

FALL 2025

OFFICE OF RESEARCH SERVICES

THE RESEARCH CATALYST



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Dear DePaul University Community,

Welcome back to a new academic year! The start of fall always brings with it a sense of possibility—new beginnings, new ideas, and new opportunities to connect. At the Office for Research Services (ORS), we are excited to support your research, creative work, and educational initiatives in the year ahead.

This year, we're prioritizing outreach across campus to strengthen collaborations and build momentum for innovative projects. Check out our [ORS calendar of events](#)—we'd love to see you at one (or many!).

Did you know ORS supports much more than research proposals? Think of us as your sponsored programs partner. Whether you're pursuing training grants, creative projects, or education funding, we're here to help. We've also teamed up with Advancement to launch a new [External Funding Exploration form](#)—just share your ideas, and we'll work with you to identify opportunities and next steps.

If you're new to DePaul, keep an eye on your inbox—our staff will be reaching out to schedule a welcome meeting to learn about your work and discuss ways to grow your grant portfolio. Of course, you don't have to be new to connect with us—anytime you're curious about funding opportunities or next steps, just email us at ORS@depaul.edu. Here's to a rewarding and inspiring fall quarter. We look forward to partnering with you and celebrating the amazing work happening across our university.

Warm regards,

Kirsten Yehl

Director of Pre-Award Services and Research Development

A Note from the Inaugural Faculty Director of Tech Transfer, Commercialization & Social Impact

Tony Volini, Professor, College of Law.



Dear DePaul Community,

I'm looking forward to launching this new role, working with you to incentivize and reward faculty innovation. Before entering academia, I practiced law full-time as a patent attorney, handling inventions in a variety of technology areas (e.g., camera-guided surgical tools, extrusion dies). While practicing law, I at one point even found myself in the shoes of an inventor! (I'm an inventor on a [U.S. Patent](#) and its related foreign patents concerning an aerosol actuating technology for a Fortune 500 company.)

About twenty years ago, I left law practice for academia, to focus on teaching in various areas of intellectual property subjects (IP legal writing, patents, copyrights, IP licensing). In recent years, I branched out into interdisciplinary tech law education after completing my MS in Cybersecurity at DePaul, and now teach a data privacy course that is popular with both law students and college of computing students.

Conceptually, innovation begins with faculty saying I have an idea. So, our team will work to guide the idea to its next steps. For example, if the idea is curricular in nature, we can examine existing ways to connect faculty with corporate partners and consider any helpful improvements to grant or royalty structures to incentivize additional content creation. If it's a technology idea, we can educate faculty about protecting their rights regarding any imminent sales or public disclosures of an invention. We can explore potential commercialization partners for the technology, and, in some cases, even award funding for a patent application.

DePaul provides a unique partnership opportunity for faculty because, unlike some universities that own all employee IP, DePaul faculty can optionally enter into agreements with the university to drive mutually beneficial innovations. I am enthused to assist the university in my new role. It's exciting to think about the potential visibility and revenue that may flow from new faculty innovations consistent with the university's mission of fostering a vibrant academic environment that encourages intellectual curiosity and innovation.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with ideas or questions!

Sincerely,

Tony Volini, Faculty Director of Tech Transfer, Commercialization & Social Impact

Getting Started with Cayuse

We are excited to share that our new grants management platform, Cayuse, is live!

Cayuse houses the financial and administrative details of a sponsored project, including all the documents related to a proposal submission and ongoing management of an award. This allows everyone involved in the administration of the grant at any step in the process – from pre-submission routing for approval through award management – to be able to reference relevant information in a place that is easy to access. Cayuse also provides a convenient and robust tool to run reports about sponsored projects, allowing ORS staff to gain insight into larger trends at the university level and to better understand opportunities for growth and expansion.

Cayuse is already making things easier for PIs and administrators. With Cayuse as our new proposal routing system, reviewers can gain a more holistic view of the proposal when reviewing it for approval and feedback. As a grant goes through the submission process, Cayuse ensures the PIs and administrators can view its progress so that everyone involved can remain updated on the status.

Next up for our Cayuse implementation process will be to make the ongoing management and financial administration of an award more efficient through its Fund Manager program. This program is still being tested and will be rolled out for wider use in the future.

ORS offers a huge thanks to the staff in various departments throughout the university who have worked very hard to ensure that the system meets the needs of all users and makes the management of sponsored projects more efficient.

We look forward to working with you through Cayuse in the future and hope that it makes your experience working with grants here at DePaul more enjoyable overall!



New Open Access Publishing Opportunity

DePaul University Library has signed an open access publishing agreement with Cambridge University Press. Fees to publish open access in most Cambridge journals are now waived for DePaul authors.

See the library's Scholarly Communication page for more information and updates on future agreements.

AGENCY UPDATES

DePaul University recognizes the rapidly evolving nature of the federal funding landscape. In response, the Office of Research Services, Restricted Accounting, the Office of General Counsel, and the Office of the Provost are collaborating closely to assess and prepare for potential impacts on the university. Although grant terminations at DePaul remain rare, each project presents unique considerations and is being addressed on a case-by-case basis. Faculty and staff with questions or concerns about their specific awards are encouraged to contact the Office of Research Services for guidance and support.

