



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

ANNUAL REPORT

**SPONSORED
PROJECTS
ADMINISTRATION**



2020-2021

A CIVIL
TESTIMONY
TO THE

WELCOME

Sponsored Projects Administration (SPA) is excited to celebrate with the Ball State University community its accomplishments in research, scholarly, educational, and creative endeavors throughout FY 2020-21.

Even though SPA staff were working remotely, we continued to work together in support of the great work of our faculty, staff, and students. Persevering through the COVID-19 pandemic, SPA staff, along with the Ball State community, remained forward thinking and optimistic, actively planning for future projects. This brought hope to our university community and allowed for a full return to campus in the Fall of 2021.

We are excited to announce a new Director in SPA. Elizabeth Haney, Director, Sponsored Projects Administration joined the SPA staff in May 2021. Haney brings over a decade of experience in research administration and graduate degrees in science and management, along with new perspectives from large research institutions and small liberal arts colleges. Haney oversees the compliance and post-award administration functions of the office and co-leads SPA with Jackie Davis to carry out the office mission and strategic plan. We wish Justin Miller the best as he continues his research administration career in Florida.

This report includes the fiscal year 2020-21 records pertaining to SPA. Figures include grants, contracts, and other funding awarded to the Ball State University Foundation that resulted in sponsored projects, as well as activity by our contracts and compliance team. Also included is SPA's progress toward the University's Strategic Plan, Destination 2040 : Our Flight Path, as well as our unit level strategic plan.

Executive Summary: SPA currently manages Ball State's sponsored project portfolio of approximately \$157 million. For FY 2020-21, more than \$89.2 million in external funding was awarded to Ball State. In addition, 378 proposals were submitted during the fiscal year, and 245 funded awards were recorded. Research expenditures topped \$3 million, and expenditures from all sponsored projects exceeded \$24.1 million. Faculty, staff, students and administrators have persevered during these challenging times with resilience and grace. We extend our appreciation to the extraordinary effort and commitment by all engaged in the preparation, facilitation, execution, and administration of sponsored projects.

On behalf of the dedicated and diligent SPA staff, we look forward to our continued partnership and shared success.



Jacqueline S. Davis, MA, CRA

Director, Sponsored Projects Development



Elizabeth B. Haney, ScM, MSM, CRA

Director, Sponsored Projects Administration



Susan A. McDowell, PhD

Vice Provost for Research





Sponsored Projects Administration

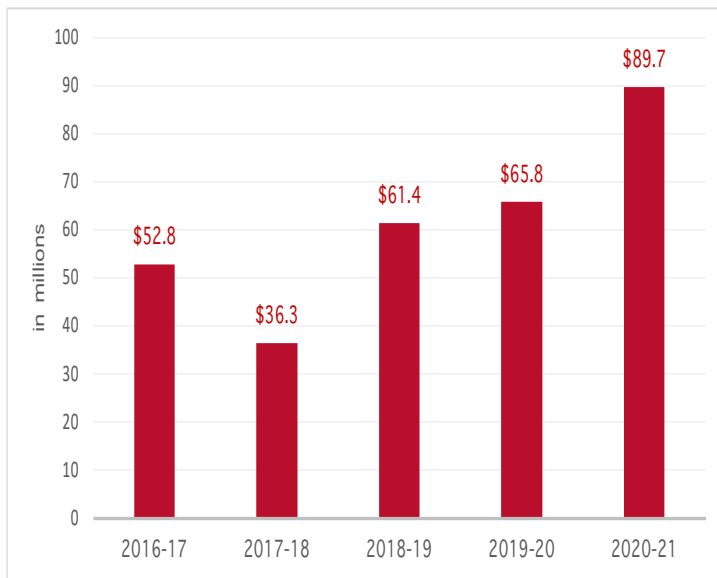
Annual Report 2021

Sponsored Projects Administration (SPA) supports the University's mission by assisting Ball State faculty, staff, and students in the quest for external funding to carry out their research, scholarship, and creative activity, as well as subsequent award administration. Support includes identifying potential funding opportunities, guidance in proposal and budget development, submission of proposals to funding agencies, award administration, and related compliance assurances. SPA offers workshops in sponsored projects development and administration, oversees the University's research incentive programs, and supports early seed funding through the ASPIRE internal grant program. SPA fosters an atmosphere of academic, scientific, and creative inquiry; internal and external collaboration; cross-disciplinary teamwork throughout the sponsored project life-cycle; and community engagement while promoting integrity, responsibility, and ethics in all phases of scientific, intellectual, and artistic inquiry.

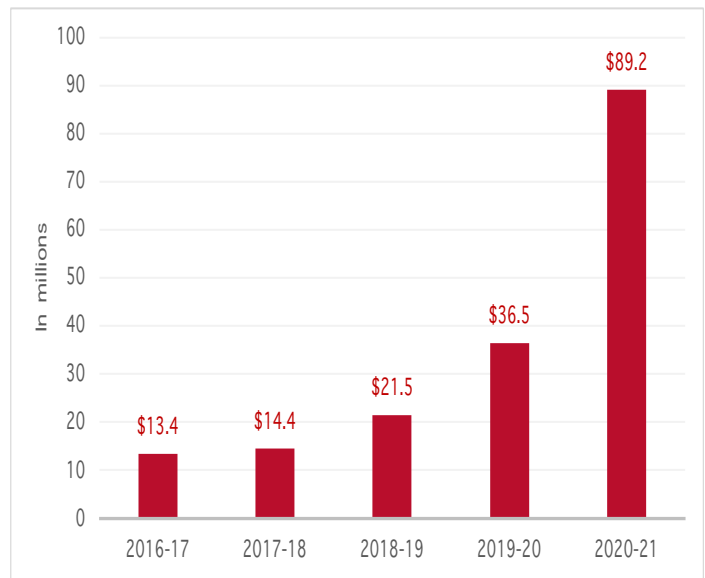
EXTERNAL FUNDING OVERVIEW FISCAL YEAR 2021

SPA external funding totals include Ball State University Foundation funds that play out as externally sponsored projects, as well as funding that is self-administered by University Service Centers. The charts below, “External Dollars Proposed,” “External Dollars Awarded,” and “Total Number of External Proposals Submitted and Grants Awarded,” reflect totals for all sources of external funding for Ball State projects, including the aforementioned Foundation support and centers.

