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## Research Funding and Support





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The commitment to producing research of the highest standard is based on a strong research tradition that has spanned over fifty years. During the academic year the Campus continued on its mission to provide the necessary research infrastructure that supports current research programmes and also stimulates expansion in the level of research activity, whether it takes the form of pure research, applied research, mission directed research or advocacy research. This support has been both financial and non-financial. Funding for research has been provided internally through the *New Initiative Grants Programme*, the *Mona Research Fellowship Programme*, the *Campus Research and Publications Funds*, *Staff Training and Development budget*, *Department Teaching and Research Material Support* and *Study and Travel Grants*.

During the 2003/2004 academic year, some J\$10m was provided in *New Initiative Grants* to academics who sought funding for small-scale research projects and also for the dissemination of research findings. This amount was 30% less than the amount that was approved in the previous academic year owing to tight financial constraints facing the Campus. For the cumulative three

year period, 2001/2002 – 2003/2004, over J\$30m was provided through the *New Initiative Grants Programme* to support the research effort on the Campus.

Despite the financial challenges, there has been a gradual increase in the number of new Mona research fellowships awarded to academics. The number increased from 10 in 2001/2002 to 14 in 2002/2003. This number remained unchanged in 2003/2004 as the Campus sought to maintain the momentum of its various research programmes. Additionally, the *Research and Publication Funds* for academic staff stood at the 2002/03 level of J\$1M.

These funds were used primarily to assist the staff in covering the costs of participating at various academic conferences throughout the region and internationally.

**Table 1: Distribution of New Initiative Grants by Faculty for the Period 2001/2002 – 2003/2004**

FACULTY	2001/2002	2002/2003	2003/2004	TOTAL
Humanities and Education	807,928	0	642,000	1,449,928
Medical Sciences	2,262,485	5,134,178	5,049,374	12,446,037
Pure and Applied Sciences	2,774,937	7,380,222	2,468,980	12,624,139
Social Sciences	1,476,908	1,027,780	1,332,223	3,836,911
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,322,258</b>	<b>13,542,180</b>	<b>9,492,577</b>	<b>30,357,015</b>



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**Table 2: Growth in the Number of New Research Fellowships Granted for the Period 2001/2002 – 2003/2004**

FACULTY	2001/2002	2002/2003	2003/2004	TOTAL
Humanities and Education	1	5	4	10
Medical Sciences	1	3	3	7
Pure and Applied Sciences	3	3	6	12
Social Sciences	5	3	1	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>38</b>

Approximately J\$12.5M was provided to postgraduate research students to purchase research equipment, publish material and purchase consumables necessary for the completion of their research projects, as well as to facilitate the dissemination of their research findings. This amount represents a marginal increase of 4% in the value of postgraduate student research awards over that of the previous year.

Faculty members themselves, attesting to the changing role of academics worldwide, have continued to engage actively in efforts to secure funding for their research projects. Recognizing that its researchers require assistance in obtaining funding for large-scale research projects which cannot be adequately satisfied through the usual internal Campus grants, the Campus established the Office of Sponsored Research (OSR) in 2002 to provide technical assistance to faculty in bidding for external research grants. The OSR provided researchers throughout the period under review with assistance in research proposal preparation and patent applications. In addition to the development of a Research Code of Ethics, the OSR was also instrumental in promoting research partnerships between the

Campus, the public and private sectors and other universities. Its work was complemented by that of the Business Development Office, which provided assistance to those academics seeking to commercialize the products of their research. The Campus earned some sixty million dollars (\$60,000,000) from external research grants during the year. (See Appendix 1- *New Externally Funded Projects*)