

# The University of Michigan Regents Communication

## Item for Information

### Research Award and Expenditure Report

#### Background and Summary

Attached is the September 2026 Research Award and Expenditure Report, prepared by the Office of the Vice President for Research. This item is provided for information and does not request action by the Board of Regents.

- **Year-to-date activity** includes \$196.0 million in research expenditures, with expenditures and proposal submissions running ahead of last year and new-award activity behind.
- **Month-by-month charts** compare research expenditures, proposal submissions and new awards across fiscal years 2025, 2026 and 2027.
- **Top July awards** identify major new awards by sponsor category, including federal agencies, industry and foundations.

This report summarizes the overall trends in grant and contract activity across all three campuses of the University of Michigan through the first month of Fiscal Year 2027, which ended July 31, 2026.

Respectfully submitted:



**Patricia D. Hurn**

Interim Vice President for Research and Innovation

September 2026

## UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Office of the Vice President for Research

Regents Communication

# Research Award and Expenditure Report

September 2026

Prepared by the Office of the Vice President for Research  
Fiscal Year 2027, Through Month 1 (ended July 31, 2026)

### Report Contacts

Patricia D. Hurn, Interim Vice President for Research and Innovation

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Intelligence

## Overview

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This report summarizes overall trends in grant and contract activity across all three campuses of the University of Michigan **through the first month of Fiscal Year 2027, which ended July 31, 2026.**

**\$196M**

Total research expenditures, YTD FY2027  
(through July 31, 2026)

**▲ 2.0%**

Research expenditures up vs. prior year

**▲ 17.2%**

Number of research submissions up vs.  
prior year

**▲ 49.7%**

Value of those submissions up vs. prior year

**▼ 7.0%**

Value of new research awards down vs.  
prior year

**▼ 10.9%**

Number of new research awards down vs.  
prior year

## Highlights This Month

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### **\$3.9 Million · National Institutes of Health**

Awarded to Michelle Hastings, the Pfizer Upjohn Research Professor of Pharmacology and director of M-RNA Therapeutics at the University of Michigan, to [advance](#) a genetic medicine for CLN3 Batten disease, a fatal inherited disorder that gradually takes children's sight, speech and movement. Her lab's custom RNA therapy, first built for a pair of twin sisters, is already showing benefit in an early trial, and this award funds the safety and manufacturing studies needed to bring the approach to more children.

### **\$4.0 Million · National Science Foundation**

Awarded to Mackillo Kira, professor of electrical and computer engineering and co-director of the U-M Quantum Research Institute, to [design](#) plug-and-play quantum photonic chips that move quantum measurement out of the laboratory and into everyday devices. Early targets include navigation systems that hold a precise position without GPS and quantum sensors that watch chemical and electronic processes as they happen.

