FY21 was a record breaking year in grant and contract awards. The previous record set in FY04 stood at $76.5 million. The record set in FY21 is $91.9 million - the highest in the history of Howard University.

According to Bruce Jones, VP for Research, “This is only possible because of the hard work of our faculty and the students who work tirelessly with them on writing and producing high quality research and training proposals to support the growing research and training enterprise at Howard University.” Working in partnership with the Office of Research, more individual and interdisciplinary groups of faculty and more Colleges and Schools are engaged problem-solving research, which is consistent with the mission, vision, and a key core value of Howard University — the development of scholars and professionals who drive change and engage in scholarship that provides solutions to contemporary global problems, particularly issues impacting the African Diaspora.

**HISTORIC RECORD SET IN FY21 GRANT AND CONTRACT AWARDS**

**FACULTY RESEARCH GRANT AWARD HIGHLIGHTS**

*Omari Swinton*, Professor, in the **College of Arts & Sciences** is the recipient of a $1.4 million grant from the **Alfred P. Sloan Foundation** to enhance the teaching and educational training of Black and other minority students pursuing degrees in economics. Dr. Swinton is also the recipient of a $2.7 million **National Science Foundation** (NSF) Award to host the American Economic Association Summer Training Program.
Janelle Burke, Associate Professor in the **College of Arts & Sciences** received a $378,678 grant from the **National Science Foundation (NSF)**, entitled, *Excellence in Research: The Evolutionary Origins of Sex Chromosomes in Docks and Sorrels*.

Wei Sun, Associate Professor (PI) and Monica Ponder, Assistant Professor (Co-PI) in the **Cathy Hughes School of Communications**, are the recipients of a $500,000 award from the **U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)**. Dr. Sun’s research is entitled, *Bridging the Gaps Recruiting Black and Asian American Participants in Clinical Trials and Creating Culturally Competent Messages*.

Gerald Daniels, Associate Professor and Associate Director of Undergraduate Studies, **College of Arts & Sciences**, received a $249,961 award from the **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation**. The research by Dr. Daniels is entitled, *Examining the Impact of Existing Policies for Forgiveness of Student Debt on Racial Wealth Gaps*.

Tao Wei, Associate Professor (PI) and Pratibha Dev, Associate Professor (Co-PI), **College of Engineering & Architecture**, are the recipients of a $400,000 **National Science Foundation (NSF)** award for *Cyber Training on Materials Genome Innovation for Computational Software*. This research is part of a $1 million award in partnership with the University of Southern California.

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**Office of Research**

**Central Contacts**

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[https://research.howard.edu/](https://research.howard.edu/)
[https://research.howard.edu/about/leadership](https://research.howard.edu/about/leadership)
Office of Research, Intellectual Property (IP) Unit Develops and Host Convening on IP and Faculty Innovation

On May 21, 2021, the Office of Research, Intellectual Property Unit developed and hosted a representative campus-wide convening on Intellectual Property (IP) and Faculty Innovation. At the request of President Frederick, the meeting took place to:

- Begin dialogue among faculty, staff and administrators who hold an interest in shaping a collective vision for the advancement of IP and faculty innovation on the Howard Campus
- Develop an IP and Faculty Innovation plan that is aligned with the mission of the Howard Forward Strategic Plan, with particular regard to 3-pillars of the plan: (1) Inspire New Knowledge, (2) Enhance Academic Excellence, and (3) Achieve Financial Sustainability.

Terry Adams, who is Intellectual Property, Faculty Innovation, and Marketing Specialist, Office of Research, led the convening. The attendees represented the College of Engineering & Architecture, College of Pharmacy, College of Arts & Sciences, College of Medicine, School of Business, School of Law and the Office of Research.