NSF Updates

Malign Foreign Talent Recruitment Programs (MFTRP): Starting on June 7, 2025, in accordance with the [NSF Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide \(PAPPG\) Chapter II.D.1.e\(ii\)](#), all PIs or co-PIs named on an NSF award made on or after May 20, 2024, must certify annually in Research.gov that they are not party to a Malign Foreign Talent Recruitment Programs (MFTRP).

Indirect Cost Policy: NSF put the implementation of a new 15% indirect cost rate cap on hold while it was challenged in court by the Association of American Universities and other organizations and individual universities. A judge now has ruled in the plaintiffs' favor finding that NSF acted improperly by unilaterally making this change and that negotiated indirect cost rates should continue unchanged. [Read more.](#)

NIH Updates

DEI Certification on Grants: NIH has rescinded its notice which required recipients of new and renewal/continuation awards to certify that their institutions do not have DEI programs that violate federal civil rights laws.

- [NOT-OD-25-090: RESCINDED - Notice of Civil Rights Term and Condition of Award](#)
- [NOT-OD-25-124: Notice of Rescission of Civil Rights Term and Condition of Award](#)

Foreign Subawards: The University has received advice that proposals with foreign subawards, submitted on or after May 1, will be administratively withdrawn and not considered. It is advisable to submit proposals without foreign subawards or postpone proposals involving foreign subawards until NIH releases new, to-be-developed NOFOs. For now, ORS suggests that researchers discuss any questions with proposals with foreign subawards with their Program Officer.

All Agencies

Open Access - Grant Funded Public Access Mandates: The majority of federal government and private funders require that grantees make their peer-reviewed publications publicly available. Additionally, many funders also require that the data from the grant funded work must also be released. You can find information about the meaning of Open Access, OA resources, and the OA publishing process across the multiple federal and private funders with current policies in place on the [DePaul University Library website](#).

2025 Spirit of Inquiry Award Winners

The University Research Council (URC) makes annual DePaul University Spirit of Inquiry Awards. The Awards honor specific research, scholarly or creative achievements that exhibit commitment to that spirit of creative inquiry, which we endeavor to inspire in our students.



Yujong Hwang

Professor, Driehaus College of Business

"To date Dr. Hwang has published 89 articles in peer reviewed academic journals and recognized as one of the most productive computer science researchers in the world. According to Google Citations, Dr. Hwang's research has been cited 9623 times. It is evident that Dr. Hwang has made a significant and substantive contribution to the MIS field. His scholarship has made a positive impact on the DePaul intellectual community and elevated DePaul's research reputation in MIS research."

~Hui Lin, Director, School of Accountancy & MIS
Driehaus College of Business



Matt Ragas

Professor, College of Communication

"As a highly accomplished researcher with a stellar reputation in both academic and industry circles, Dr. Ragas is an extraordinary example of the values of intellectual curiosity and the rigorous scholarship this award seeks to recognize and celebrate. His body of work is academically impressive and has significantly influenced both the academic and professional landscapes of strategic communication."

~Alexandra Murphy, Dean
College of Communication



David Williams

Professor, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

"Dr. Williams has become a leading scholar in his field. He has taken on leadership roles in both the APSA and MPSA, has served as an editor for a leading journal, and is a regular participant in the key conferences of his subfield. He has also served as a mentor to many junior scholars, many of whom have come through our program and who have benefited from David's advice and encouragement."

~Scott Hibbard, Chair, Political Science
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Scholarship Learning Communities

Scholarship Learning Communities are small, collaborative groups of faculty members who come together to engage in ongoing, focused learning throughout the academic year. Each Scholarship Learning Community focuses on a distinct theme or issue that aligns with faculty interests and institutional priorities. The 2025-2026 SLCs include:

Open Science in Practice

Tools and Workflows for Transparent, Reproducible Research

Facilitator: Vahid Alizadeh, School of Computing, JCDM

[Find out more](#)

Healthy Aging in the United States

Facilitator: Kirsten Yehl, Office of Research Services

[Find out more](#)

Social Media Video for Public Engagement

Facilitator: Samantha Close, College of Communication

[Find out more](#)

Virtual Reality (VR) for Interdisciplinary Research

Facilitator: Chi Jang Yin, School of Cinematic Arts, JCDM

[Find out more](#)

ISTC Researchers to Know



Please join us in congratulating Department of Neuroscience Chair and Vincent de Paul Professor [Dorothy Kozlowski](#) on being selected as one of the [Illinois Science and Technology Coalition](#) 2025 Researchers to Know!

Each year, ISTC honors 12 faculty from Illinois universities and research institutions whose work is driving discovery, solving real-world problems, and creating inclusive opportunities for innovation.