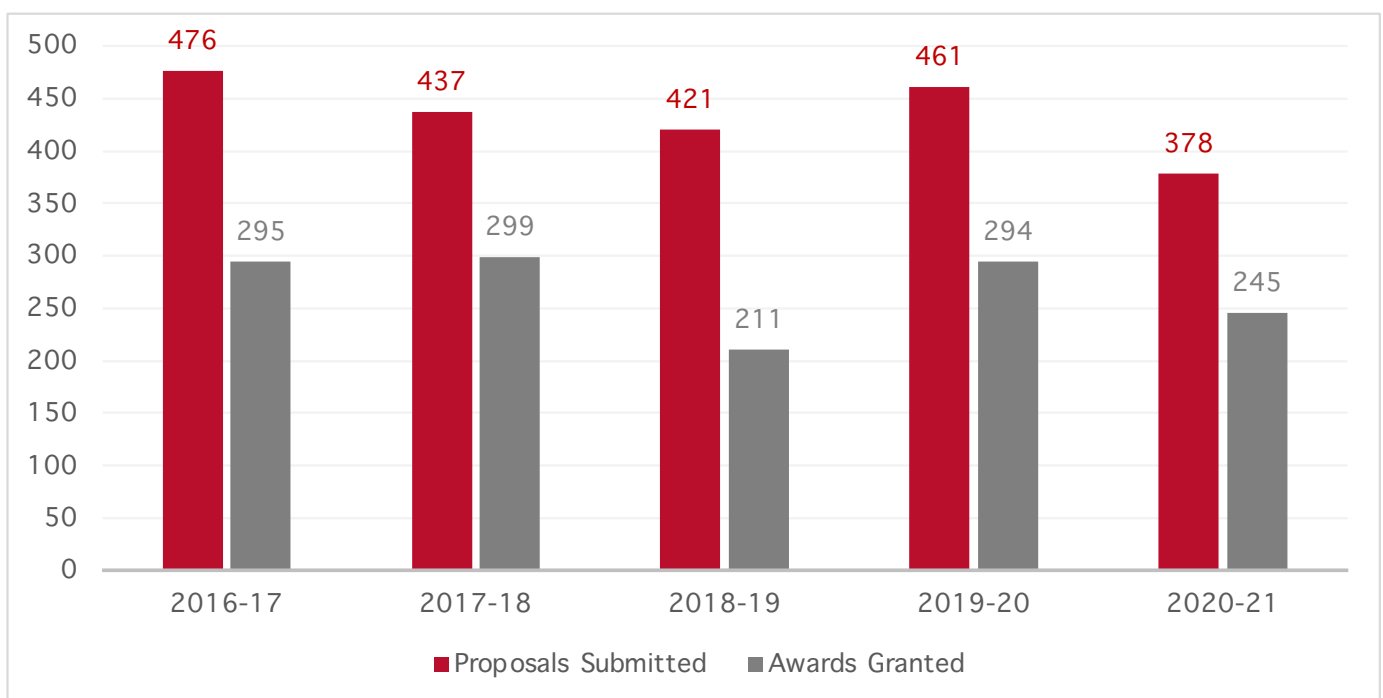
External Dollars Proposed



External Dollars Awarded



Total Number of External Proposals Submitted and Grants Awarded



EXTERNAL PROPOSAL ACTIVITY

Sponsored Projects Proposal Activity by Sponsor Type

Source	Number of Proposals	Total Requested	Percentage
Federal	116	\$ 67,949,282	76%
State (IN)	30	\$ 7,057,132	8%
Foundation	76	\$ 6,607,778	7%
Industry	47	\$ 5,144,691	6%
Non-Profit	84	\$ 2,643,300	3%
College/University	8	\$ 198,738	<1%
Local Govt Agency	11	\$ 113,754	<1%
Other State (not IN)	3	\$ 60,973	<1%
Individual	3	\$ 3,970	<1%
Total	378	\$ 89,779,618	100%

Sponsored Projects Proposal Activity by Activity Type

Activity Type	Number of Proposals	Total Requested	Percentage
Institutional Support	60	\$ 37,072,597	41%
Basic Research	111	\$ 22,868,556	25%
Applied Research	79	\$ 12,993,559	14%
Academic Support	48	\$ 10,991,285	12%
Public Service	72	\$ 5,379,481	6%
Instruction	8	\$ 474,140	1%
Total	378	\$ 89,779,618	100%

Sponsored Projects Proposal Activity by College/Unit

Academic Colleges	Number of Proposals	Amount Requested
Architecture & Planning, R.W. Estopinal College	39	\$ 2,359,827
Business, Miller College	3	\$ 3,297,773
Communication, Information & Media	12	\$ 447,764
Fine Arts	5	\$ 88,297
Health	51	\$ 8,318,979
Honors College	-	-
Sciences & Humanities	125	\$ 13,777,147
Teachers College	80	\$ 53,046,834
Extra Collegial Units		
Academic Affairs	4	\$ 281,457
Athletics	-	-
Business Affairs	1	\$ 81,222
Chief Strategy Officer Division	6	\$ 256,944
Enrollment & Planning Management	-	-
Information Technology	16	\$ 1,947,142
Student Affairs	10	\$ 2,536,800
University Development	16	\$ 3,339,431
Total	378	\$ 89,779,618

EXTERNAL FUNDING

External Dollars Received by Sponsor Type

Sponsor	Number of Proposals	Total Awarded	Percentage
Federal	61	\$ 70,484,358	79%
Foundation	43	\$ 9,305,885	10%
Industry	36	\$ 5,332,764	6%
Non-Profit	61	\$ 2,139,259	2%
State (IN)	22	\$ 1,624,825	2%
College/University	5	\$ 153,585	<1%
Local Govt Agency	12	\$ 83,913	<1%
Other State (Not IN)	2	\$ 62,489	<1%
Individual	3	\$ 4,105	<1%
Total	245	\$ 89,191,184	100%

External Dollars Received by Activity Type

Activity	Number of Awards	Total Awarded	Percentage
Institutional Support	58	\$ 70,623,855	79%
Applied Research	30	\$ 6,657,048	7%
Basic Research	46	\$ 4,876,569	5%
Academic Support	32	\$ 3,161,041	4%
Public Service	61	\$ 2,825,881	3%
Instruction	18	\$ 1,046,789	1%
Total	245	\$ 89,191,184	100%

External Dollars Received by College/Unit

Academic Colleges	Number of Awards	Total Awarded
Architecture & Planning, R.W. Estopinal College	30	\$ 1,603,311
Business, Miller College	12	\$ 5,393,906
Communication, Information & Media	4	\$ 29,361
Fine Arts	5	\$ 87,797
Health	26	\$ 3,316,252
Honors College	-	-
Sciences & Humanities	71	\$ 4,233,193
Teachers College	47	\$ 3,846,644
Extra Collegial Units		
Academic Affairs	2	\$ 524,852
Athletics	-	-
Business Affairs	2	\$ 34,646,224
Chief Strategy Officer Division	5	\$ 152,799
Enrollment & Planning Management	2	\$ 27,687,003
Information Technology	15	\$ 1,795,491
Student Affairs	8	\$ 2,534,920
University Development	16	\$ 3,339,431
Total	245	\$ 89,191,184

