

# Office of Research

## 2017 Year In Review



knowledge changing life

# Leadership Welcome

**Researchers, Colleagues and Partners,**

**A new year is a time to prepare for the year ahead, but also to reflect on the past 12 months. Looking back at 2017, we have completed projects that are making a difference across the institution and truly improving the research experience. Our office interacts with virtually every department on campus, including service lines, and yet we are a key driver to a single institutional mission: Research. Our priorities must balance an ever-changing funding landscape with the need to continuously advance clinical and scientific discovery. We also must embrace change as we approach a period of significant growth at MCW.**

**Our Office is brimming with activity and evolving to meet new and growing needs. This report outlines a sample of our accomplishments and activities for the last year, though by no means is it exhaustive of the collective efforts of our nine distinct units.**

**We look forward to supporting researchers—both faculty and staff—in 2018!**



**Cecilia J. Hillard, PhD**  
Associate Dean for Research  
Director, Neuroscience Research Center  
Professor of Pharmacology & Toxicology



**Ann B. Nattinger, MD, MPH, MACP**  
Associate Provost for Research  
Senior Associate Dean for Research,  
School of Medicine  
Professor of Medicine



**Lisa R. Henk, MS**  
Chief Administrator for Research  
Operations



# 2017 Highlights



The **New eBridge** debuted in December. eBridge, our web-based software application used for creating, submitting, tracking, and reporting on research applications, was first instituted in 2005. This upgrade to the existing system featured a sleek new look and feel and a more intuitive layout with new servers and capabilities.

The Office of Research put out an FOA for a new blue-level center on campus. Blue Centers are MCW-wide centers and are sponsored by central funds. After a rigorous and equitable selection process, the **Comprehensive Injury Center**, under the leadership of Stephen Hargarten, MD, was instituted over the summer.



The inaugural members of the **Society for Research Excellence** were elected and formally recognized at Convocation. The Society, a collective of select MCW faculty with a demonstrated commitment to discovery, mentorship, leadership, and advancement in research, was created to foster, promote, and recognize excellence in research across MCW.



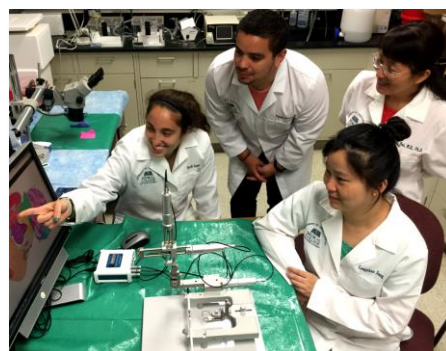
The **Center for Biomedical Mass Spectrometry Research**, led by Rebekah Gundry, PhD, was established in early 2017. The new center was the result of a reorganization of mass spectrometry resources already offered through the Office of Research. The department aided in securing new equipment, improving resources, and currently provides executive oversight of the CBMSR, which is off to an excellent start!



The External Grant Review Program has **assisted multiple investigators in improving their grant applications** by providing an NIH-style review of R01 level applications. Chris Olsen, PhD, was awarded \$1.8M from the NIH National Institute on Drug Abuse after utilizing the program. He earned an impressive Impact Score of 13 on a recent application and was ranked in the 3<sup>rd</sup> percentile.



Downtown Milwaukee was alive at the MCW & CTSI-hosted **19th Annual HHS Small Business Innovation Research & Small Business Technology Transfer Conference**, which attracted 500 attendees and 92 speakers from 37 states, 202 companies, 82 federal staff from 36 NIH Institutes & Centers who held 603 one-on-one meetings with entrepreneurs and researchers looking to learn, network, and improve their SBIR/STTR grant applications. Kalpa Vithalani, PhD, Licensing Manager in the Office of Technology Development, played an integral role in the success of this National Conference by writing the competitive proposal, leading 5 organizing committees and serving as Host Chair.



The Office of Research **awarded seven researchers with new equipment** at the close of FY17. The new equipment included a JEOL Transmission electron microscope for Microbiology, a software package for PCOR, and a Motorized Lab Standard Stereotax for Rat and Mouse for Anesthesiology. The equipment went to labs to benefit multiple departments.

# Accomplishments of 2017

The **two-stage grant review process**, which allots an additional 2 business days to submit the Scientific Components of NIH System to System and F, T, and K award mechanisms, has been extremely well received by investigators. The Office is continuing plans to expand the process to other mechanisms and internal opportunities.