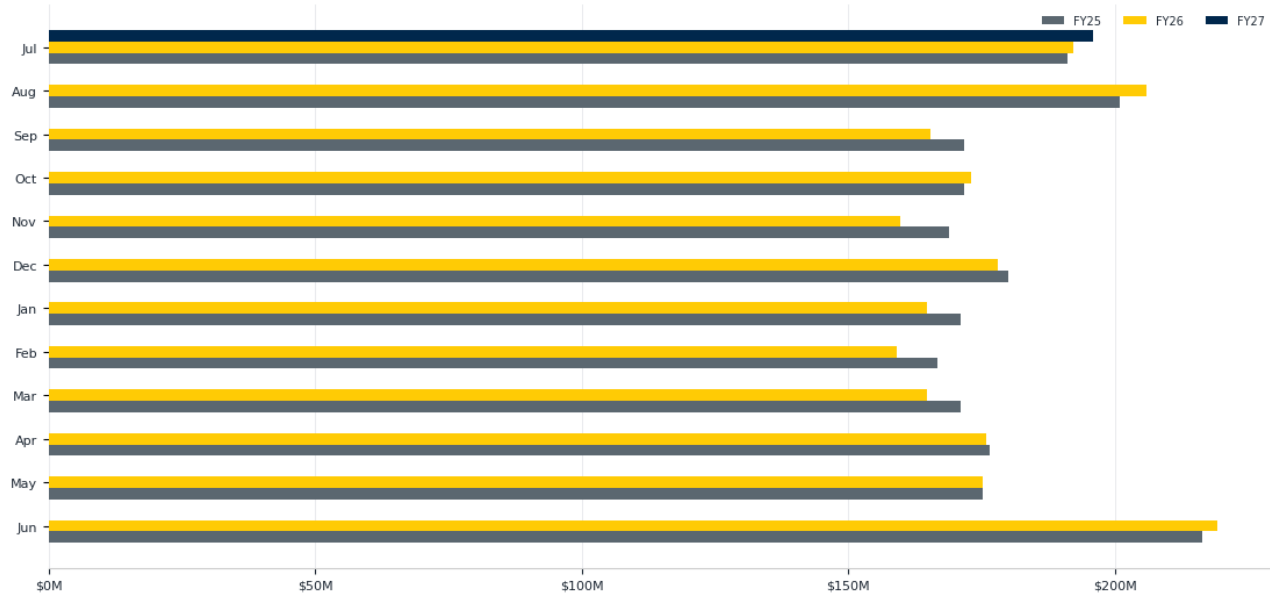
### **\$6.5 Million · Wellcome Leap Inc.**

Awarded to Venk Murthy, the Melvyn Rubenfire Professor of Preventive Cardiology, to [detect](#) a hidden form of heart disease that leaves millions of women with real chest pain and no diagnosis. His team is teaching artificial intelligence to find the disease in an ordinary EKG, replacing costly specialized scans with a test nearly any clinic can run.

## Expenditures

Total research expenditures each month, comparing fiscal years 2025, 2026 and 2027. Fiscal Year 2027 includes July only, its first month; across the two completed years, spending stays relatively steady and reaches its highest point at fiscal year end in June.

| Fiscal Year | Year-to-Date Total |
|-------------|--------------------|
| FY25        | \$191,067,066      |
| FY26        | \$192,265,740      |
| FY27        | \$196,017,830      |