SPONSORED PROJECTS EXPENDITURE OVERVIEW

Sponsored Projects Expenditures by Activity Type

Activity Type	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21
Academic Support	\$ 2,388,065	\$ 2,333,704	\$ 2,667,631	\$ 1,809,659	\$ 1,200,646
Institutional Support	\$ 1,291,784	\$ 1,539,687	\$ 1,560,713	\$ 7,636,673	\$ 15,365,722
Instruction	\$ 471,419	\$ 781,990	\$ 961,933	\$ 1,227,349	\$ 1,573,414
Public Service	\$ 4,275,962	\$ 3,367,568	\$ 3,448,968	\$ 2,541,600	\$ 2,895,247
Research	\$ 3,452,384	\$ 3,882,225	\$ 3,780,529	\$ 3,004,134	\$ 3,070,807
Total	\$ 11,879,613	\$ 11,905,174	\$ 12,419,775	\$ 16,219,415	\$ 24,105,837

Sponsored Projects Research Expenditures by Academic College & VP Unit

College	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21
Applied Sciences & Technology	\$ 39,732	\$ 8,331	-	-	-
Architecture & Planning, R.W. Estopinal	\$ (1,303)	-	\$ 9,962	\$ 35,977	\$ 54,495
Business, Miller College	\$ 92,142	\$ 5,878	\$ 41,293	\$ 113,767	\$ 17,215
Communication, Information & Media	-	-	-	\$ 11,967	\$ 44,777
Fine Arts	-	\$ 24,000	-	-	-
Health	\$ 508,575	\$ 778,027	\$ 699,226	\$ 847,536	\$ 781,861
Honors College	-	-	-	-	-
Sciences & Humanities	\$ 2,062,561	\$ 2,246,423	\$ 2,243,976	\$ 1,809,640	\$ 1,847,372
Teachers College	\$ 270,457	\$ 681,164	\$ 553,623	\$ 178,065	\$ 345,216
Extra Collegial Units	\$ 480,220	\$ 138,403	\$ 232,450	\$ 7,182	\$ (20,129)
Total	\$3,452,384	\$ 3,882,225	\$ 3,780,529	\$ 3,004,134	\$ 3,070,807

All Sponsored Projects Expenditures by Academic College & VP Unit

College	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21
Applied Sciences & Technology	\$ 437,633	\$ 19,600	-	-	-
Architecture & Planning, R.W. Estopinal	\$ 156,450	\$ 189,474	\$ 154,813	\$ 214,816	\$ 135,955
Business, Miller College	\$ 466,622	\$ 871,101	\$ 840,242	\$ 1,566,402	\$ 901,259
Communication, Information & Media	\$ 58,231	\$ 46,695	\$ 47,622	\$ 52,118	\$ 70,977
Fine Arts	\$ 196,483	\$ 155,189	\$ 114,797	\$ 44,555	\$ 3,776
Health	\$ 829,993	\$ 1,018,915	\$ 1,550,138	\$ 1,517,921	\$ 1,534,068
Honors College	-	-	-	-	-
Sciences & Humanities	\$ 2,777,847	\$ 2,999,900	\$ 2,913,956	\$ 2,623,100	\$ 2,760,930
Teachers College	\$ 1,888,484	\$ 2,650,661	\$ 3,218,625	\$ 2,114,915	\$ 2,815,396
Extra Collegial Units	\$ 5,067,888	\$ 3,953,638	\$ 3,579,582	\$ 8,085,588	\$ 15,883,476
Total	\$ 11,879,613	\$ 11,905,174	\$ 12,419,775	\$ 16,219,415	\$ 24,105,837

All expenditures listed are as of September 13, 2021. Negative expenditures are the result of re-categorization of the Strategic Initiative Funds as internal expenditures from existing BSU funds.

COMPLIANCE & CONTRACT REVIEWS

Type of Agreement	Number
Business Associate Agreement	1
Business Associate Agreement with Incoming Grant	2
Ball State University Foundation Fund Establishment Agreement	1
Consent / Release Form	5
Data Use Agreement	4
Incoming Contract	30
Incoming Cooperative Agreement	1
Incoming Donation	3
Incoming Grant	119
*Independent Contractor Agreement	10
Memorandum of Understanding	4
*Material Transfer Agreement	4
*Non-Disclosure Agreement / Confidential Disclosure Agreement	1
Outgoing Subaward - Regular	37
Outgoing Vendor Agreement	34
Proposal with Terms & Conditions	3
*Speaker Agreement	14
Withdrawn	9
Total Agreements	282

**Reviewed between 1/1/21-6/30/21*

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

CARES Act Funding

SPA has been instrumental in administering CARES Act funding for Ball State. These funds originated through a number of programs, including mechanisms such as the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF), the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund, and the Governors Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund.

FY21 total award data includes \$63.6 million in CARES Act funding. Since March 2020, Ball State has received a total of \$80.5 million from all CARES Act programs.

Strategic Imperative Fund (SIF) Awards

In June 2020, President Mearns announced 12 recipients of Strategic Imperative Fund (SIF) awards. The intent of this initiative was to generate proposals that would make significant contributions to the Strategic Plan Imperatives outlined in Destination 2040: Our Flight Path. These projects, totaling over \$1.9 million, will take place over 3 years and advance the university's progress in the Strategic Plan.

SPA has partnered with the University Strategic Planning Committee and the Chief Strategy Officer Division to provide financial oversight of these awards, further supporting the implementation of the University's Strategic Plan.



ASPiRE

Internal Grant Programs

Ball State University's Internal Grants Program was created in 1965 to provide funding to faculty and students and to support and develop projects in the areas of research and creative endeavors. ASPiRE Internal grants are intended to supplement and strengthen the support for research and creative endeavors that comes both from departmental and college resources along with other university programs.

Ball State Internal Grants program offerings consisted of the following competitions this fiscal year: Junior Faculty Research, Junior Faculty Creative Arts, ADVANCE, CREATE, New Faculty Start-Up, Reprint/Publication Support, Publication and Intellectual Property, Travel Support for External Funding for faculty, International Travel Support, Hollis as well as Graduate Creative Arts, Graduate Research, Undergraduate Creative Arts, Undergraduate Research, and Travel Support for Professional Meetings for students.

ASPIRE INTERNAL GRANT PROGRAMS

2020-21 Program Participation

The ASPIRE Internal Grants program processed 65 student proposals and awarded \$20,275 to support 52 projects. Student awards decreased in number this AY due to lack of travel allowability in Academic Year 2020-21. The Ball State University Graduate School continued to provide funding to help increase award amounts for graduate students. Faculty-supported programming was slightly reduced for the same reason as the students', resulting in 54 faculty proposals and \$203,676 awarded to support 46 projects.