In addition to the Real Time IRB, which significantly reduces review time for certain IRB submissions, a **QA pathway for low-risk clinical projects** utilizes the Froedtert & MCW Quality Assurance program to bypass most of the IRB review process. The pathway is a seamless way to submit a description of activity that needs to be registered but doesn't require full review.

Our comprehensive system for managing the life cycle of a clinical trial, **OnCore**, has been expanded to link to Froedtert Hospital's Study Information Portals. This integration enhances the visibility of clinical trials to relevant populations. Additionally, a contract has been executed to make study calendars more affordable to investigative teams.

The Biomedical Resource Center continues to be one of the best animal research facilities in the region. **BRC staffing levels were increased** to proactively and naturally address potential employee burnout concerns, and a list of LEAN projects has been generated for 2018.

**24/7 access to the Todd Wehr Library** was made available to MCW students, faculty, and staff. Previously restricted areas have also been made accessible to badge-holders.

An **Ad Hoc Committee to Develop an MCW Space Policy** was established in late 2017. This group is still meeting and will present a draft policy/guidelines to the Research Council this spring.

To maximize exposure of MCW researchers, the **Researcher's Publication Series** digital magazine was established. Published monthly, authors of recent articles have an opportunity to showcase their work.

Enhancements to Pre-Award activity in eBridge include the **Pre-Award Reporting Tool**, offering a more complete view of funding proposal activity. The "Request Pre-Award" feature for anticipated project awards was also made available.

MCW Libraries are partnering with researchers in innovative ways. New hires can now attend **Library Orientation**, and the **Liaison Program** partners individual librarians to specific units. The Library has also assisted with several **systematic reviews**.

Modifications to the Institutional Biosafety Committee SmartForm have **streamlined and simplified the IBC application process**, making it easier than ever to apply and maintain laboratory biosafety protocols.

A **successful Research Day** event highlighted research across our enterprise. CME credit was offered to attendees of our Poster Session and keynote talk delivered by Sarah England, PhD, an MCW alumna.

The Human Research Protection Program has worked carefully to craft a **plan accommodating the new NIH requirement for Single/Central IRB review**.

**Animal researchers have remained compliant** with changing federal regulations through updated IACUC Standards and topical *IACUC Essentials* sessions, such as *Public Outreach, Education, and Engagement for Animal Research*.

**Enhancements to training in our Human Research Protection Program** include the addition of a CITI GCP Social Behavioral Research course and a policy change accepting human subject research training from other AAHRPP accredited institutions for non-MCW/FH/BCW employees.

**The Libraries continue to support curriculum development**, both directly in the School of Pharmacy and indirectly by informing leaders of the Kern Institute. Additionally, the Library has begun implementation of **Self-Directed Learning** in anticipation of LCME accreditation.

Our Grants & Contracts Office has been offering multiple **sessions discussing changes to NIH grant applications**, such as the move of FORMS-E and retired Legacy PDF application packages, to proactively prepare for changing grant submissions.

Improvements to Library resources include e-journal discovery tool **BrowZine**, faster unsubscribed article delivery, and access to **Biosis, Zoological Record, and Data Citation Index** databases.

