

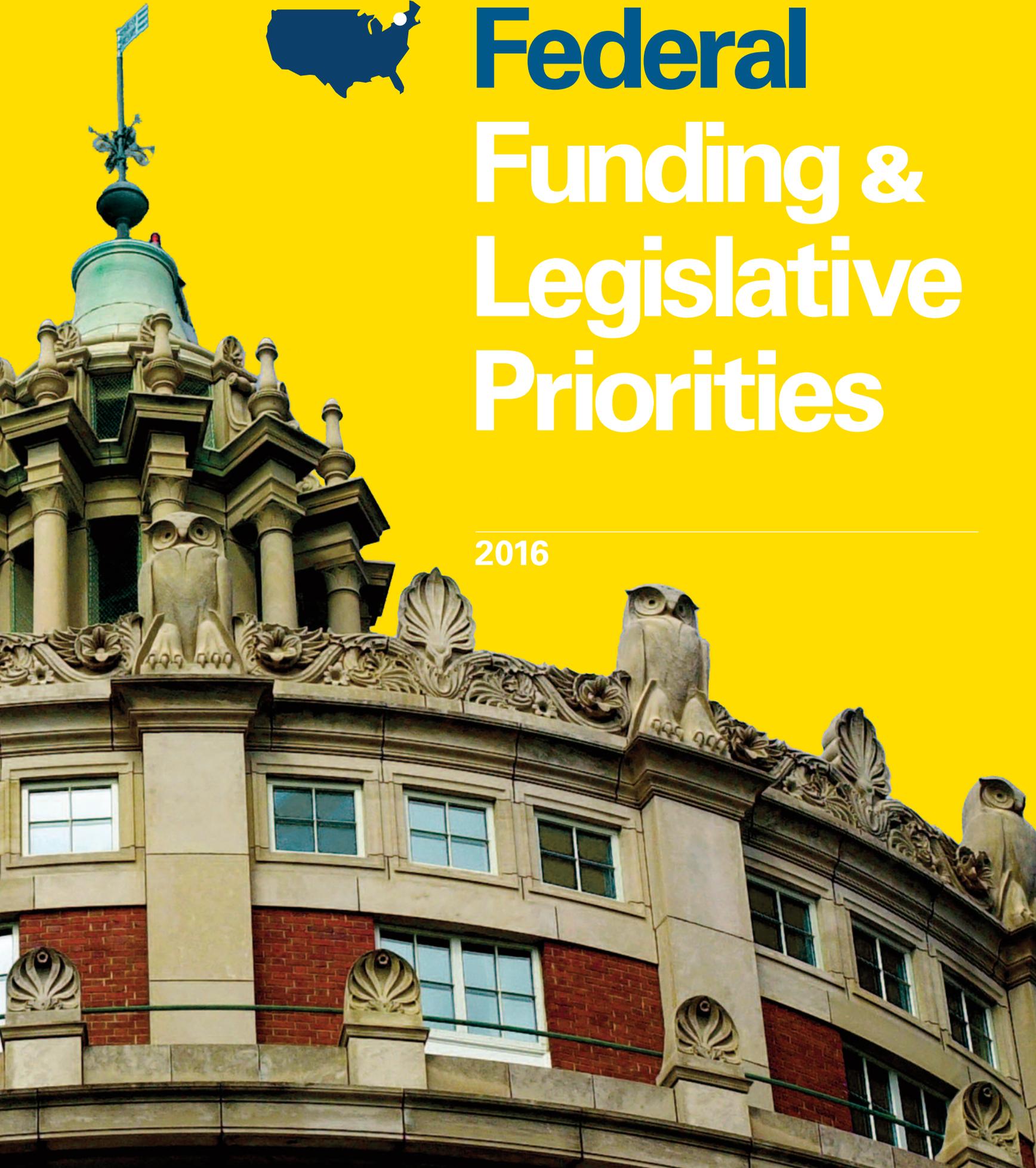


UNIVERSITY *of* ROCHESTER



Federal Funding & Legislative Priorities

2016





At the University of Rochester, ours is a proud history.



