

College of Engineering Research Activity AY 08-09

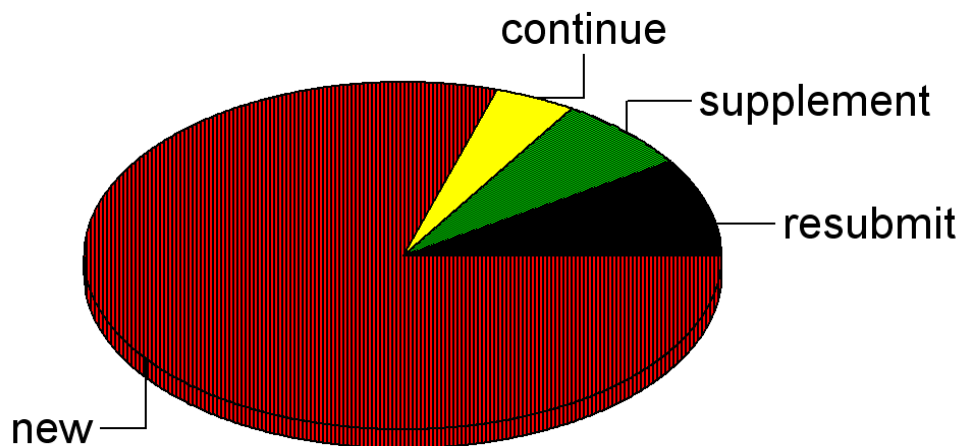
1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009

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Aug 2009

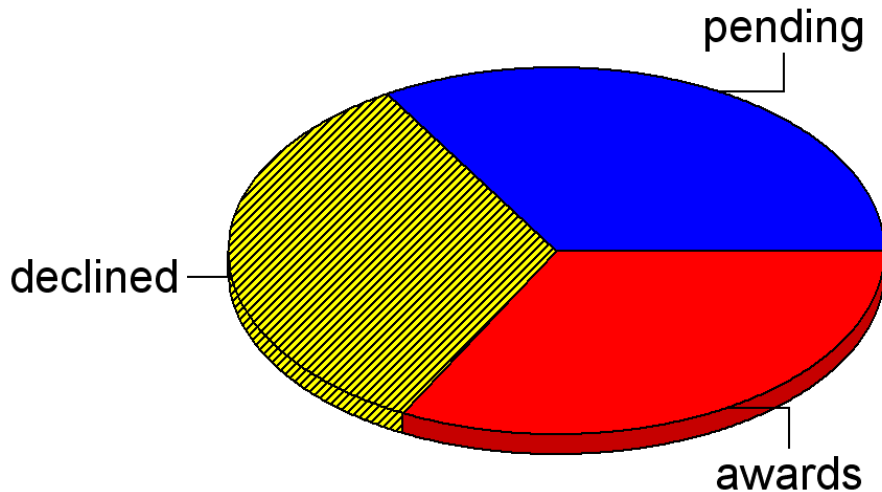
This document provides an overview of this past year's proposal activity in the SDSU College of Engineering. This was an active year with a harvest of near \$3 million in funds.

During the past year, 192 total proposal actions were processed. The major activity was submission of new projects for funding, but other activities included requests for supplements, revised and resubmitted proposals, or requests for continuation or renewal.



These 192 actions represented more than \$18 million in total value. Embedded in this was a typical request for about 23% for overhead or F&A costs. Note the Foundation reports an average of 17% F&A capture, so the harvest in the College of Engineering is slightly higher than commonly seen on campus. Less than full overhead is because certain agencies, such as the State of California, limit the overhead. On federal contracts, this is pre-negotiated and is not normally subject to modification. Also, these statistics do not include a large number of white papers and efforts such as the Engineering Research Center preproposals.

In AY 08-09, there were 113 unique actions (submissions or terminal decisions based on prior year submission). Of these 95 were new proposals and 18 were for supplements, revisions, or other modifications. On 1 July 2009, we had 40 pending proposals. Since then, but not counted here, there were 9 more submissions, 3 awards, 3 declinations, and 1 pre-award, for 16 total actions valued at \$1.99 million.



Some summary statistics are given in the following table:

AY 08-09 College of Engineering Research Funding Activity Summary

parameter	number	value
proposal actions	192	\$18.6 million
submissions	113	\$11.1 million
awards	39	\$3.03 million
pending proposals	40	\$3.45 million
new proposals	95	\$9.75 million

A few of the awards involved multiple investigators, colleges, or institutions, so the net new awards reported by the Foundation for the College of Engineering is \$2.6 million for AY 08-09 versus the slightly higher \$3.03 shown above.

These statistics say we are successful on about 34% of the proposals, but if we examine only new submissions, then the success rate drops to 30%. The average annual request is just under \$100,000 but the average award is just over \$77,000 and the median award is \$47,000, suggesting a skewed population toward the smaller awards with a few large wins. The largest award in AY 08-09 was \$307,161.

By department, the statistics are as follows:

department	proposals	value	awards	value
AERO	12	\$0.94 million	2	\$0.11 million
CIV&ENV	34	\$2.24 million	9	\$0.67 million
EE&CS	23	\$2.14 million	9	\$0.42 million
ME	36	\$4.32 million	12	\$1.14 million
College	8	\$1.44 million	7	\$0.70 million
total	113	\$11.09 million	39	\$3.03 million

If we assume about 56 active faculty members, then this works out to a typical funding level under \$60,000 per year, which is typical for undergraduate engineering colleges in the USA. However, the average at doctoral granting institutions is about three times higher, exceeding \$150,000 per faculty member per year.

A good trend is in the multiple investigator proposals, and this past year 30 proposals involved two or more investigators. On the other hand, nearly half the faculty did nothing. Proposal participation averages more than two per faculty member for the year (giving equal credit to multiple investigator and single investigator proposals), yet 46% of the faculty had no submissions. On the other hand, 8 faculty participated in more than 6 proposals during AY 08-09. About three-fourths of the College of Engineering is tenured and they contributed to about 65% of the proposal activity. The distribution of faculty proposal activity is given below.

