Agendum
Oakland University
Board of Trustees Formal Session
June 27, 2025

ACCEPTANCE OF GRANTS AND CONTRACTS TO OAKLAND UNIVERSITY FOR THE PERIOD OF MARCH 1 – APRIL 30, 2025
A Recommendation

1. **Division and Department:** Academic Affairs/Research Office

2. **Introduction:** Oakland University contributes to our national agenda as a contributor to the nation's scientific and technological progress, both through the generation of new knowledge and ideas and the education and training of its students. Grants and contracts awarded to Oakland University play a critical role in the advancement of new research findings, and current research trends gives emphasis to inter-disciplinary, technology-driven, and product-oriented team efforts.

The Board of Trustees (Board) has authorized the President, or his or her designee, to receive and acknowledge grants and contracts to the University, but such grants and contracts must be reported to the Board not less often than quarterly for acceptance on behalf of the University.

At this time, we request that the Board accept the grants and contracts reported on the attached Grants and Contracts Report, Attachment A, for the period of March 1 – April 30, 2025.

3. **Previous Board Action:** The Board accepts grants and contracts to Oakland University on a regular basis at its Formal Sessions.

4. **Budget Implications:** Grants and contracts contribute to the University through the recovery of direct and indirect expense incurred in support of research projects.

5. **Educational Implications:** Grants and contracts enhance the training and education of students.

6. **Personnel Implications:** Grants and contracts awards may provide salary support for faculty, post-doctoral fellows, undergraduate and graduate students, technicians, lab managers, and other personnel, as required by the funded research project or program.

7. **University Reviews/Approvals:** All grants and contracts are reviewed by the Research Office prior to submission to the Board to ensure compliance with federal and state laws and regulations and University policies and procedures, when applicable, and with assistance from the Office of Legal Affairs when requested.

8. **Recommendation:** RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees accept grants and contracts to Oakland University identified in the attached Grants and Contracts Report, Attachment A, for the period of March 1 – April 30, 2025.

9. **Attachments:** A. Grants and Contracts Report.

Submitted to the President
on 6/16, 2025 by

Amy Thompson, Ph.D.
Executive Vice President for
Academic Affairs and Provost

Recommended on 6/18, 2025
to the Board for approval by

Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D.
President

Reviewed by

Joshua D. Merchant, Ph.D.
Chief of Staff and
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Grants and Contracts Report for Period: March 1 - April 30, 2025

Principal Investigator	Awarding Agency	Title and Project Abstract	Award Amount	Total Award All Years
Ramin Homayouni School of Medicine	University of Houston / National Institutes of Health	**Intelligent Social and Behavioral Health Tool (INSIGHT) for Addressing Health Related Social and Behavioral Needs.** This feasibility project will develop a tool called INSIGHT (Intelligent Social and Behavioral Health Tool). INSIGHT will provide patient specific social and behavioral health data in real-time to the clinical staff at the point-of-care.	$149,996	$149,996
Caterina Pieri Department of Modern Languages and Literatures	Consulate of Italy in Detroit	**Contribution for Chair of Italian Language.** This funding will be used for Dr. Pieri to become the first Italian events coordinator at Oakland University.	$8,581	$8,581
Valance Washington Department of Biological Sciences	Dompé Farmaceutic	**Sepsis Induced Dysregulation of CXCR1 and 2 Recycling and Possible Effects on the Effectiveness of Small Molecule CXCR1 and 2 Inhibitors.** Dysregulated neutrophil chemotaxis during sepsis leads to excessive accumulation of activated neutrophils into inflamed tissues with detrimental effect for the host organism. The purpose of this project is to learn more about neutrophil function in the presence or absence of small molecule inhibitors.	$29,450	$29,450
Randal Westrick Department of Biological Sciences	American Heart Association	**American Heart Association (AHA) Oakland University Supporting Undergraduate Research Experiences (SURE) Summer Research Program 2025.** The SURE program supports undergraduate students interested in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics & Medicine (STEMM) fields by providing research experience and mentoring to these students. They will collaborate with a laboratory or mentor connected to the AHA to conduct research that fits the AHA mission.	$36,000	$36,000