Since our founding in 1851, we have grown to be the largest private employer in upstate New York with 27,590 total employees, an increase of 917 employees from last year and more than 4,400 employees over the last five years. Since 2005, we have led or facilitated more than \$1 billion in capital projects to expand our capacity and support new, innovative programs and services for our students and patients as well as to attract and retain talented faculty.

Thanks to the support we receive from Washington, we are **one of the world's most distinguished research institutions** with \$380 million in total sponsored research awards in 2015. The majority of this funding comes from federally sponsored research agencies, and has fostered pioneering work in optics, cardiac arrhythmias, medical imaging, LASIK surgery, and vaccine development. As a result, we are among the top 15 institutions in licensing revenue over the last 10 years, and since 1996, 58 companies have been created using University-licensed technologies.

Our **Laboratory for Laser Energetics** is embarking on an exciting opportunity to create a new facility, in partnership with Sandia National Laboratory, focused on the development and acceleration of pulsed power technology. This initiative builds on our strengths in optics, photonics, and imaging, and is a critical component of our national security and the strategic work on an independent energy future.

No part of the University has changed more in recent years than our Medical Center. With recently announced affiliations with Noyes Health and Jones Memorial Hospital, and other recent additions of Thompson Health and Strong West, the expansion of the Wilmot Cancer Institute to 11 locations across the region, and the opening of the Golisano Children's Hospital at Strong Memorial Hospital last summer, the **University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC) is creating an integrated regional health care network** that is among the best in the northeast.

The decision to invest in a quality education is a significant one, and we believe high quality postsecondary education must be accessible, provide students with a world-class academic experience, and create a pathway to a successful career. We were proud to have recently been ranked by *Kiplinger* as one of the **top 100 "Best College Values" for 2016**. The number of annual applications we receive grew to 17,912 this year for 1,400 enrollment slots, and we have grown our student body from 8,300 students in 2004 to more than 11,000 in the current academic year. We remain committed to meeting the demonstrated need of our students, last year providing \$96 million in institutional aid, and this year increasing that support to an anticipated \$113 million.

Our vision is clear, and I am proud of what this institution has become and what the future offers. **There is great opportunity** in the 21st century to accelerate progress by building on our strengths in education, research, and health care. With stable and sustained public-private investment and collaboration with the federal government, I am confident that the dynamic talents of our faculty, students, and staff will continue to help ensure a vibrant and healthy future for this institution, this community, and our nation.

Joel Seligman
Joel Seligman

President & CEO,
University of Rochester

2015^(fy)
**Federal
Funding**

NASA	\$1,361,340
DoD	\$4,328,888
other	\$14,057,176
NSF	\$16,359,888
DOE	\$89,298,607

NIH \$157,784,103



GOLISANO
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL





Table of Contents

4	Laboratory for Laser Energetics
6	Invest in High-quality Health Care
10	Support for University-based Scientific Research, the Arts, and the Humanities
12	Support Economic Development and Higher Education Regulatory Relief
16	Support for Student Aid
18	Support for Higher Education

University Facts (2015)

Faculty & Staff

Faculty	Tenure Track	1,329
	School of Medicine and Dentistry	1,400
Total Full-time Employees		27,590
Total Direct & Indirect Jobs		50,300

Students

Full-time	Undergraduate	5,942
	Graduate	3,062
	Professional	432
Part-time	Undergraduate	324
	Graduate	1,300

Research

External Research Funding FY15	\$380.8 million
Federally Sponsored Research Funding	\$280.1 million
NYS Sponsored Funding	\$15.4 million

Top 15 in NIH funding in biochemistry, microbiology and immunology, neurology, obstetrics and gynecology, oral biology, and musculoskeletal research.