Faculty Programs - Research	Requests Submitted	Proposals Awarded	Award Amount
ADVANCE	6	5	\$ 45,977
Junior Faculty Research	12	7	\$ 100,296
Total Research	18	12	\$ 146,273

Faculty Programs – Creative Arts	Requests Submitted	Proposals Awarded	Award Amount
CREATE	2	2	\$ 9,995
Junior Faculty Creative Arts	1	1	\$ 14,200
Total Creative Arts	3	3	\$ 24,195

Faculty Programs – Other	Requests Submitted	Proposals Awarded	Award Amount
Hollis	-	-	-
International Travel	-	-	-
New Faculty Start-Up	10	8	\$ 23,919
Reprint/Publication Support	19	19	\$ 7,319
Publication and Intellectual Property	4	4	\$ 1,970
Travel Support for External Funding	-	-	-
Total Other Faculty Programs	33	31	\$ 33,208

Graduate Student Programs	Requests Submitted	Proposals Awarded	Award Amount
Creative Arts	3	3	\$ 1,975
Research	24	14	\$ 9,634
Hollis	6	6	\$ 2,515
Travel Support for Professional Meetings	16	16	\$ 2,856
Total	49	39	\$ 16,980

Undergraduate Student Programs	Requests Submitted	Proposals Awarded	Award Amount
Creative Arts	4	4	\$ 1,200
Research	9	6	\$ 1,795
Travel Support for Professional Meetings	3	3	\$ 300
Total	16	13	\$ 3,295

Total Faculty Programs	54	46	\$ 203,676
Total Student Programs	65	52	\$ 20,275
Total ASPIRE Programs	119	98	\$ 223,951

SPA PROGRAMS

Provost Start-Up Program

The Provost Start-Up Program was formally created in 2009 in order to facilitate the success of new tenure-line faculty members in their pursuit of scholarship that leads to the attainment of external funding. Since then, \$10.7 million in university funds have been awarded to recipients. In 2020-21, the program welcomed eight new tenure-line faculty. Since the inception of the program, 122 recipients have received 331 external awards totaling more than \$14 million.

Under the mentorship of new and existing recipients from the past 7 years, over 400 students were engaged in scholarly activity, including research, presentations, co-authored publications, and immersive learning projects.

SPA Fellows Program

The 2020-21 SPA Fellows cohort consisted of 10 hires selected by the Colleges and Vice Provost for Research. This year-long intensive educational program is designed to develop grant writing skills in support of externally funded research, scholarship, creative projects, and other fundable endeavors. The Fellows program is led by Jackie Davis, Director of Sponsored Projects Development. Since its inception in 2012, 114 faculty have completed the program.

2020-21 SPA Fellows:

Kathleen Foster, Department of Biology

Alexandria Johnson, Department of Psychological Science

Ashley Kalinski, Department of Biology

Selicia Mayra, Department of Nutrition & Health Science

John Millis, Department of Physics & Astronomy

Kalyn Renbarger, School of Nursing

Jerry Reynolds, Department of Social Work

Yihsin Tai, Department of Speech Pathology & Audiology

Alexander Tatum, Department of Counseling Psychology, School Psychology, & Counseling

John West, Department of Urban Planning

Indirect Cost Recovery and Distribution

The university recovered \$734,009 in indirect costs in FY20, to be distributed in FY21. Of that, \$145,200 was allocated to SPA and VPR for administration and research incentives. The remaining \$588,809 was distributed per university policy as follows: 5 percent to principal investigator(s), 10 percent to departments/units, and 85 percent to colleges/VP units. During FY 2020-21, the following amounts were transferred: \$26,499 to PIs, \$71,219 to departments/units, and \$491,091 to colleges/VP units.

Research Incentive Accounts (RIA)

Research Incentive Accounts (RIAs) are specialized accounts that allow faculty and staff to receive incentives from SPA's SUBMIT program, Indirect Cost Recovery Distribution, or other programs. SPA oversees the management of these accounts (733 total) for all units at the University, regardless of the source of the funds.

SUBMIT Incentive Program

SPA's SUBMIT program encourages external proposal development and submission. Principal Investigators (PIs) or Co-Principal Investigators (Co-PIs) submitting proposals that include a budget over \$20,000 and follow the University's External Proposal Submission Policy, may receive funding to support their scholarship and professional development through a Research Incentive Account (RIA). In 2020-21, 119 eligible proposals representing 176 PIs and Co-PIs received SUBMIT funds with total distributions of \$60,150.

Intellectual Property

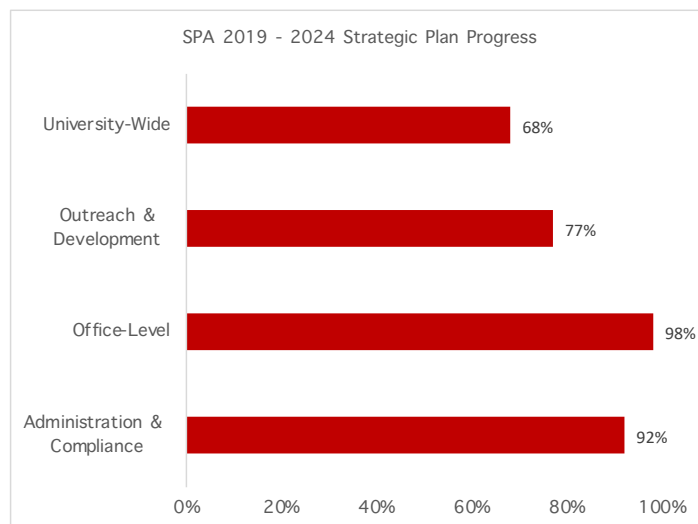
Intellectual property development remains an integral component to the research enterprise at the University. SPA is responsible for receiving intellectual property disclosures and supporting campus-wide technology transfer activities. During FY21, two disclosures of intellectual property were received, while FY21 royalties totaled \$45,501. An itemized list of IP products generating royalties is below. For additional information on intellectual property and technology transfer activities at Ball State, contact Stephanie Roof. For information on specific products available for purchase, contact Linda Swartz.

Author	Type	Project Title	Income
Rebecca Hammons	Software	Software Quality Fundamentals	\$ 7,200
Michael O' Hara	DVD	Explore Theatre: A Backstage Pass	\$ 26,558
Hans P. Kellogg	DVD	Legacies of Perfection Auburn Cord Duesenberg	\$ 66
Eric Lassiter	CD	Kiowa Hymns	\$ 578
Emily Wornell Seregow	Miscellaneous	ICI Localized Community Development	\$ 10,800
Dayna Thompson, Monique Gabb, & Ron Kaitchuck	Miscellaneous	Saturn & Beyond	\$ 300
Total			\$ 45,501

SPA STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

In 2019, Ball State announced its 2019-2024 Strategic Plan Destination 2040: Our Flight Path. While this described the overall goals for the university, each unit was charged with formulating their own strategic plan. To that end, SPA called upon our 2018 NCURA Peer Review report and formulated an ambitious 38 priorities for action.