# 2017 by the Numbers

187,850

MCW Libraries  
2017 Gate Count

47%

Increase in Invention  
Disclosures since 2012

934

Industry Marketing  
Interactions

4,940,737

Total BRC Animal  
Board Days

403

Animal Use  
Applications in state of  
Approved during FY17

5,800

eLearning Research  
System Courses  
Taken

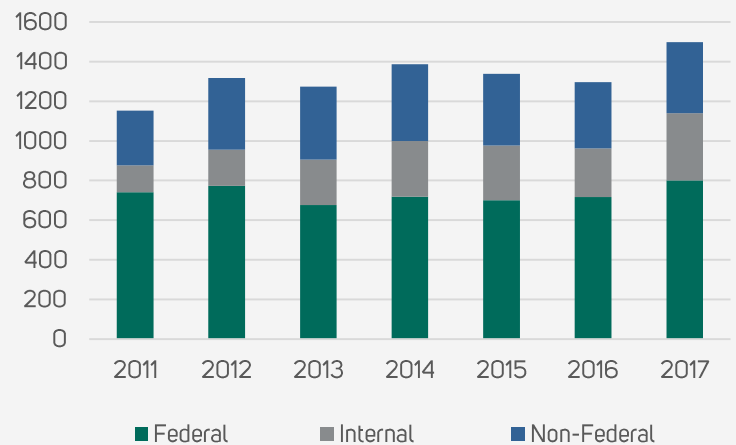
13,536

Average Daily BRC  
Animal Census

764

AUA Changes  
Administratively  
Processed

Total Grants Submitted by GCO



293

Industry Sponsored  
Clinical Trial  
Agreements

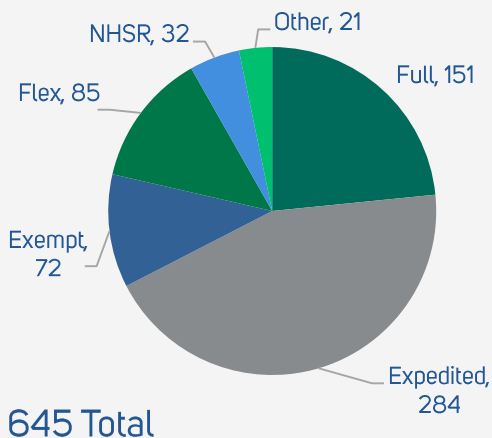
685

eBridge  
Production  
Issues Fixed

1,064

Posters  
Printed in  
Library

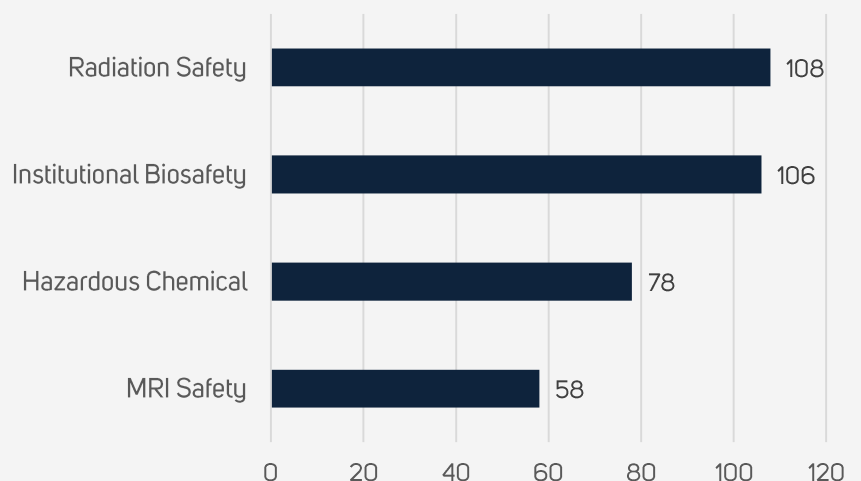
## IRB Studies Approved



1,321

Average Research Pulse Readers per Issue

## Safety Committee Approvals



85

Incoming Research  
Faculty Onboarded

# 2017 by the Numbers

The **Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Office** approved 42 new Animal Use Applications, 258 Animal Amendments, 21 Annual Renewals, 115 Three-Year Renewals, and administratively processed a combination of 764 personnel changes, funding updates, and Animal Amendments. Over the course of FY17, 403 AUA's were in an approved state.

The **Grants & Contracts Office** submitted a record 1,498 total grant applications in 2017, the highest recorded annual figure. The GCO also reviewed 327 Material Transfer Agreements, 342 Non-Disclosure Agreements, and 293 Industry Sponsored Clinical Trial Agreements in 2017.

**MCW Libraries** taught 126 classes, created 13 new library guides, had a gate count of 187,850, printed 1,064 posters, circulated 5,549 items, facilitated over 1.1 million journal uses, and delivered 12,067 documents in 2017.