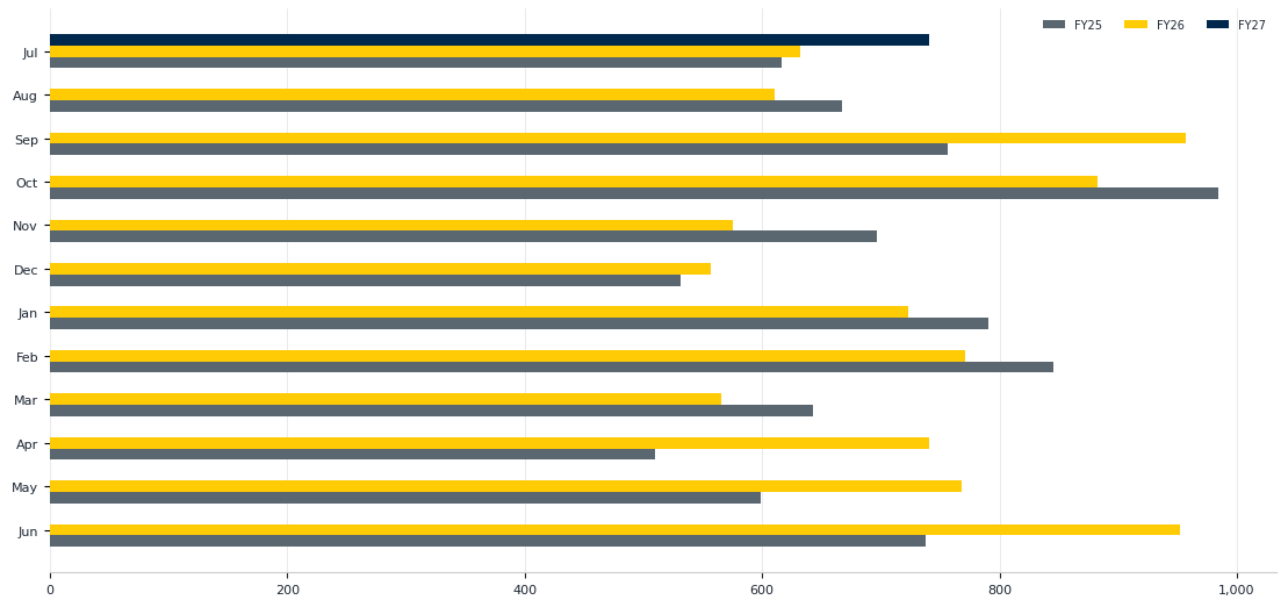


Monthly research expenditures (\$M), FY25–FY27

# Submissions by Count

Number of proposals submitted to sponsors each month, comparing fiscal years 2025, 2026 and 2027. Fiscal Year 2027 includes July only, its first month. Submission activity typically peaks in the fall (September and October) and again in late winter (February), reflecting common sponsor deadline cycles.

| Fiscal Year | Year-to-Date Total |
|-------------|--------------------|
| FY25        | 616                |
| FY26        | 632                |
| FY27        | 741                |

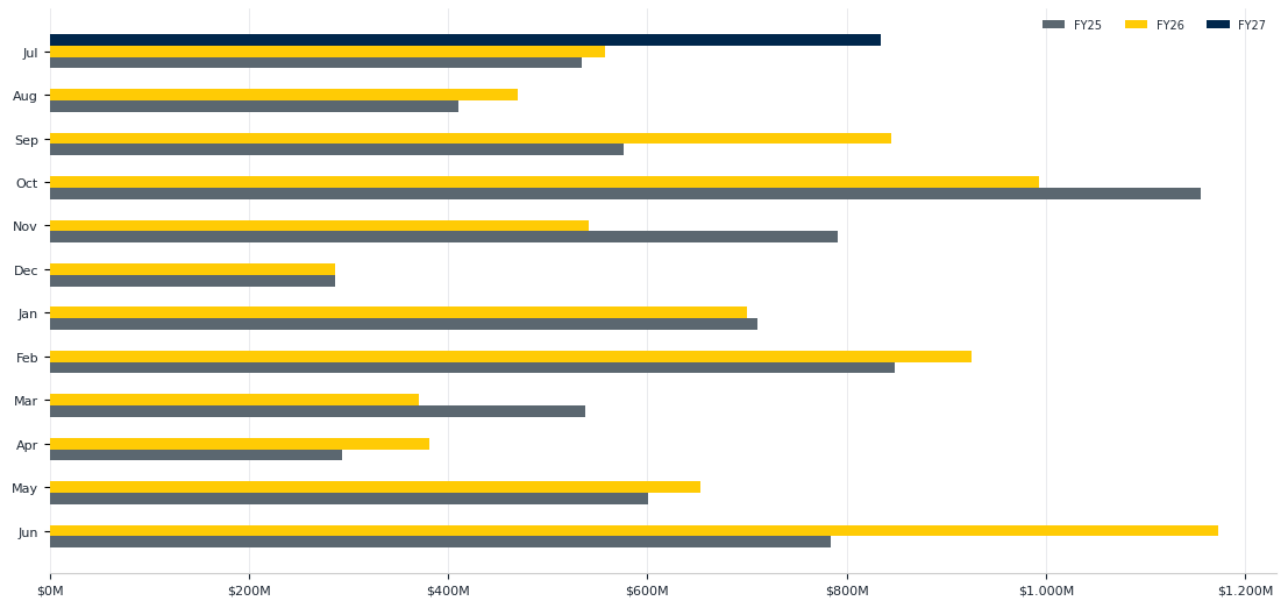


Monthly proposal submissions (count), FY25–FY27

# Submissions by Amount

Total dollar value of proposals submitted to sponsors each month, comparing fiscal years 2025, 2026 and 2027. Fiscal Year 2027 includes July only, its first month. Monthly totals vary widely because a small number of large proposals can drive a single month well above the others.