Learn more about Dorothy's impactful work, and all of this year's honorees, [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS



Sep. 19, 2025
1:00 – 2:00
[Zoom Link](#)

Internal Grants Workshop

This workshop will provide an overview of the University Research Council, Quality Instruction Council, and Public Service Council internal grant programs. Representatives of Council members and past award recipients will provide recommendations to submit a funded proposal.



Sep. 23, 2025
12:00 – 2:00
DePaul Center

ORS – Sinai Partnership Luncheon

This luncheon marks the launch of a renewed partnership between Sinai Chicago and DePaul University dedicated to understanding the complex factors underlying health in our communities and co-developing innovative, fundable research and programs that deliver real, measurable solutions.



Sep. 25, 2025
4:00 – 5:30
[RSVP](#)

Entrepreneurial Mindset

Spark new collaborations, explore funding avenues, and learn how to translate your research and ideas into real-world impact. You will work in diverse teams to brainstorm and develop new ideas, then find out more about how the [Coleman Entrepreneurship Center](#), [SPARK Center](#), and [BETA Hub](#) can help bring your ideas to life. Cocktail reception to follow.



Oct. 10, 2025
10:00 – 2:00
[RSVP](#)

Lunch & Learn: DePaul and RFUMS Collaboration Grant for Biomedical Futures: AI & Interdisciplinary Research Initiative

Please join us on the Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science campus for lunch, presentation of current DePaul-RFUMS research projects, and conversations to identify future research and funding opportunities.



Oct. 17, 2025
1:00 – 2:00
[Zoom link](#)

Paid Leave Program Workshop

This workshop will provide information on the University Research Council and the Quality Instruction Council Paid Leave Programs, including eligibility requirements and salary implications.



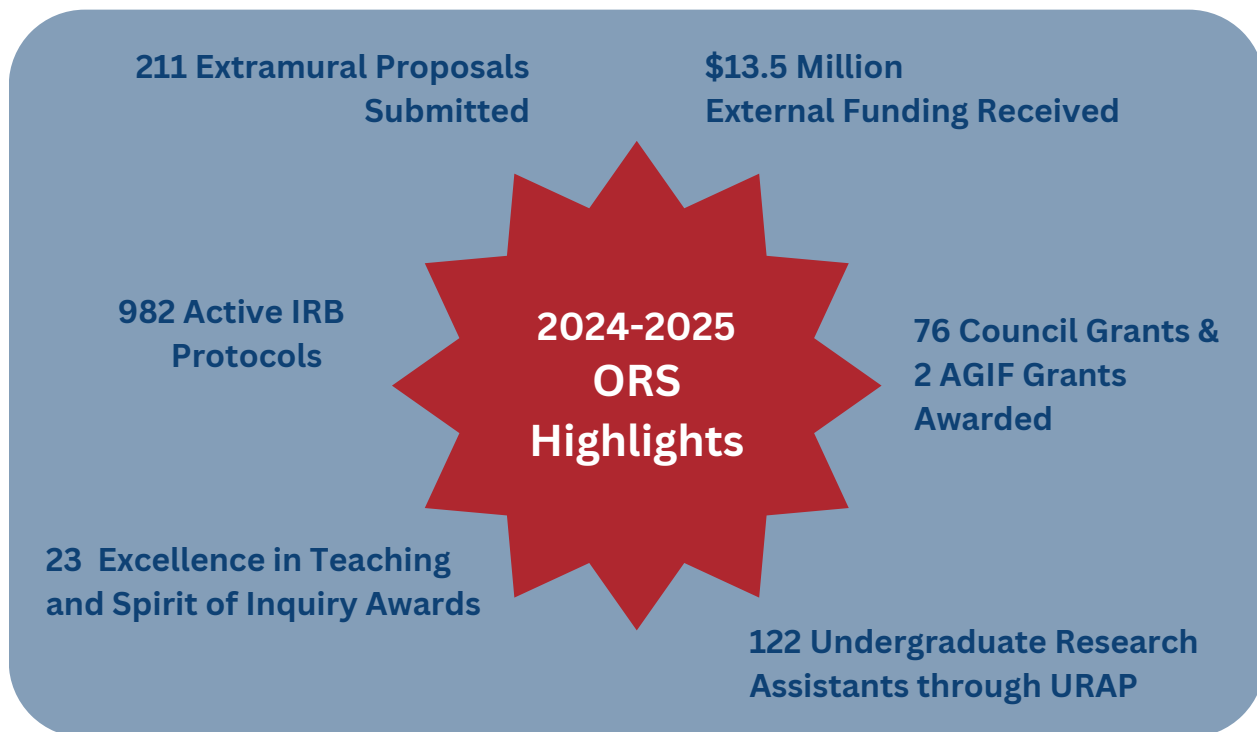
Nov. 3, 2025
12:00 – 1:30
DePaul Club

Large Grant Research Luncheon

This annual luncheon honors faculty and staff who have secured over \$100,000 in grant funding within the past year. Their valuable contributions to DePaul's research community are deeply appreciated and play a vital role in advancing research and creative endeavors across the university.

[Visit the ORS Events Page](#)





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