SPA's Strategic Plan spans four themes: Administration and Compliance, Office Level, Outreach and Development, and University-wide. We are happy to report that the SPA Strategic Plan is 83% complete with a 3-year timeline remaining.



RESEARCH RECOGNITION

Student Symposium

187 students shared 110 presentations in the 2021 Student Symposium, which was hosted virtually this year using Omeka, a web-publishing platform for the display of scholarly collections. The site is archived on the Office of Digital Research and Publishing website. Overall, 137 undergraduate students and 50 graduate students participated. SPA would like to thank University Libraries and the Graduate School for their gracious collaboration on this year's Symposium.

2020-21 Student Symposium Awardees

Pauline Robinson-Stevens

Undergraduate, College of Sciences & Humanities, Psychological Science, & Honors College

"The Impact of Social Status on Attributions of Responsibility in Instances of Sexual Assault"

Funded by an ASPIRE Internal Grant

Mentor: Dr. Andy Luttrell, Assistant Professor of Psychological Science

Maia Campbell & Ally Lankford

Undergraduates, College of Sciences & Humanities, Biology

"Temperature Controls on Microcystin Degradation"

Funded by an ASPIRE Internal Grant

Mentor: Dr. Allison Rober, Associate Professor of Environmental Biology

Andrew Rattin, Austin Gustin, Cade Clinton, Alison Vielee, & David Mitchell

Undergraduates, Miller College of Business, Information Systems & Operations Management

"Indianapolis International Airport Pre-Security"

Mentor: Dr. Fred Kitchens, Associate Professor of Information Systems and Operations Management

Emily Hayes

Graduate, College of Sciences & Humanities, Environment, Geology, & Natural Resources

"Peace and Water in the Khumbu—Mitigating Conflict by Integrating Peacebuilding Tools into an Indigenous Water Management Framework"

Mentor: Dr. Joshua Gruver, Associate Professor of Natural Resources and Environmental Management

Ky Bray

Graduate, College of Sciences & Humanities, Psychological Science

"Computerized Analysis of Linguistic Style Differences Between Offenders of Mass Shootings"

Mentor: Dr. Thomas Holtgraves, Professor of Psychological Science

Briana Halloran

Graduate, College of Health, Nutrition & Health Science

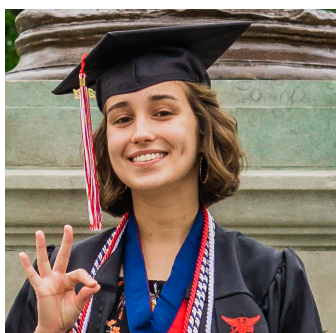
"Postpartum Depression and Preconception Vitamin Supplementation: An Analysis of the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS), 2016–2018"

Mentor: Dr. Mengxi Zhang, Assistant Professor of Health Science

Keys/Litten/Smith Awards

The Keys/Litten/Smith Awards were established in memory of Linda Keys, Jeffrey Litten, and Sandra Smith, who all served in research administration at Ball State for a combined total of 30 years. The awards recognize students for their outstanding research or creative endeavors presented during the Student Symposium. Anyone wishing to contribute to the Keys/Litten/Smith Student Symposium Awards fund may do so by donating to the Ball State University Foundation Account #9652. In addition to these awards in memory of SPA staff, the Graduate School also contributed funds to support student awards.

What makes the Student Symposium special?



Paulie Robinson-Stevens (Undergraduate Student)

"I enjoyed the BSU Student Symposium because it provided a supportive environment for me to present my research. I was able to hone my presentation skills with the guidance of the symposium staff, as well as work alongside my peers in a professional setting. The symposium was one of the highlights of my senior year and I would highly recommend this experience to future students."



Briana Halloran (Graduate Student)

"Presenting my research at the 26th annual Ball State University Student Symposium was an exciting feat. Since the past year has been constantly evolving with the way we communicate and conduct presentations, it was a new experience to create a digital platform to highlight my research rather than the typical short oral presentation. I am grateful there is a symposium where students can present their hard work and get feedback from peers and professors. I encourage students to participate in the symposium."



Emily Hayes (Graduate Student)

"The Ball State Student Symposium is a unique event that provides BSU students the opportunity to experience presenting their research to a public audience. This is a great opportunity for student researchers at all levels of experience and I have appreciated and enjoyed participating in the Student Symposium throughout my time at Ball State."



Ky Bray (Graduate Student)

"The Ball State University Student Symposium is an opportunity for students like few others on our campus. Namely, I found that it was the chance to present my own hard work in research to a range of judges alongside other students from numerous colleges and departments. I believe the Student Symposium is a great experience for students and a time to appreciate the diverse skills and interests that make Ball State University special."

2021 OUTSTANDING CREATIVE ENDEAVOR AWARD

Susan Koper, Assistant Professor of Dance



Becoming a ballerina is a dream that many girls share when they are young. For most, that dream never manifests into reality, often being relegated to a children's Halloween costume. But for Susan Koper, assistant professor of dance at Ball State, pirouetting up on stage was more than just a childhood fantasy—it was a certainty.

"I had this image of the lovely ballerina that I kept trying to reach for," said Koper, who was named the 2021 faculty recipient of the Ball State University Outstanding Creative Endeavor Award. "I started out very young and just became attracted to the rigor and the discipline of the craft."

Her formal journey into dance began as a child, when she would take ballet lessons at a local dance studio owned by a family friend. After earning her bachelor's degree in American studies from the University of Notre Dame, she earned a spot with the Empire State Ballet Company in Buffalo, New York, where she danced professionally for several years.

Over the years, Koper performed for a number of other studios, including for the Alaska-based Dance Theatre North as well as with various artists in California. While she had already achieved her childhood dream of becoming a ballerina, it was her time tapping into other, more modern dance forms during these years that proved to be some of the most formative.

"That's when things started to really click with me," she said. "I kind of live between the worlds of ballet and modern."



Koper performing a duet

To date, Koper has performed or had her works featured at a staggering number of venues, including the DUMBO Dance Festival in New York City, the Chicago Harvest Contemporary Dance Festival, RAD Fest in Michigan, the Indiana Flourish Dance Festival, the Echo Echo Festival of Dance and Movement in Ireland and the Internacional De Danza Contemporanea in Mexico City.

But for the past three decades, she has been proud to call Muncie her home.

From stage to classroom

After spending years honing her craft and mastering a variety of dance forms, Koper's deep appreciation for the art led her to enroll in a master of fine arts program at Hollins University (in association with the American Dance Festival) in Virginia.

