

DIVISION OF RESEARCH

UPDATE



GREGG FIELDS, PH.D.

Vice President for Research

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY | BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING | NOVEMBER 19, 2024



Annual HERD* RESEARCH EXPENDITURES

FY 23-24

Estimated:

\$83M

FY 22-23

\$78M

FY 21-22

\$62M

FY 20-21

\$58M

FY 19-20

\$54M

FY 18-19

\$51M

*Higher Education Research and Development



Total Research Expenditures



\$104M FY 23-24 FY 22-23 FY 21-22 FY 20-21 FY 19-20 FY 18-19

Total Research Expenditures reflect all Sponsored Research including public service grants, outreach programs, curriculum development, and non-research training grants.



Research Growth

VALUE OF RESEARCH AWARDS RECEIVED















\$1.4M

COLLEGE OF ARTS

AND LETTERS

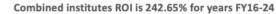


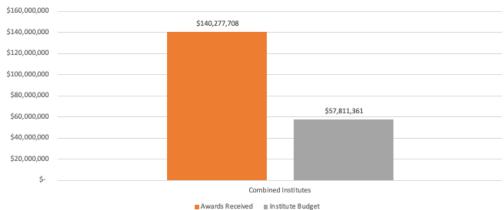






Florida Atlantic University Research Institutes

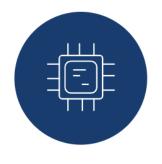












I-SENSE

Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute

HBOI

Stiles-Nicholson Brain Institute

Institute for Human Health and Disease Intervention

Institute for Sensing and Embedded Network Systems Engineering

Coastal & Food Security Environmental Monitoring Clean Energy Human Health:
Neurodegenerative
Diseases; Substance Use,
Abuse and Resiliency

Human Health: Cancer Center of Excellence; Infectious Diseases; Dementia (Clinical) Sensor Systems
Data Science
Applications to Al

R1 Ready

Florida Atlantic is on the precipice to achieve Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education's highest and most coveted Very High Research Activity status (R1) for the next adjustment officially announced in early 2025.



Achieving R1 status

The esteemed designation by Carnegie uses benchmarks in research expenditures (>\$50M/year) and doctoral graduates (>70/year). Florida Atlantic transitioning to R1 in 2025 is based on 2022-2023 levels of research expenditures (\$78M) and doctoral graduates (125).

How has FAU approached R1?

- Talent Acquisition: Senior Faculty hires
- Research Acceleration: Institutes
- Infrastructure Expansion: Cutting-edge technology acquisition
- Doctoral Degrees: Additional support for dissertation completion



Why is R1 a Big Deal?

Of the approximately 5,300 higher education institutions nationwide, less than 3.7% are designated as R1 by Carnegie.

NUMBERS NATIONWIDE

146 > 168*

CURRENT 2025

*The Chronicle

HISPANIC SERVING INSTITUTIONS AND R1 CLASSIFICATION

1 of 6

1 of 20 IN U.S.





The R1 Status is coveted by the collegiate world because it ...

Opens doors for major donors and competitive research grants

Draws researchers with a desire to be associated with R1

Attracts additional world-class faculty and students

Boosts national prestige by placing Florida Atlantic in the top tier of universities nationally, creating new opportunities for collaboration

Increases engagement with industry and community partners

Accelerates innovation, entrepreneurship and knowledge creation

Provides robust graduate programs, contributing to a skilled workforce and fostering the next generation of researchers

from unique research opportunities, internships and a rich academic environment

Benefits students

Contributes to the ability to address pressing societal issues and advances in health, technology and policy