Tuition

Tuition and Fees	\$47,450
Room and Board	\$14,364
Books and Supplies	\$1,310
Other	\$2,220
Total published price	\$65,334
Avg. aid package	\$40,150
Avg. loan debt at graduation	\$20,909
Loan default rate	< 1%

Financial Aid

The University of Rochester meets the full demonstrated need of all students who earn admission to the College.

Institutional Aid	\$113 million
Students receiving any financial aid	85%
Freshmen receiving merit scholarships	70%

Hospitals

Strong Memorial Hospital
 Highland Hospital
 Golisano Children's Hospital at Strong
 F.F. Thompson Hospital
 Noyes Health
 Jones Memorial Hospital

Laboratory for Laser Energetics

Support for Energy Research &
Development

FY 2017	Request \$78,000,000
Agency	National Nuclear Security Administration
Bill	Energy and Water Development Appropriations
Account	Inertial Confinement Fusion Program



What is Nuclear Fusion?

Nuclear fusion is the most basic form of energy in the universe, found in the thermonuclear reactions of the sun and the stars. Fusion energy can be used for electricity generation and national security-related applications, and does not produce nuclear waste or enhance nuclear proliferation. Since the fuel source for fusion is water, demonstrating controlled nuclear fusion offers real potential to serve as an affordable, inexhaustible, and carbon and radioactive waste-free energy source. Fusion research is vital to maintaining the reliability and safety of the U.S. nuclear deterrent without the need for full-scale testing.

Scientists estimate that a nuclear fusion power plant could generate 1,000 megawatts of electricity, enough to power one million homes. While there are many challenges to be overcome before fusion is an economically viable energy source, demonstrating the feasibility of inertial confinement fusion energy as a safe and efficient source of energy would ensure that our nation is able to reap the incredible benefits of this technology. Demonstrating thermonuclear ignition and moderate energy gain in the laboratory is a prerequisite to the commercial production of clean, plentiful electricity using thermonuclear fusion. The U.S. is in an international race to be the first nation to demonstrate ignition.

About the Laboratory for Laser Energetics (LLE)

The LLE is a unique national resource not found at any other university in the country. It is a vital component of our nation's scientific capital and leadership, and key to strategic work on an independent energy future. The LLE is home to the OMEGA laser, which is the second most powerful ultraviolet fusion laser in the world, and the OMEGA EP (Extended Performance) laser, a high-intensity, high-energy short-pulse laser, and serves as the principal laser research facility for three national laboratories (Los Alamos, Sandia, and Lawrence Livermore). As one of the preeminent research facilities for inertial confinement fusion and high-energy density physics research, the LLE serves a critical national security function and is the leader of the direct-drive approach to demonstrate inertial fusion. The LLE is also a magnet for scientific talent and one of the leading institutions training the next generation of leaders in the fields of physics, optics, and material science.

Pulsed Power Initiative

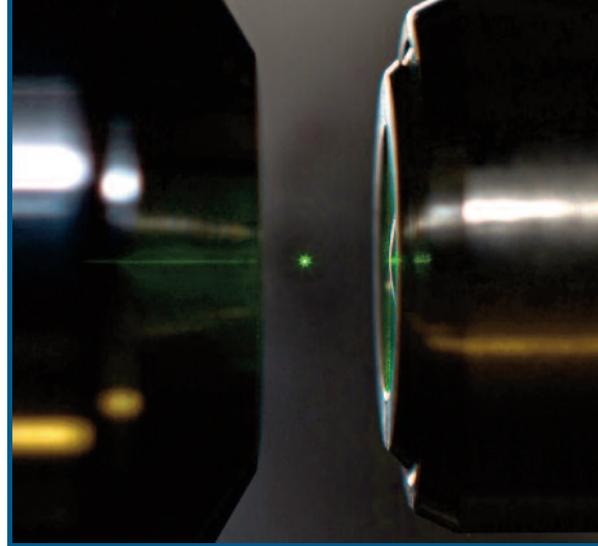
To meet the nation's strategic goals and to maintain U.S. leadership, the LLE and Sandia National Laboratory (SNL) are partnering to develop enhanced laser capability and a new, state-of-the-art pulsed power research facility at the LLE to provide critical advanced R&D in support of efforts to create the world's most advanced pulsed power system and highest peak power laser at SNL. The project is a Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council Upstate Revitalization Initiative priority and is estimated to create 246 construction jobs, 94 permanent jobs, and bring in \$150 million in research funding.