"Much later in life, I realized there was much more I wanted to know about dance," she said.

Continuing to live in Muncie, Koper initially became involved with the Ball State Department of Theatre and Dance through taking courses and assisting with studio productions here and there. She became an adjunct faculty member in the late 2000s and then a contract faculty member after finishing her master's degree in 2012. She transitioned into a tenure-line position in 2016 and now takes on several titles, including assistant professor, dance educator and choreographer.

Today, Koper teaches courses in ballet as well as contemporary and improvisational styles, though she notes dance majors also learn other styles like tap, jazz, West African and musical theatre in addition to choreography, acting and dance pedagogy.

"We are really a program that gives them a broad spectrum of forms. That's only going to help them as they move into the professional world," she said. "We're trying to give them a broad experience, but also a deep experience."



Koper instructs a Ball State student

She is particularly fond of an online course in dance history she now offers, which is frequently taken by students in other programs as well as community members interested in learning more about dance.

"I get a really interesting mix of students, and that only adds to the conversation in the class. It's really a wonderful experience when I have that broad, inclusive environment—a mixture of voices and experiences—in that class," she said. "I love that I can now offer that to students, including those nontraditional students that need that flexibility with obtaining their degrees."

For Koper, the love of dance naturally evolves into a passion for training and teaching the next generation of dancers. "I feel very strongly that I have a responsibility to pass on all this beautiful, rich information that I have received from my previous teachers."

Dance is for everyone

Whether she is lecturing in the classroom, coaching choreography up on stage or running rehearsals for a new production, Koper is intentional about space. Not just space in terms of physical venue, but also figurative spaces for collaboration and learning.

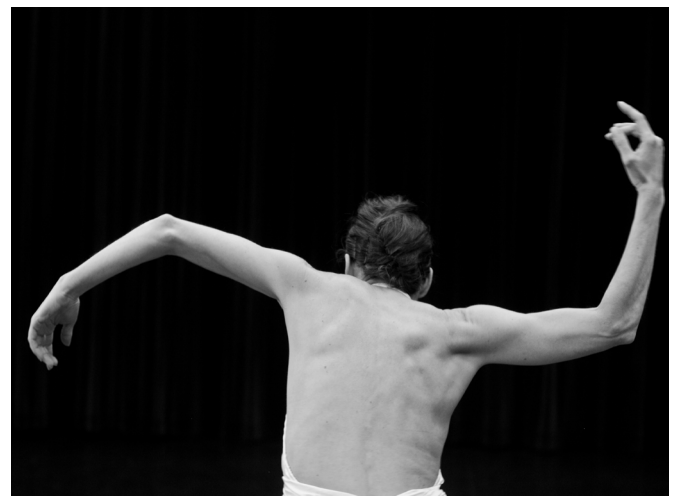
“I love the back and forth with my students. I really try to develop a community space where I’m not just in the front of the room telling them what to do,” she said. “I’m curious about what they experience, what I’m teaching them, what they’re feeling and what’s making sense. The dialogue back and forth in this space really teaches me so much and informs how I continue to present material to them. That relationship back and forth is really satisfying as an educator.”

Her most recent original production, “A History of Knowing and Loving and Remembering and Forgetting,” premiered in the fall of 2021 in the Ball State Korgaard Studio and featured a series of solos and duets performed by students as they explored the meaning of the four themes through dance. “That was wonderful. There were a bunch of families and children and people from those communities,” she said.

She has also produced other works for public spaces, including for the Ball State Benjamin V. Cohen Peace Conference and the Muncie Cornerstone Center for the Arts, that serve as creative ways to inform the audience about social issues.

“We’re trying to get dance in spaces where people might not be expecting it and reach out, build new audiences, and promote this idea that dance can entertain, but it can also do much more. It can speak to ideas of inclusivity and social justice and equity,” she said.

When not playing the role of teacher, choreographer or producer, Koper is also an active scholar. Her research focuses on the concepts of memory and history in dance and the body, and she is also interested in how moments of stillness during performances can contribute to deeper levels of understanding for both the dancers and the audience.



Koper performs a solo piece

“I’m very curious about the quieter moments of dance and what they can add to the story,” she said, “to maybe pause and take in what’s happening.”

Koper is also the recipient of the 2017 College of Fine Arts Dean’s Creative Endeavor Award, and she has received grant funding through the Indiana Arts Commission’s Indiana Arts in the Park and Indiana Individual Artist programs. She is also a member of the National Dance Education Organization and the Dance Studies Association.

“I love what I do,” Koper said. “I love that I can share my passion with students.”

Written by Chay Reigle. Photos provided.

2021 OUTSTANDING RESEARCH AWARD

Dr. Serena Shim, Professor of Educational Psychology



Dr. Serena Shim's decades-long interest in motivation began with a simple question: "Why don't my students like coming to school?" Working in a poor district in Seoul, South Korea, Shim spent most of the 1990s teaching elementary school students, but many of them struggled to stay engaged in the classroom.

"It was a pretty challenging environment," said Shim, professor of educational psychology in the Ball State Teachers College. "Naturally, I thought there was a motivation issue. If I'm having a lot of fun, why can't they have fun?"

Not satisfied with leaving the question unanswered, she enrolled in a master's program in educational psychology at Seoul National University while continuing to teach full time. Still needing to know more, she put her teaching on pause to pursue a doctorate in the subject.

"But then after I finished everything, I thought that I still needed more training," Shim said, so she came to the United States to restart her graduate training and earn a doctorate from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

It's no surprise that after 12 years of graduate school and 15 years as a professor—including two years at Northern Arizona University before coming to Ball State—Shim is still as motivated as ever to understand what drives other people.

In pursuit of positivity

So why do people do what they do? According to Shim, it's usually because a person is good at something or because they "want to" for numerous other reasons.

"But the want can have all kinds of shades," she said. "You think it's important or you think it's valuable, or you actually like doing it because it's hedonistically satisfying. Or it can be meaningful."

But not all motivations are created equal, she added. While early thinkers in motivational psychology describe motivation as an innate attribute—you either are motivated or you are not—contemporary research suggests that all people are motivated to do things, but the type and quality of motivation differs between individuals.

Ideally, Shim said, people should feel motivated to do something because they are good at it or find it intrinsically satisfying in some way, not only because there is a tangible reward or outcome waiting for them at the end (like a good grade, a better salary or beating out others in a competition).

"If your motivation is so extrinsic to the task itself, then once you get to that or once that reward is no longer available, you lose motivation to continue," she said. "What we want is people that have genuine interest in doing that thing and doing it well and then keep improving themselves."