| Fiscal Year | Year-to-Date Total |
|-------------|--------------------|
| FY25        | \$533,619,807      |
| FY26        | \$557,453,983      |
| FY27        | \$834,688,050      |

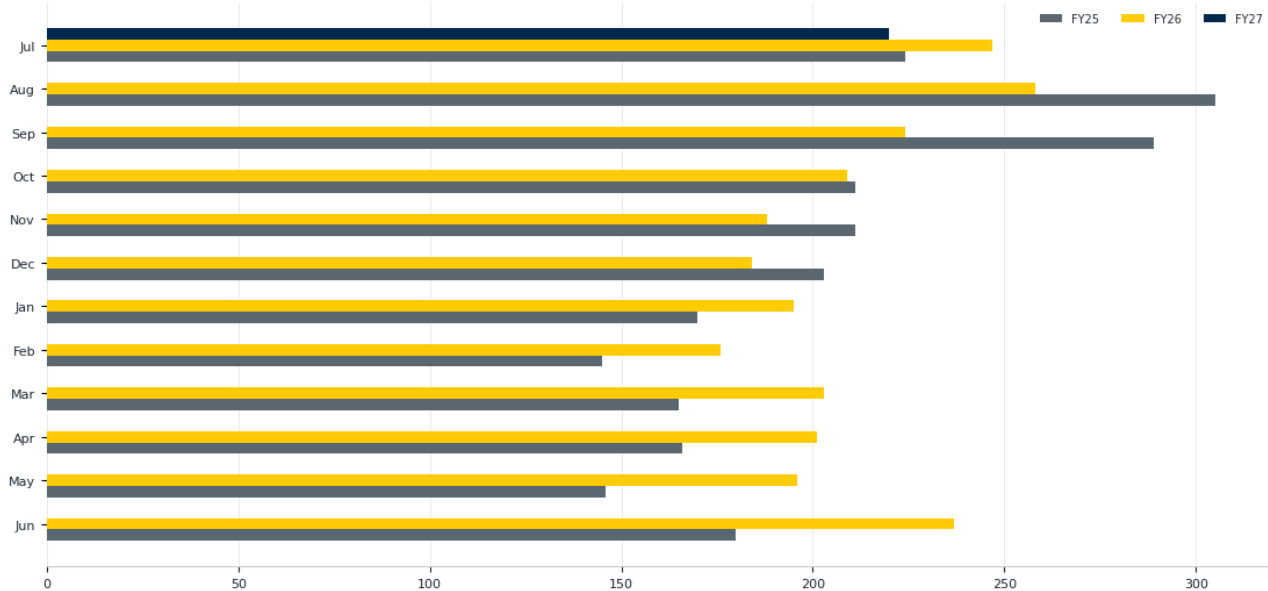


Monthly proposal submissions (\$M), FY25–FY27

## Awards by Count

Number of new awards received from sponsors each month, comparing fiscal years 2025, 2026 and 2027. Fiscal Year 2027 includes July only, its first month. Award counts are highest in the late summer and early fall (August and September) as sponsors finalize funding decisions.

| Fiscal Year | Year-to-Date Total |
|-------------|--------------------|
| FY25        | 224                |
| FY26        | 247                |
| FY27        | 220                |