Grant Awards >\$1M

TOTALS

\$30.5M 7/1/22 – 9/27/24

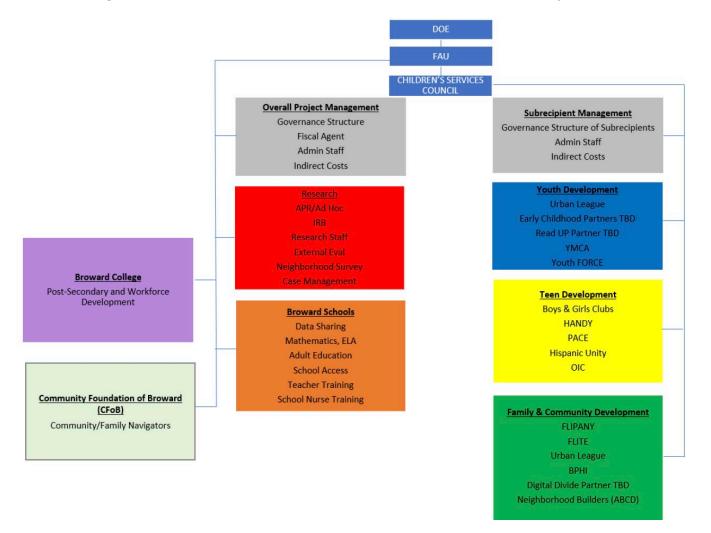
\$29.98M 10/1/24+

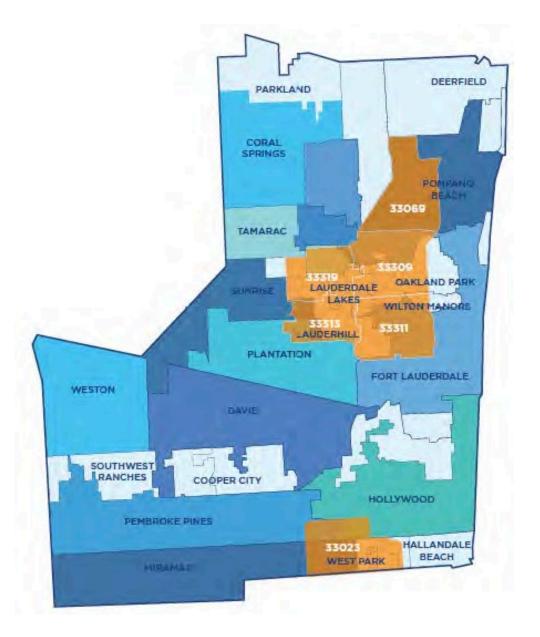
Randy Blakely	SNBI	David and Lynn Nicholson Center for Degenerative Disease Research	\$1.03M	
Pillar Taylor	SNBI	The Stiles-Nicholson STEM Teacher Academy	\$1.6M	
Ruth M. Tappen		In-Vehicle Sensors to Detect Cognitive Change in Older Drivers	\$1.7M	
Beth King		Caring-based Community and Academic Relationships for Excellence: Nurse-led Mobile Health Unit	\$2.9M	
Paul Wills	нвоі	Supplement: USDA-Ensuring a Steady Supply of Warm Water Marine Finfish Seed Stock to Support U.S. Aquaculture Industry FY23	\$2.13M	
Elizabeth Villares Sacks		Wellness Advocates Valuing Educators and Students - WAVES	\$2.21M	
Michael Twardoski	НВОІ	Next generation sensor systems for natural oceanic bioluminescence assessments: PHASE II	\$7.05M	
Paul Wills	нвоі	Supplement: USDA-Ensuring a Steady Supply of Warm Water Marine Finfish Seed Stock to Support U.S. Aquaculture Industry FY24	\$2.17M	
James VanZwieten		Research, Development and Education to Accelerate the Transition of Marine Energy Technologies to Market	\$4.4M	
Paul Wills	нвоі	Seedstock improvement to support the U.S. Warm Water Marine Finfish Industry	\$1.8M	
Lisa Wiese		Reducing Disparities in Dementia and VCID Outcomes in a Multicultural Rural Population	\$2M	
Gregg Fields	I-HEALTH	Research University Alzheimer's Research Using Exablate Neuro-focused Ultrasound Broward UP Promise Neighborhoods	\$1.5M	\$20M
Ayse Torres		ACCESS-Technology: Advancing Career Choices for Employment Success in Technology		\$10M