Drawing on her experience as an elementary teacher in Korea, Shim studies how children and adolescents can be positively motivated in school. She is especially concerned about the type of motivation students exhibit, as children are particularly vulnerable to experiencing unhealthy levels of stress and anxiety when



Dr. Serena Shim receives the 2018 Ball State Teachers College Outstanding Research Award

they feel they must constantly compare themselves to others instead of focusing on their own personal progress.

“It really limits your opportunity to grow,” she said. “I wanted to know how to free these kids from that social comparison pressure so they can actually find out how great they can be.”

One solution to help the children starts with the teachers, who experience similar social pressures but are often viewed as mere vehicles for student achievement without much consideration for their feelings, Shim said. When teachers hyper-focus on what parents, students or the principal thinks of them, it limits their own developmental abilities.

“If you want to truly grow, you should be able to ask for help when you need it and learn from other people. But if your focus is to impress other people with your capacity, you wouldn’t necessarily do that,” she said. “We really have to think about healthy teachers and motivating teachers before we think about teachers as a means to have a tangible achievement boost for our children. They are kind of forgotten.”

In addition to her interests in motivation, Shim also explores topics of ethics in research. She recently served as a methodology and motivational psychology expert on a collaborative project with science educators in Korea. Funded by the Korean Science Foundation, the project focused on piloting a pedagogical intervention for college students in STEM fields to further their understanding of social responsibility in the sciences.

According to Shim, rapid technological advancements in recent years resulted in the need for new considerations in research ethics that extend beyond the basic mantra of “do no harm” to research participants. For example, innovations in the use of plastics have led to the creation of non-biodegradable microplastics that cause harm well past the initial research and development phases.

“I think that people are pretty worried about the aftermath of blind application of scientific or engineering products,” she said. “We want to make sure that the scientists actually do know the risk involved in the development itself...They have to really think about what they study and how they will be used before they conduct their research.”

Motivated mentor

When not spending her time advancing the field of motivational psychology through more than 30 published articles and presenting at numerous national and international conferences, Shim is also a dedicated teacher and mentor. As a professor in the Department of Educational Psychology, she primarily teaches courses in research methodologies and human and social development to master's and doctoral students.



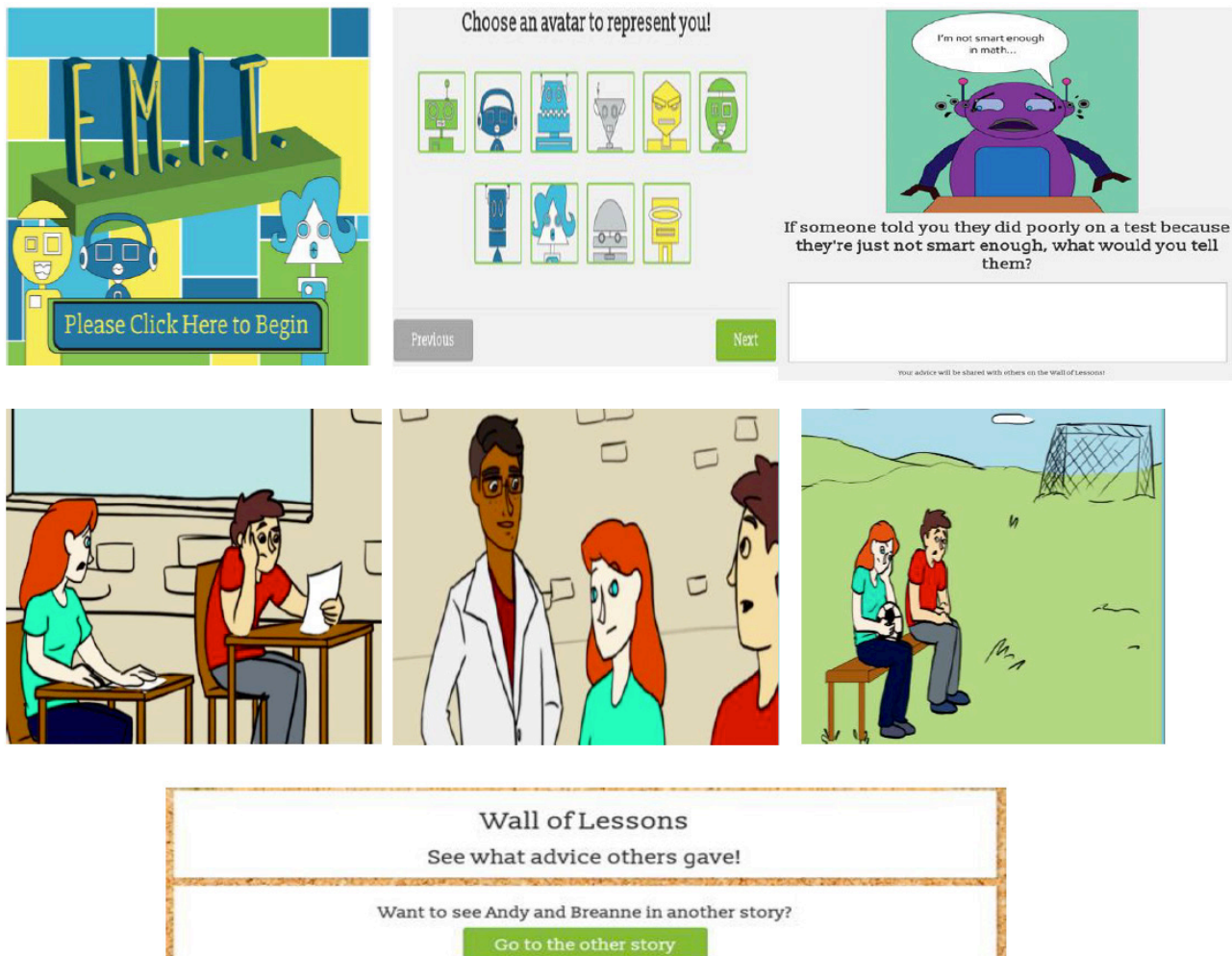
Dr. Shim attends an annual conference of the American Educational Research Association

She also leads a motivational psychology seminar just for doctoral students. In this course, students can develop their own research proposals to study motivation, and they also have the opportunity to be creative and produce materials like workbooks, planners and workshop instructions, or lesson plans that empower students to become motivated at school.

“It’s not just a teaching class—it’s also more of my opportunity to keep up with the contemporary literature,” Shim said of the seminar. “I can design the class to follow my intellectual curiosity, and that has been pretty fun.”

Shim has also led an interdepartmental undergraduate immersive learning course in collaboration with the Ball State Digital Corps to create educational animations for middle school math students in Lawrence and Kokomo, Indiana. These 15-minute presentations taught the adolescents about how negative mindsets—like thinking you just weren’t born smart enough or that your failures are always the fault of others and everything is beyond your control—can limit your true potential.