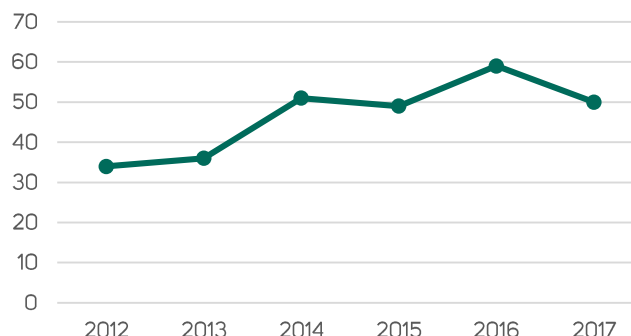
**Research Systems** completed 10 projects in the eBridge and OnCore systems during 2017:

1. IRB Flex
2. F, K, and T funding opportunities for Grants
3. IRB QA Project
4. IACUC QA Project
5. IBC Rework Project
6. Click Portal 8.0.5 Upgrade
7. Grants SF424 Forms E
8. Migration of CHW Tissue Bank into OnCore
9. OnCore Calendar Rollout
10. OB/GYN Non-Oncology Trials in OnCore

Additionally, the training team taught 92 1-on-1 training sessions and published 22 eLearning courses.

Over the course of FY17, the **Office of Technology Development** received and evaluated 50 new Invention Disclosures for commercial potential, filed 21 new Patent Applications, received issuance of 24 Patents, facilitated 934 industry interactions in marketing 21 technologies, and negotiated and executed 42 Agreements, including 11 License/Option Agreements.

Number of Invention Disclosures to OTD

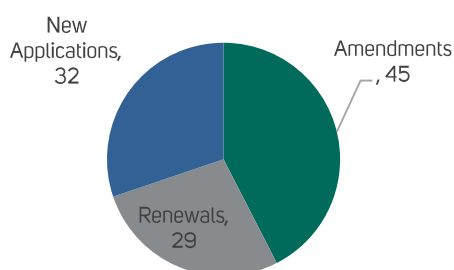


The **Human Research Protection Program** approved 645 new studies, 1706 Continuing Progress Reports, and 1423 Amendments in FY17. 13 protocols were reviewed and approved under the Real Time IRB program. The HRPP also established 180 Reliance Agreements in FY17, nearly doubling the number after 5 years from 106 in FY12.

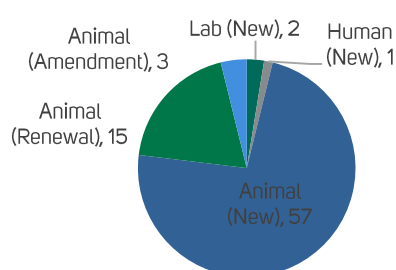
New Studies Approved		Continuing Progress Reports Approved	
Full	151	Full	343
Expedited	284	6-Year Renewal	12
Exempt	72	Expedited	992
Flex/Registered	85	Exp. 6-Year Renewal	50
NHSR	32	Final CPR	371

Our four safety committees (**Haz Chem, Biosafety, MRI and Radiation Safety**) approved 350 total protocols in FY17.

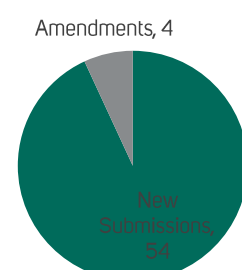
## Biosafety Approvals



## Hazardous Chemical Approvals



## MRI Safety Approvals

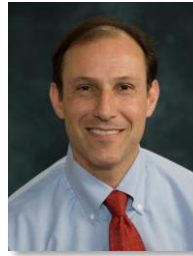




# Welcomed in 2017



**Marja T. Nevalainen, MD, PhD**, Professor of Pathology and Associate Director of Education for the Cancer Center was named Assistant Dean for Research in August, 2017. Dr. Nevalainen is an internationally recognized prostate cancer researcher. Her work has been funded by the National Cancer Institute, Department of Defense, American Cancer Society, and several industry sponsors. She has served in many grant review panels including NCI, ACS, and DOD Prostate Cancer Integration Panel over multiple years. A passionate Educator, Dr. Nevalainen has mentored several students and is an important leader in the Cancer Center's education programs. Her translational research expertise is demonstrated by her experience in drug development, clinical trials, and therapies.



**John R. Schreiber, MD, MPH**, Chief Executive Officer of Medical College Physicians, was named Associate Dean for Research in December, 2017. Previously, Dr. Schreiber served in leadership roles at Baystate Health, University of Massachusetts, and Tufts University. He was appointed CEO of MCP in April, 2017.