Grants and Contracts Report for Period: March 1 - April 30, 2025

Principal Investigator	Awarding Agency	Title and Project Abstract	Award Amount	Total Award All Years
Wing-Yue Louie Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering	University of Michigan	**Dynamic Allocation of Information through Auditory, Visual, and Haptic Interfaces to Minimize Cognitive Burden and Maximize Performance during Crew-AI Teaming**. The overall goal of this project is to develop approaches to dynamically allocate targeted task information to each member of a crew through auditory, visual, and haptic interfaces to maximize overall team mission performance.	$140,000	$140,000
Stephen Kent OU Incubator	Grand Valley State University / Michigan Economic Development Corporation	**Grand Valley State University-Business Accelerator Fund (BAF)-Discretionary Fund 2025.** Michigan Small-Business Fund (MSF) Business Incubators to support small businesses in Oakland County.	$15,000	$155,000
Stephen Kent OU Incubator	Grand Valley State University / Michigan Economic Development Corporation	**Grand Valley State University-Business Accelerator Fund (BAF)-Administrative Fund 2025.** Michigan Small-Business Fund (MSF) Business Incubators to support small businesses in Oakland County.	$45,000	$465,000
Ziming Yang Department of Chemistry	University of Maryland / National Aeronautics and Space Administration	**Fate of Subsurface Ocean Solutes During Ejection into Vacuum.** In this proposal, research will be done on the effect of a direct transition from liquid to vacuum environments on the relative abundancies of amino and carboxylic (fatty) acids, a metric used to distinguish between biological and abiotic sources for these compounds. This will allow us to better understand the fate of subsurface ocean solutes during plume ejection in icy ocean worlds.	$208,861	$208,861
Rebecca Clemans School of Medicine	Michigan State University / Michigan Department of Health and Human Services	**State Opioid Response 4.0 Michigan-Collaborative Addiction Resources and Education System (MI-CARES).** The main objective of the MI CARES 4.0 grant is to engage additional medical schools in providing LCB electives and other curricular activities through shared learning and resources.	$35,788	$35,788

Grants and Contracts Report for Period: March 1 - April 30, 2025

Principal Investigator	Awarding Agency	Title and Project Abstract	Award Amount	Total Award All Years
Tomoko Wakabayashi Department of Human Development and Child Study	Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators	**Evaluation of the Coaching Practices for Early Literacy Training.** The evaluation will examine the impact of training all coach trainees, and will provide rich descriptions of the 15 subgroup trainees and classroom teachers coached by them.	$20,000	$20,000
Douglas Wendell Department of Biological Sciences	Great Lakes Commission	**Genetic Identification of Phragmites Subspecies.** Genetic analysis of samples will be used to map out areas of native Phragmites australis americanus and the invasive Phragmites australis subspecies.	$7,323	$7,323
Fabia Battistuzzi Department of Biological Sciences	Detroit Zoological Society	**Graduate Assistant Agreement with Detroit Zoo.** This funding will be for an eligible Psychology graduate student to contribute to the research and welfare assessment goals for the Detroit Zoo.	$28,219	$28,219
Huirong Fu Department of Computer Science and Engineering	National Science Foundation	**Collaborative Research:** Early-concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER): National AI Research Resource (NAIRR) Pilot Expansion: FA1: Advancing AI Research with NAIRR Workshop Series on Cybersecurity, Edge AI, and Autonomous Driving.	$150,000	$150,000
Rebecca Lewis Department of Recreation and Well Being	American College of Sports Medicine	**Midwest American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) Exercise is Medicine On-Campus (EIM-OC) Mentoring Grant Application.** This project will provide participation in the Health Initiatives/EIM On Campus Showcase at the 2025 Midwest ACSM Annual Meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan.	$750	$750