“You have to focus on the things you can change,” said Shim.



Dr. Shim's immersive learning course developed a motivational lesson for middle school students

As an educator, Shim especially enjoys mentoring her students and helping them discover how great they truly are.

“Our students are very smart. They are very bright, and they are very conscientious workers,” she said. “I feel very fortunate that I actually find my work as my hobby and I get to do that with the students.”

Shim is the recipient of multiple grants and awards, including the 2017 American Educational Research Association Research Conference Grant, the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education Best Practice Award, the 2017 Ball State Digital Scholarship Faculty Fellowship Award and the 2018 Ball State Teachers College Outstanding Research Award.

She also serves as an after-school program evaluator for the Indiana Department of Education’s 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program, sits on the grant review panel for the Institute of Education Sciences, and is the associate editor for the academic journal *Educational Psychology*. Additionally, she is an active member of the American Psychological Association and the American Educational Research Association.

Written by Chay Reigle. Photos provided.

SPA PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic preventing many in-person gatherings, SPA staff have continued to seek professional development, host informational workshops, and present to other organizations. Over the past year, SPA staff have completed more than 200 hours of professional development through workshops, trainings, webinars and conferences through Ball State University, federal agencies such as the National Institutes of Health, professional organizations such as the National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA), and more.

Memberships

SPA staff currently hold memberships to the following organizations: National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA), Society of Research Administrators International (SRA), Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM), Certified Research Administrators (CRA), National Organization of Research Development Professionals (NORDP), APLU Board on Oceans, Atmosphere and Climate (BOAC), Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE), Grant Professionals Association (GPA), Indiana Philanthropy Alliance, and the Council on the Environment (COTE).

SPA also holds institutional memberships with the Federal Demonstration Partnership (FDP), Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR), Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU), Association of Public and Land Grant Universities (APLU), OrthoWorx University-Industry Advisory Board, Indiana Innovation Institute (IN3), and Indiana Biosciences Research Institute (IBRI).

Outreach and Education

Throughout the year, SPA staff have collaborated with on-campus units such as the College of Health and University Libraries to offer educational workshops to teach Ball State faculty and students about the grant process and how to search for funding opportunities using the InfoEd Global SPIN database. Additionally, SPA has presented to the Ball State New Faculty Academy, New Administrators Orientation, and the Office of Community Engagement Faculty Open Office Hours.

Elizabeth Haney, Director of Sponsored Projects Administration, is a regular presenter at the NCURA National Conference.

Augusta Isley, Senior Proposal Manager, presented at the National Organization of Research Development Professionals (NORDP).

STAFF UPDATES

While the COVID-19 pandemic has continued to disrupt operations throughout the world, SPA staff have remained as dedicated as ever to our University's mission. We are grateful to have such a strong team that has not only maintained SPA's operations while adapting to remote and hybrid work environments, but also has gracefully accepted the additional challenges of navigating new COVID-related policies and regulations as well as administering federal pandemic relief funding for the University.

SPA wishes all the best to **Justin Miller**, who departed Ball State after serving in Sponsored Projects Administration for 14 years, six as a Proposal Manager and eight as our Director. He is now serving in a similar capacity at the New College of Florida.

Elizabeth Haney joined SPA as our new Director of Sponsored Projects Administration. In this role, Liz oversees the post-award functions of the research administration enterprise and co-leads SPA alongside Jackie Davis, Director of Sponsored Projects Development. She brings to SPA more than 12 years of research administration experience and leadership from institutions such as the University of Chicago, Harvard University, Middlebury College, and most recently St. Lawrence University.

SPA also welcomed **Chay Reigle** as our new Outreach and Operations Coordinator. As part of the team, Chay oversees communications and outreach initiatives for the office, such as website and social media management, educational workshop planning, and keeping the campus community informed of internal and external funding opportunities.

SPA was sad to say goodbye to **Santana Shipley**, our Marketing and Promotions Graduate Assistant who graduated with her master's degree in sport administration. However, we are happy to welcome **Anshika Singh**, master's student in the emerging media design and development program, as our new GA in the same role.

We also wished all the best to **Eric Strauch**, Grant Manager, in his future endeavors.

Jackie Davis, Director of Sponsored Projects Development, was elected as an Academic Affairs representative to the University Professional Personnel Council.

Augusta Isley, Senior Proposal Manager, obtained her Certified Research Administrator designation, making her the third CRA at Ball State.

Lastly, three of our staff celebrated employment milestones at Ball State:

Linda Swartz, Secretary – 40 years of service

Jay Javed, Grant Manager – 20 years of service

Jackie Davis, Director of Sponsored Projects Development – 15 years of service

SPA'S MISSION AND GUIDING BELIEFS

The mission of Sponsored Projects Administration (SPA) is to help faculty, staff and students seek funding, apply for funding, and spend awarded funds according to applicable guidelines in order to foster excellent education, research, scholarship, creative endeavors and community partnerships, working together to make the world a better place.

As research administrators, SPA staff aim to:

- perform our duties with honesty, diligence, and responsibility,
- conduct ourselves free of personal and professional conflicts or of impropriety,
- remain mindful that the funds we assist in requesting and managing have been provided fundamentally for the public good,
- be prudent in the use and protection of sensitive information/data,
- act in good faith promoting ethical integrity in all of our actions,
- maintain respectful communication about others in our community, and
- create and maintain a good relationship between Ball State and our sponsors and partners.

**As modified from the Code of Ethics for Certified Research Administrators*

Office of the Vice Provost for Research

Susan McDowell, Vice Provost for Research

Sharon Hahn, Executive Coordinator to the Vice Provost for Research

Sponsored Projects Administration Staff

Jackie Davis, Director of Sponsored Projects Development

Liz Haney, Director of Sponsored Projects Administration

Maria Bumbalough, Proposal Manager	Chay Reigle, Outreach and Operations Coordinator
Keith Chandler, Proposal Manager	Kristyn Robe, Proposal Specialist
Mark Combs, Proposal Manager	Stephanie Roof, Associate Director of Strategic Initiatives
Todd Davidson, Senior Grant Manager	Brittnie Sell, Compliance Manager
Augusta Isley, Senior Proposal Manager	Sheila Shafer, Associate Director of Compliance Operations
Malissa Jackson, Grant Manager	Linda Swartz, Secretary
Jay Javed, Grant Manager	Araminta Tuttle, Senior Grant Manager
Sarah Lee, Senior Proposal Manager	Rebecca Tyler, Compliance Manager
Chad Paskiewicz, Senior Grant Manager	Katie Wilkinson, Compliance Coordinator
Kelly Peckham, Budget Administrator	

Student Assistants

Giselle Brey, SPA Student Assistant

Clara Haywood, ASPIRE Student Assistant

Anshika Singh, Marketing and Promotions Graduate Assistant



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