Dr. Schreiber's research interests focus on immunology and infectious diseases. He has participated in 100+ invited lectures and presentations, both nationally and internationally. He has also served on NIH study sections and VA Merit Review Boards, and has participated in FDA site visits. Dr. Schreiber also earned the 2012 *Distinguished Service Award* from the American Association of Immunologists for his achievements in the field of advocacy for medical research.



**Kevin Boggs, MBA, PhD**, accepted the role of Director of the Office of Technology Development in December 2017. Dr. Boggs comes from RTI (Research Triangle Institute) in North Carolina, an area known for its research and development and home to many biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies. He brings significant experience in industry, nonprofit, and basic research to our commercialization efforts. In previous roles, Kevin led intellectual property licensing, negotiation, translational research and tech marketing efforts at such institutions as RTI, University of Memphis and University of Florida. As Director, Kevin provides principal leadership and oversight of the OTD and campus IP matters in a broad range of technology areas here at MCW.



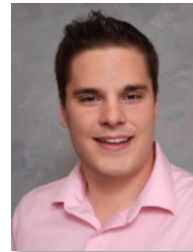
**Neal Fitzgerald, JD**, joined the Grants & Contracts Office in April, 2017 as a GCO Analyst. Neal earned his law degree from the UW Law School in 2016. Neal's public service background includes roles at the Wisconsin Legislative Bureau and in the offices of Representative Chris Taylor and Senator Tammy Baldwin.



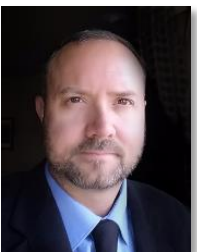
**Naomi Love, BS**, joined the Grants & Contracts Office in May, 2017 as a GCO Analyst. Naomi is a 2013 graduate from UW-Stevens Point with a bachelor's degree in Biology. Naomi has significant customer service experience and excellent communication and organizational skills.



**Erika Frank Motsch, JD**, joined the Human Research Protection Program Office as an IRB Coordinator II in June, 2017. Erika earned her JD at Marquette (cum laude) and her BA in International Studies at the University of Iowa. Erika has experience with the State of Wisconsin and the private sector.



**David Platz, BS**, joined the Human Research Protection Program Office as an IRB Coordinator II in June, 2017. David earned his Bachelor's degree in Biology from UW-Madison, where he also worked as a Research Assistant for the Wisconsin National Primate Research Center under the NIH.



**Mark Thomas, BS**, joined the Research Systems team as Research Training and Design Coordinator in September, 2017. Mark has significant experience in graphic design, marketing, content development and web strategy, as well as training, education, and digital learning.

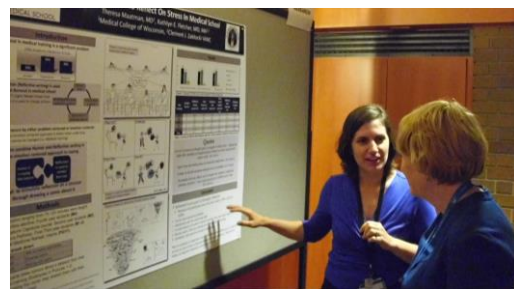


**Mary Pat Gage, BSN, RN, MLIS, AHIP**, joined the MCW Libraries in December, 2017 as Clinical Services Librarian for Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. Mary Pat has 20 years' experience as a nurse. She earned her MLIS from UW-Milwaukee with 13 years' subsequent experience as a medical librarian.

# Scenes of 2017



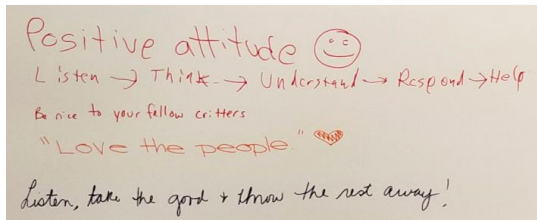
**Research Day - Sept. 12:**  
A poster session of 100+ scientific and clinical researchers, plus keynote address by MCW alumna Sarah England, PhD.



**Cores Fair - Feb. 9:** Attendees browsed 40 campus cores & shared research resources in this open-house style event.



**Professionalism Week - Sept. 25 - Sept. 29:**  
The Office of Research hosted a Professionalism Wall in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor MACC corridor for passers-by to document their thoughts on Professionalism and Empathy.



**March for Science - Apr. 22:** Research advocates gathered in groups across the country to raise awareness for scientific research.







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