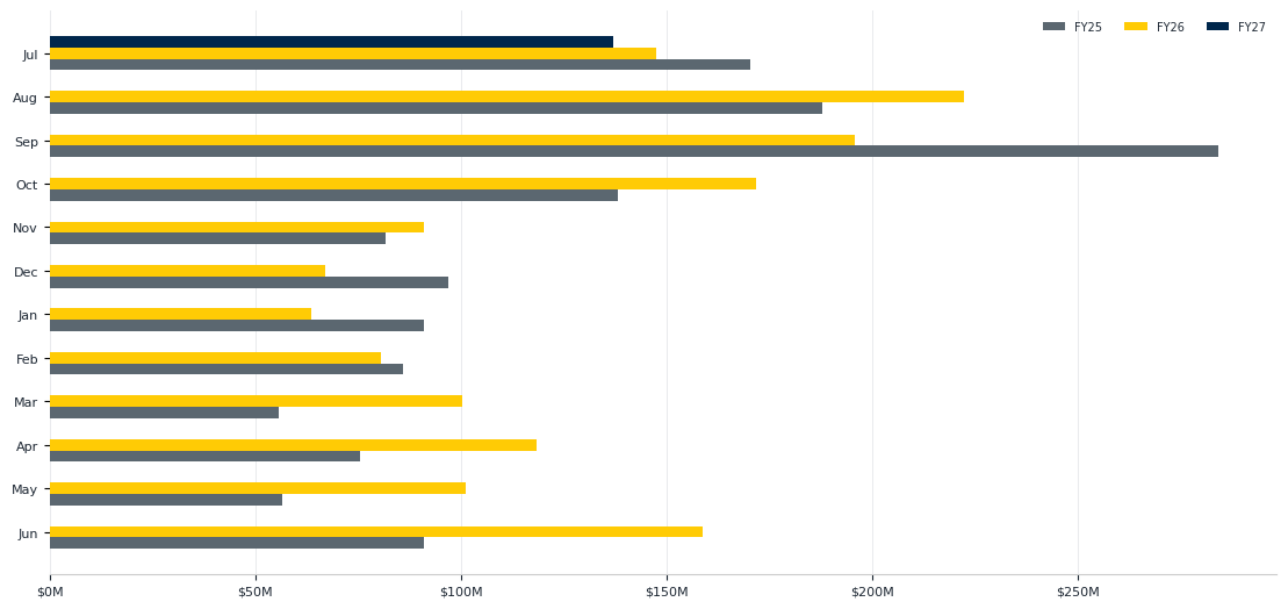


Monthly new awards (count), FY25–FY27

# Awards by Amount

Total dollar value of new awards received each month, comparing fiscal years 2025, 2026 and 2027. Fiscal Year 2027 includes July only, its first month. Because individual large awards can dominate a month, the totals swing more sharply than the award counts do.

| Fiscal Year | Year-to-Date Total |
|-------------|--------------------|
| FY25        | \$170,290,403      |
| FY26        | \$147,466,037      |
| FY27        | \$137,096,707      |



Monthly new awards (\$M), FY25–FY27

## Top Monthly Awards — July 2026

The largest new awards received in July 2026, grouped by sponsor category.

### National Science Foundation

|                        |                                                                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Principal Investigator | Kira, Mackillo                                                        |
| Department             | OVPR Quantum Institute                                                |
| Award Title            | NQVL:QSTD:Design: Quantum Photonic Integration and Deployment (QuPID) |
| Sponsor                | National Science Foundation                                           |
| Award Total            | <b>\$4,000,000</b>                                                    |
| Duration (years)       | 2.0                                                                   |

|                        |                                                                                                                    |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Principal Investigator | Dvorkin, Vladimir                                                                                                  |
| Department             | CoE EECS - ECE - Con                                                                                               |
| Award Title            | Learning and Optimization-Powered Quickest Change Detection: Theory, Algorithms and Applications for Power Systems |
| Sponsor                | National Science Foundation                                                                                        |
| Award Total            | <b>\$600,000</b>                                                                                                   |
| Duration (years)       | 3.0                                                                                                                |

|                        |                                                                                 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Principal Investigator | Hassan, Foyzul                                                                  |
| Department             | Dbn Col of Eng-Computer & Info                                                  |
| Award Title            | SHF: Small: Towards a Unified Approach for DevOps Configuration Drift Detection |
| Sponsor                | National Science Foundation                                                     |
| Award Total            | <b>\$600,000</b>                                                                |
| Duration (years)       | 3.0                                                                             |