Economic Impact

Since its inception, the LLE has attracted almost \$2 billion to New York State to support cutting edge research, and around 500 individuals are currently involved in the program. Through its National Laser Users Facility, the University attracts more than 300 additional scientists each year from 32 universities, 23 national laboratories, and centers. Besides payroll and local purchases, the LLE also provides a strong stimulus to the local economy through its advanced technology assets, which help recruit and develop new companies and investors to the high-technology sector. QED Technologies, Sydor Optics, and Lucid, Inc., are just a few of the local companies that were created as a result of the LLE's technology and research. The LLE is also nationally recognized as the only facility that trains graduate students in inertial confinement fusion and thereby serves as a critical pipeline of future talent that is vitally important to our national and economic security.



- **Request** We thank our Congressional delegation for securing \$68 million for the LLE in FY16. For FY17, we request \$78 million – \$68 million in operating support and \$10 million to support the development of pulsed power research and development for a new facility at LLE in partnership with Sandia National Laboratory.



The facts

The OMEGA EP laser has **2,000 times more power** than the entire U.S. electrical grid – making it among the most powerful lasers in the world.

Scientists estimate that a nuclear fusion power plant could generate **1,000 megawatts** of electricity, enough to power one million homes.

QED Technologies, Sydor Technologies, and Lucid, Inc. are just a few of the local companies that were created – and continue to benefit us – as a result of LLE's technology and research.



Invest in High-Quality Health Care

Ensuring access and improving quality



UR Medicine is the safety-net provider and the largest, most specialized academic health care system in upstate New York. The reimbursement we receive from Medicare and Medicaid for Graduate Medical Education (GME), Medicare bad debt payments, Medicaid provider assessments, and Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payments is critical to our clinical margins and our ability to train the next generation of providers.

A recent Institute of Medicine report highlighted Rochester's annual cost-per-Medicare beneficiary as the lowest in the country, and UR Medicine helps anchor the region's innovative, cooperative approach to health care financing and delivery that has resulted in costs that are 20% below the national average.

Protect Funding for Medicare and Medicaid

Reimbursement from Medicare and Medicaid already falls short of actual patient care costs. In recent years, UR Medicine has undergone several rounds of funding cuts at the federal and state levels, plus additional cuts from sequestration that require a 2% automatic reduction to all Medicare payments through 2024. Most recently, the Protecting Access to Medicare Act doubled the sequester deduction to 4% for the first six months of 2024. Hospitals need adequate Medicare payment to ensure that patients and communities receive the care they expect and need.

Protect the 340B Drug Discount Program

HRSA's 340B Program requires drug manufacturers participating in Medicaid to provide covered outpatient drugs to designated safety-net providers, including Strong Memorial, Highland, and Nicholas Noyes Hospitals, at a reduced price. As drug prices and pharmaceutical profits continue to rise, this program enables not-for-profit hospitals to stretch resources, reach more patients, and provide more comprehensive services. At UR Medicine, the savings that result from participation in 340B helps fund a robust charity care program, several specialized patient pharmacies, and sustains services at Strong West and infusion therapy care at facilities across the region.