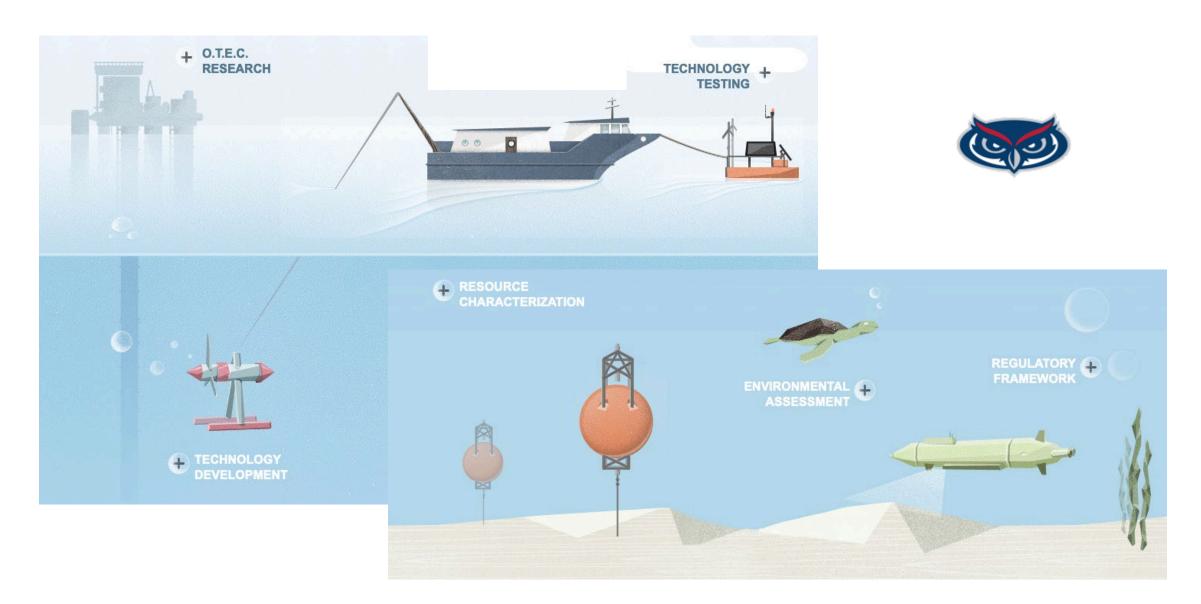
Broward UP Promise Neighborhoods

Promise Neighborhoods is a place-based US Department of Education program striving to turn poverty-concentrated neighborhoods into communities of opportunity





Southeast National Marine Renewable Energy Center (SNMREC)





Southeast National Marine Renewable Energy Center

IDOM









Designed U.S. turbine test vessel for DOE

Led by IDOM, to design, build, and own/operate nationally available asset

Working to establish an ocean economy innovation cluster

- Begun feasibility study for grid-connected offshore test facility
- Working with municipalities and industry to establish regional cluster (EDA Tech Hub)
- Continuing to prepare future workforce (NSF REU program)
- Marine energy tech companies and project developers directly funding R&D at FAU
- Integrating with FAU Innovation and Business Development pipeline

DOE EERE Funding and Direction

- Up to \$20M for Water Power Technologies Office infrastructure with direction for establishing an offshore ocean current test facility. Just received \$800K as an initial investment.
- Congressional direction to support **foundational research activities** led by universities and other research institutions affiliated with the National Marine Energy Centers (NMECs)

Expanding to serve full U.S. east coast marine energy needs













Southeast National Marine Renewable Energy Center

OFFICE OF OCEAN ECONOMY

Renewable energy project developers

Independent and institutional investors

Private Investment

Industry
Technology and
Services

Turbine manufacturers

Component and sub-system manufacturers

Federal, state, and local support

Public Investment



Energy
Consumers and
Communities

Stakeholders (e.g., energy customers, regulatory agencies, communities)

SNMREC overseen by HBOI and COECS

SNMREC works in collaboration with the FPL Center for Intelligent Energy Technologies (InETech)

Market Development

Coalition led by FAU-SNMREC

- R&D and testing support to advance technology maturities
- Influence policy and regulatory conditions
- Build public interest and outreach
- Train workforce for new sector



Clinical Trial of Magnetic Resonance Guided Focused Ultrasound (MRgFUS) for the Treatment of Alzheimer's Disease

FAU AND INSIGHTEC PARTNER TO TREAT NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS



The collaboration will advance scientific knowledge about the use of focused ultrasound to treat brain diseases, including Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's disease.

BY GISELE GALOUSTIAN | 4/28/2023

During his trade mission trip to Israel, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis announced a new agreement between Florida Atlantic University and Insightec, a global health care company headquartered in Hafla, Israel. This agreement will enable FAU and Insightec to collaborate to advance scientific knowledge about the use of focused ultrasound to treat brain diseases, including Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's disease.

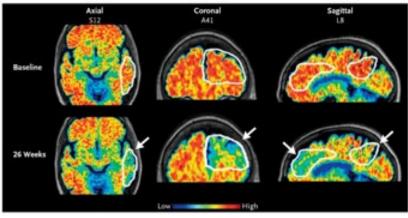
By hamesting acoustic energy, Insightec's innovative technology uses focused ultrasound to treat diseases in different ways. Currently, high intensity focused ultrasound #HFU) is a United States Food and Drug Administration-epproved means of creating lesions that treat Parkinson's disease. More recently, the system has been used under different paradigms to noninvasively modulate and disrupt the blood-brain barrier, a network of blood vessels that plays a key role in keeping harmful substances from reaching the brain. At the same time, the blood-brain barrier also prevents the uptake of most pharmaceuticals, which makes it difficult to treat diseases of the brain. Alzheimer's disease and other neurological diseases may be treated by opening the blood-brain barrier.

