

CORPORATE
ENGAGEMENT CENTER

STRATEGIC ALLIANCES

RESEARCH
DEVELOPMENT

INNOVATION VENTURES

ANIMAL CARE

FINANCE & OPERATIONS



RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION

- Effectively served the Rutgers community during the COVID-19 pandemic, establishing the university as a leader in the national response and submitting more than **460** COVID-related research grant proposals, executing **190** research agreements, and processing **189** awards valued at **\$1.91 million**.
- Research Financial Services culminated over a year of operational improvements and service enhancements leading to a soon-to-be-release Research Administration Handbook. The team successfully certified **10,500 effort reports** and achieved 100% completion rate for each certification cycle in 2020.
- The Research Analytics and Systems team leveraged Tableau, a visual business intelligence analytics platform, to distribute vital award and submission **quarterly reports** to 300+ stakeholders in the Rutgers research community.
- The [Export Control](#) Team implemented a new system that improves services, reporting, and operational efficiency by consolidating and standardizing export control processes.



CORPORATE ENGAGEMENT CENTER

- Assembled a fully operational team with the addition of a team administrator, agreements and data project manager and a colleague focused on research business development for RBHS.
- **Outpaced by 25%** its direct financial impact compared to 2019, through closing of industry gifts and grants.
- Launched the [Entrepreneurship Partnerships](#) program in response to a need within Rutgers Research and the Rutgers University Foundation.
- Collaborated with [RU3DPPE](#) on the production of **PPE** during the severe initial shortages; on protocol deployment and business negotiations for Rutgers saliva test; and with [UPS-Marken](#) donation for transporting and delivering thousands of biological samples for testing.
- Expanded graduate student industry experience opportunities for year-long experiential **fellowships** in industry, while continuing to pursue their own research.



STRATEGIC ALLIANCES

- Established inaugural Core Facility Grant Program and Awards to Research Cores across Rutgers.
- Rutgers University **Molecular Imaging Center** received a [grant](#) from GAMOW Stem Cell Research Foundation to study the effects of adult stem cells in the treatment of disorders of the cornea.
- **Rutgers University Biomedical Research Innovation Cores** ([RUBRIC](#)) co-hosted the New Jersey Core Facility Showcase and the New Jersey Academic Drug Discovery Consortium Conference on Translational Neuroscience, attracting leaders from industry and academia alike.
- Vince Smeraglia appointed Chair of **NJEDA BioScience Center**, providing **incubator facilities** that offer support, research space and educational programs for startups.
- RUBRIC researchers Jacques Roberge and Ed Yurkow received prestigious grants as co-Principal Investigators on two awards from the National Institutes for Health.



RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT

- Negotiated two-year agreement with [Pivot](#) to provide grants administrators and others with a robust tool for curating funding opportunities.
- Assembled **Research Development Big Ten Group** devoted to university leaders in research development.
- Worked closely with Kristin Dana (Rutgers School of Engineering) and interdisciplinary faculty team on successful proposal to the [National Science Foundation's Research Traineeship Program Socially Cognizant Robotics for a Technology Enhanced Society](#) (**SOCRATES**). Dana and her team were awarded a five-year, \$3 million grant, the first major research traineeship from NSF on robotics.
- Hosted peer review **proposal development workshops** for applicants and one-on-one proposal feedback sessions for the prestigious NSF Faculty Early Career Development Program (**NSF CAREER**).
- Supported the newly founded [Center for COVID-19 Response and Pandemic Preparedness](#).



INNOVATION VENTURES

- Worked with faculty on **189** new invention disclosures, filing **199** worldwide patent applications and **120** worldwide patents issued on Rutgers technologies.
- Signed **389** agreements related to Rutgers Intellectual Property, including **68** license and option agreements for a variety of technologies from software to materials to therapeutics and diagnostics.
- [HealthAdvance](#) awarded four grants totaling **\$800,000** and helped one faculty team get the prestigious RADx-Rad award in the amount of \$443,600 to develop a COVID breathalyzer device.
- [TechAdvance](#) funding and other resources supported the filing of Emergency Use Authorization application with FDA for a new COVID-19 Pan-Ig ELISA test.
- Supported Rutgers startup companies through education, advising on development and business plans, finding investment, and finalizing option and license agreements. Worked with [Rutgers I-Corps](#) program, graduating three cohorts totaling 32 teams, both faculty- and student-led.



ANIMAL CARE


- Maintained **100% operations** during pandemic despite COVID-related sickness and personal challenges for staff members.
- Developed six new animal models and preserved more than **250** transgenic mouse models through our **Genome Editing Core** during April-June shutdown time due to pandemic.
- Consolidated Animal Care program universitywide into one centralized unit, resulting in efficiencies and cost savings.
- Established the new **Veterinary Residency Program** in Lab Animal Medicine.
- Completed overhaul of animal housing infrastructure in Newark Medical School facilities.



FINANCE & OPERATIONS

- **Research IT:** Developed comprehensive **Return to Research Portal** to manage the safe repopulation of research activity on campus during the pandemic.
- Redesigned several modules in Research Administration Proposal Submission System (RAPSS) to simplify and enhance functionality, including Sub-award Module, Agreements Module, compliance review process and record exchange between RAPSS and eIRB via web services.
- **Finance:** Implemented 10% budget cut with **zero layoffs** and established two new divisions within financial records.
- **Communications, Marketing and Public Relations:** Launched new Rutgers Research **website** implementing best practices for contemporary, responsive design, accessibility and usability.
- Produced **Research Champions video** ([in English](#) an [en Español](#)) to thank our researchers for their efforts during the pandemic.



Thank you ... 

RUTGERS
Office for Research