Grants and Contracts Report for Period: March 1 - April 30, 2025

Principal Investigator	Awarding Agency	Title and Project Abstract	Award Amount	Total Award All Years
Alicia Garcia Department of Human Development and Child Study, OUCARES	State of Michigan	**Michigan-Lifelong Education Advancement and Potential (LEAP) Out-of-School Time (OST) Learning Grant for Oakland University Center for Autism.** The OUCA's youth focused social programming will include Teen Social Club, D&D Style Roleplaying Game Club, STEAM Building Club Powered by LEGO Education, and Story and Playtime Program that will help enhance social-emotional learning and in-school experiences.	$44,400	$44,400
Huirong Fu Department of Computer Science and Engineering	Northeastern University	**Business-to-Consumer (B2C) at Oakland University/ Northeastern University Subaward.** This funding will be used for curriculum development, marketing and recruiting for the B2C program, and actively participate in the educational activities of the Student Financial Services (SFS) and B2C projects and the boot camps annual job fairs and symposia.	$18,244	$18,244
John Stavick Department of Political Science	University of North Carolina	**Evaluation of Short Courses.** This project will complete an evaluation of training courses to be delivered to the University of North Carolina School of Government to budget analysts working for the State of North Carolina.	$1,200	$1,200
Dao-Qi Zhang Eye Research Institute	Pediatric Retinal Research Foundation	**Therapeutic Strategy of L-Dopa for Premature-Like Retinal Neovascularization.** The long-term goal of this project is to establish a therapeutic strategy for L-dopa targeting retinal neovascularization in experimental animal models and translate it into clinical therapy for ROP in premature infants.	$16,600	$16,600

Grants and Contracts Report for Period: March 1 - April 30, 2025

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Amany Tawfik Eye Research Institute	Pediatric Retinal Research Foundation	**Exploring the Role and Mechanism of Platelet Activation and Microthrombi in Retinopathy of Prematurity.** This study aims to investigate the relationship between platelet count (PLT) and retinopathy of prematurity (ROP), with the goal of identifying a straightforward screening method for the early detection of ROP.	$5,000	$5,000
Luis Villa Diaz Department of Biological Sciences	Pediatric Retinal Research Foundation	**Modification in Mitochondia Heteroplasmic in the Retina of Kearn-Sayre Syndrome Patients.** This project will use human-derived visual tissues as a format to determine a therapeutic strategy to treat Kearns-Sayre Syndrome, which might generalize to other affected organs.	$10,000	$10,000
Kenneth Mitton Eye Research Institute	Pediatric Retinal Research Foundation	**The Interplay between Norrin and TGFb/BMP Signaling in Retinal Fibrosis.** This project investigates the role of norrin in preventing or reversing retinal fibrosis, addressing an unmet need for a potential treatment to prevent tractional retinal detachments in ROP, FEVR and PDR.	$16,600	$16,600
Yongsoon Yoon Department of Mechanical Engineering	National Science Foundation	**Engineering Research Initiation (ERI) Program: Nonlinear Inverse Model Estimation and Frequency Domain Analysis for Hydraulic Cylinder Diagnostics in Closed-Loop.** This project aims to seamlessly design system diagnostics of mechanical and manufacturing systems so that their performance and efficiency can be robustly maintained over lifetime.	$9,000	$208,865

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Andrew Goldberg Eye Research Institute	National Institutes of Health	**Molecular Basis of Rod and Cone Photoreceptor Structure.** This project investigates the molecular and cellular mechanisms that govern vertebrate photoreceptor outer segment (OS) structure, a fundamental unsolved problem in photoreceptor cell biology to gain clinical understanding of/and treatments for blinding diseases.	$385,858	$1,967,042
Andrew Goldberg Eye Research Institute	Foundation Fighting Blindness	**Natural History and AAV-Mediated Interventions for Dominant Negative and Haploinsufficient Mouse Models of PRPH2-Associated Disease.** This project aims to understand and develop treatments for inherited blinding diseases caused by mutations in the PRPH2 gene, which in sum, represent a significant fraction of all inherited retinal degenerations.	$140,255	$433,729
Yang Xia Department of Physics	Corewell Health William Beaumont University Hospital Research Institute	**Corewell Student Research Agreement.** This funding will be used for an eligible graduate student to contribute to MRI research initiatives at Corewell Health.	$51,993	$51,993
Nicole Wagner Department of Biological Sciences	Great Lakes Environmental / National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Phytopigment Analysis.** The goal of this research is to monitor water samples for harmful algal bloom growth and toxicity in the Great Lakes.	$44,000	$44,000
		Total Awa	**$1,618,118**	**$4,252,641**