|                        |                                                                              |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Principal Investigator | Montgomery, John                                                             |
| Department             | LSA Chemistry                                                                |
| Award Title            | CAS: New Strategies For Sustainable Synthetic Methods Using Nickel Catalysis |
| Sponsor                | National Science Foundation                                                  |
| Award Total            | <b>\$600,000</b>                                                             |
| Duration (years)       | 3.0                                                                          |

|                        |                                         |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Principal Investigator | Aidala, Christine                       |
| Department             | LSA Physics                             |
| Award Title            | Studying Quantum Chromodynamics at LHCb |
| Sponsor                | National Science Foundation             |
| Award Total            | <b>\$550,000</b>                        |
| Duration (years)       | 3.0                                     |

|                        |                                                                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Principal Investigator | Li, Max                                                               |
| Department             | CoE Aerospace Engineering                                             |
| Award Title            | CAREER: Proactive and Practical Management of Air Traffic Disruptions |
| Sponsor                | National Science Foundation                                           |
| Award Total            | <b>\$550,000</b>                                                      |
| Duration (years)       | 5.0                                                                   |

## National Institutes of Health

|                        |                                                                                      |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Principal Investigator | Hastings, Michelle                                                                   |
| Department             | MM Pharmacology Department                                                           |
| Award Title            | IND-Enabling Studies of an Antisense Oligonucleotide Therapy for CLN3 Batten Disease |
| Sponsor                | Health and Human Services, Department of-National Institutes of Health               |
| Award Total            | <b>\$3,923,370</b>                                                                   |
| Duration (years)       | 3.0                                                                                  |

|                        |                                                                        |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Principal Investigator | Rainey, William                                                        |
| Department             | MM Molec & Integratv Physiolog                                         |
| Award Title            | Adrenal Origins of Aldosterone Excess                                  |
| Sponsor                | Health and Human Services, Department of-National Institutes of Health |
| Award Total            | <b>\$3,705,725</b>                                                     |
| Duration (years)       | 4.9                                                                    |

|                        |                                                                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Principal Investigator | Parker, Steve                                                              |
| Department             | MM Comp Med and Bioinformatics                                             |
| Award Title            | Context-specific and combinatorial genetic regulatory grammars in diabetes |
| Sponsor                | Health and Human Services, Department of-National Institutes of Health     |
| Award Total            | <b>\$3,501,633</b>                                                         |
| Duration (years)       | 5.0                                                                        |

## Department of Defense

|                        |                                                                                                    |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Principal Investigator | Heron, John                                                                                        |
| Department             | CoE Materials Science & Engin.                                                                     |
| Award Title            | Multiferroic Magnetoelectric–Magnetoacoustic Beyond-charge Logic via Tunable Transmission (M3BOLT) |
| Sponsor                | Defense, Department of-Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency                                   |
| Award Total            | <b>\$6,000,000</b>                                                                                 |
| Duration (years)       | 1.5                                                                                                |

|                        |                                                                                    |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Principal Investigator | Tilbury, Dawn                                                                      |
| Department             | CoE Robotics                                                                       |
| Award Title            | Developing a Part Digital Twin Framework: from Manufacturing through the Lifecycle |
| Sponsor                | Defense, Department of-Navy, Department of the                                     |
| Award Total            | <b>\$957,909</b>                                                                   |
| Duration (years)       | 3.0                                                                                |

|                        |                                                                                   |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Principal Investigator | Milliron, Delia                                                                   |
| Department             | CoE Chemical Engineering Dept                                                     |
| Award Title            | Assembling dynamic infrared metamaterials from plasmonic metal oxide nanocrystals |
| Sponsor                | Defense, Department of-Army, Department of the                                    |
| Award Total            | <b>\$850,000</b>                                                                  |
| Duration (years)       | 4.0                                                                               |