FAU, DELRAY MEDICAL CENTER, INSIGHTEC TEAM UP ON GROUNDBREAKING STUDY



Lloyd Zucker, M.D., a board-certified neurosurgeon and medical director of neurosurgery (left); and Hermes Kamimura, at Delray Medical Center treating the first patient with Insightec's non-invasive focused ultrasound technology. (Photo credit: Delray Medical Center)





Engl. J. Med. 390, 55-62 (2024)

FAU MRgFUS "NeuroInnovate" Research and Training Center



Human MRI: GE SIGNA™
Premier, \$4M grant from the
Center for Advanced Human
Imaging (Boca Raton campus)

Animal FUS: \$0.15M, not applied for yet (Jupiter campus)

Mass spectrometer: Agilent Technologies 1100 Series G1956B, purchased and upgraded by DOR (Jupiter campus)

Human FUS: \$2M Community Project Funding request, US House of Representatives Appropriation Bill 2025 (Boca Raton campus)

Metabolomics NMR: \$2.5M State LBR (Boca Raton campus) Mass spectrometer: Thermo Scientific Orbitrap Exploris[™] 240, \$0.5M grants from BOG and FAU Tech Fee (Jupiter campus)

Animal MRI: \$4M State LBR (Jupiter campus)

Animal fluorescence imager: IVIS Lumina Series 100-240V, upgraded by DOR (Jupiter campus)

Initial Clinical Trial: State of Florida
Board of Governors appropriation
"Research University Alzheimer's
Research Using Exablate Neuro-focused
Ultrasound"



Selective Current MRgFUS Clinical Trials

NCT05857852: Low-Intensity Focused Ultrasound for Cocaine Use Disorder

NCT05879120: Randomized Study of Neo-adjuvant and Adjuvant Pembrolizumab With and Without Targeted Blood Brain Barrier Opening Using Exablate MRI-guided Focused Ultrasound (Exablate MRgFUS) for Recurrent Glioblastoma

NCT03321487: Blood-Brain Barrier Opening Using MR-Guided Focused Ultrasound in Patients With Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis

NCT05469009: Safety and Feasibility of Exablate Blood-Brain Barrier Disruption for Mild Cognitive Impairment or Mild Alzheimer's Disease Undergoing Standard of Care Monoclonal Antibody (mAb) Therapy

Current FAU research agreements with Delray Medical Center, West Palm Beach VA Hospital, Memorial Healthcare System, and Broward Health Medical Center



IMAGINE

Florida Atlantic Wave **NSF I-Corps at Florida Atlantic Market Validation Program** Adams Center for Entrepreneurship

BUILD

Office of Technology Development

GROW

Florida Atlantic Tech Runway **Tech Runway Investor Network**

EXPAND

Florida SBDC at Florida Atlantic

THRIVE

Strategic Partnerships



Florida Atlantic Tech Runway

ENTREPRENEURS' SUCCESS



\$162.8M GOTTAL RAISED



432 PATENT APPLICATIONS FILED

423 222
INTERNSHIPS

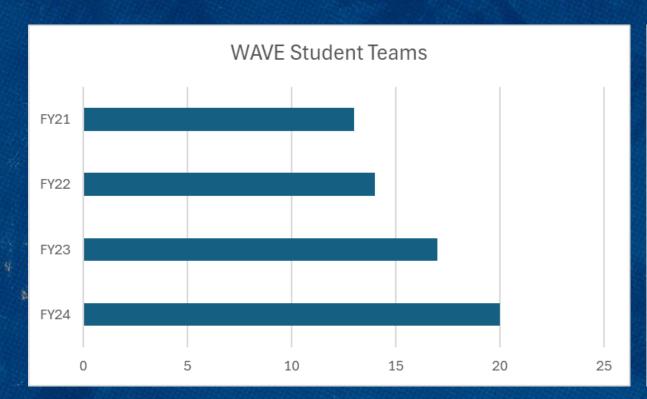


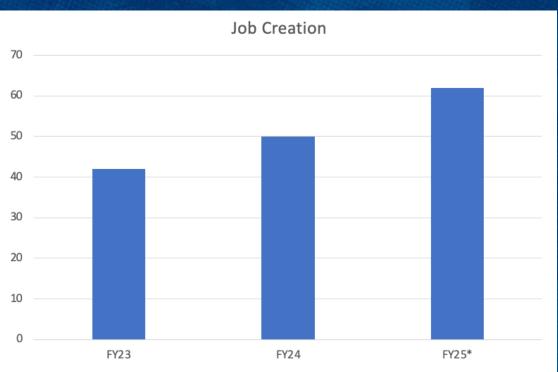


Florida Atlantic Tech Runway

ENTREPRENEURS' SUCCESS











Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Florida Atlantic

1,645
EXISTING AND
ASPIRING
BUSINESS OWNERS
CONSULTED

\$246.8M SALES GENERATED