## Department of Energy

|                        |                                                                                                 |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Principal Investigator | Kamcev, Jovan                                                                                   |
| Department             | CoE Chemical Engineering Dept                                                                   |
| Award Title            | Ion Softness as a Molecular Descriptor for Selective Ion Transport in Charged Polymer Membranes |
| Sponsor                | Energy, Department of                                                                           |
| Award Total            | <b>\$792,000</b>                                                                                |
| Duration (years)       | 3.7                                                                                             |

## Industry

|                        |                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Principal Investigator | Weiss, Jonathan                                                                                                                  |
| Department             | MM Int Med-Hematology/Oncology                                                                                                   |
| Award Title            | A Phase 1, Open-Label, Multicenter Study of INCA036873 in Participants With Advanced Solid Tumors and Hematological Malignancies |
| Sponsor                | Incyte Corporation                                                                                                               |
| Award Total            | <b>\$2,204,431</b>                                                                                                               |
| Duration (years)       | 4.0                                                                                                                              |

|                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Principal Investigator | Worden, Francis                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Department             | MM Int Med-Hematology/Oncology                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Award Title            | A Multicenter, Randomized, Double-blind, Phase 2/3 Study of Ficerafusp Alfa (BCA101) or Placebo in Combination with Pembrolizumab for First-Line Treatment of PD-L1-positive, Recurrent or Metastatic Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma |
| Sponsor                | Bicara Therapeutics Inc.                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Award Total            | <b>\$2,121,518</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Duration (years)       | 3.0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

|                        |                                                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Principal Investigator | Koelling, Todd                                                                                                                                    |
| Department             | MM Int Med-Cardiology                                                                                                                             |
| Award Title            | CLEOPATTRA: Effects of NNC6019-0001 versus placebo on cardiovascular outcomes in participants with transthyretin amyloid cardiomyopathy (ATTR-CM) |
| Sponsor                | Novo Nordisk A/S                                                                                                                                  |
| Award Total            | <b>\$1,514,272</b>                                                                                                                                |
| Duration (years)       | 7.2                                                                                                                                               |

## Foundations

|                               |                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Principal Investigator</b> | Murthy, Venk                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Department</b>             | MM Int Med-Cardiology                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Award Title</b>            | AI-Enabled Electrocardiographic and Proteomic Characterization of Coronary Microvascular and Vasomotor Dysfunction in Women to Advance Diagnosis and Targeted Treatment |
| <b>Sponsor</b>                | Wellcome Leap Inc                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Award Total</b>            | <b>\$6,501,492</b>                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Duration (years)</b>       | 3.0                                                                                                                                                                     |

|                               |                                                                            |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Principal Investigator</b> | Furlough, Michael                                                          |
| <b>Department</b>             | Library Partners - HathiTrust                                              |
| <b>Award Title</b>            | Transparent Books: AI Infrastructure for Discovery and the Public Interest |
| <b>Sponsor</b>                | The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation                                            |
| <b>Award Total</b>            | <b>\$5,000,000</b>                                                         |
| <b>Duration (years)</b>       | 5.0                                                                        |

|                               |                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Principal Investigator</b> | Giordano, Christopher                                                                                 |
| <b>Department</b>             | Flint Div of Student Affairs                                                                          |
| <b>Award Title</b>            | Launching Intercollegiate Athletics and Recreation Center Project at the University of Michigan-Flint |
| <b>Sponsor</b>                | Charles Stewart Mott Foundation                                                                       |
| <b>Award Total</b>            | <b>\$5,000,000</b>                                                                                    |
| <b>Duration (years)</b>       | 3.0                                                                                                   |

|                               |                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Principal Investigator</b> | Akil, Huda                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Department</b>             | MM Michigan Neuroscience Inst                                                                                               |
| <b>Award Title</b>            | Predicting Risk and Resilience Factors in Depression: Genetic, Neurobiological and Behavioral Studies in Rodents and Humans |
| <b>Sponsor</b>                | Hope For Depression Research Foundation                                                                                     |
| <b>Award Total</b>            | <b>\$2,416,146</b>                                                                                                          |
| <b>Duration (years)</b>       | 3.0                                                                                                                         |