- ▶ *We urge Congress to ensure the viability of the 340B program and the services it supports for low-income and other vulnerable patient populations.*

Oppose Hospital Outpatient Department (HOPD) Site Neutral Medicare Payment Reductions

The Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 included site-neutral payment reductions that render new off-campus provider-based HOPDs ineligible for reimbursement from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) outpatient prospective payment system (OPPS). Instead, new HOPD sites will be reimbursed under other Medicare Part B payment systems, resulting in substantial reductions in payments for services. While the provision grandfathered existing facilities, it does not include those "under development," and as a result will have significant impact on URMC, which had invested nearly \$40 million in projects under development at the time the law was signed.

- ▶ *We urge Congress to pass a technical correction and to tell CMS to clarify that HOPDs already under development when the Bipartisan Budget Act was signed into law qualify as grandfathered facilities, and also clarify that a change in ownership or required relocation or modernization does not impact the grandfathered status of a provider-based HOPD.*

Support Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) Payments

The Medicare DSH program has provided vital support to safety-net hospitals that serve the nation's most vulnerable populations. When the Affordable Care Act (ACA) was estimated to expand health care coverage to 32 million more Americans, Congress cut DSH payments to hospitals to account for fewer uninsured patients needing care. The Supreme Court's decision on the ACA Medicaid expansion decreased the coverage projection to 26 million, and, as a result, DSH hospitals will continue to be called on to provide more care to vulnerable patients. Ongoing substantial cuts to Medicare DSH have already reduced support by approximately one third over the past three years and we strongly support efforts to stop these damaging cuts. We also support the elimination of a provision in the ACA that precludes hospitals such as Strong, Highland, and Thompson Health from appealing CMS's determinations on the level of Medicare DSH cuts — effectively denying providers a right to appeal payment determinations that had been in place for 40 years. It is estimated that CMS has shorted hospitals by as much as 10% under the new ACA DSH formula.

- ▶ *As a matter of basic fairness, please support S. 2228 and H.R. 3024 which restores hospitals' right to appeal significant mistakes made by CMS in determining DSH uncompensated care payments.*

Protect Graduate Medical Education (GME)

As the largest source of new physicians in this region, the School of Medicine and Dentistry trains 600 medical residents, 400 undergraduate medical students, and 150 fellows per year. Funding for GME is essential for training new physicians, nurses, and other health care providers and ensuring continued access to high quality patient care. Strong Memorial Hospital received \$43.5 million in Indirect Medical Education (IME) and \$15.4 million in Direct Graduate Medical Education (DGME) funding, totaling \$58.9 million in 2015. Proposed reductions in GME's IME adjustment and DGME payments would jeopardize the ability of medical schools and teaching hospitals to prepare the next generation of physicians and limit 24-hour care and critical services we provide the community.

- ▶ *Oppose reductions in Medicare funding for GME's IME adjustment and DGME payments.*

Increase Medicare Residency Slots

As a result of the expansion of health care coverage and an aging population, it is estimated that the U.S. could face a shortage of 90,000 doctors by 2025. Many medical schools are increasing class sizes to accommodate these changes, but limits on the number of Medicare-funded residency slots constrain our ability to train new physicians. Strong Memorial and Highland Hospitals annually train a total of 600 resident physicians. However, under the 1996 residency slots cap, Medicare provides reimbursement for the training of only 505 residents.

- ▶ *Please support the Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act (S. 1148/H.R. 2124) to increase the number of Medicare-supported residency slots to accommodate changes in our nation's health care needs.*

Support Health Professions and Nursing Education

HRSA's Title VII health professions and Title VIII nursing workforce development programs provide education, financial aid, and training opportunities to health professions students in high-need disciplines and settings. As our nation transforms its health care system, these programs are critical to ensuring a strong workforce and access to care. With a focus on primary care and training in interdisciplinary, community-based settings, Title VII and VIII are the only federal programs focused on filling gaps in the supply of health professionals not met by traditional market forces.

- ▶ *Please provide at least \$280 million for Title VII and at least \$244 million for Title VIII in FY17.*



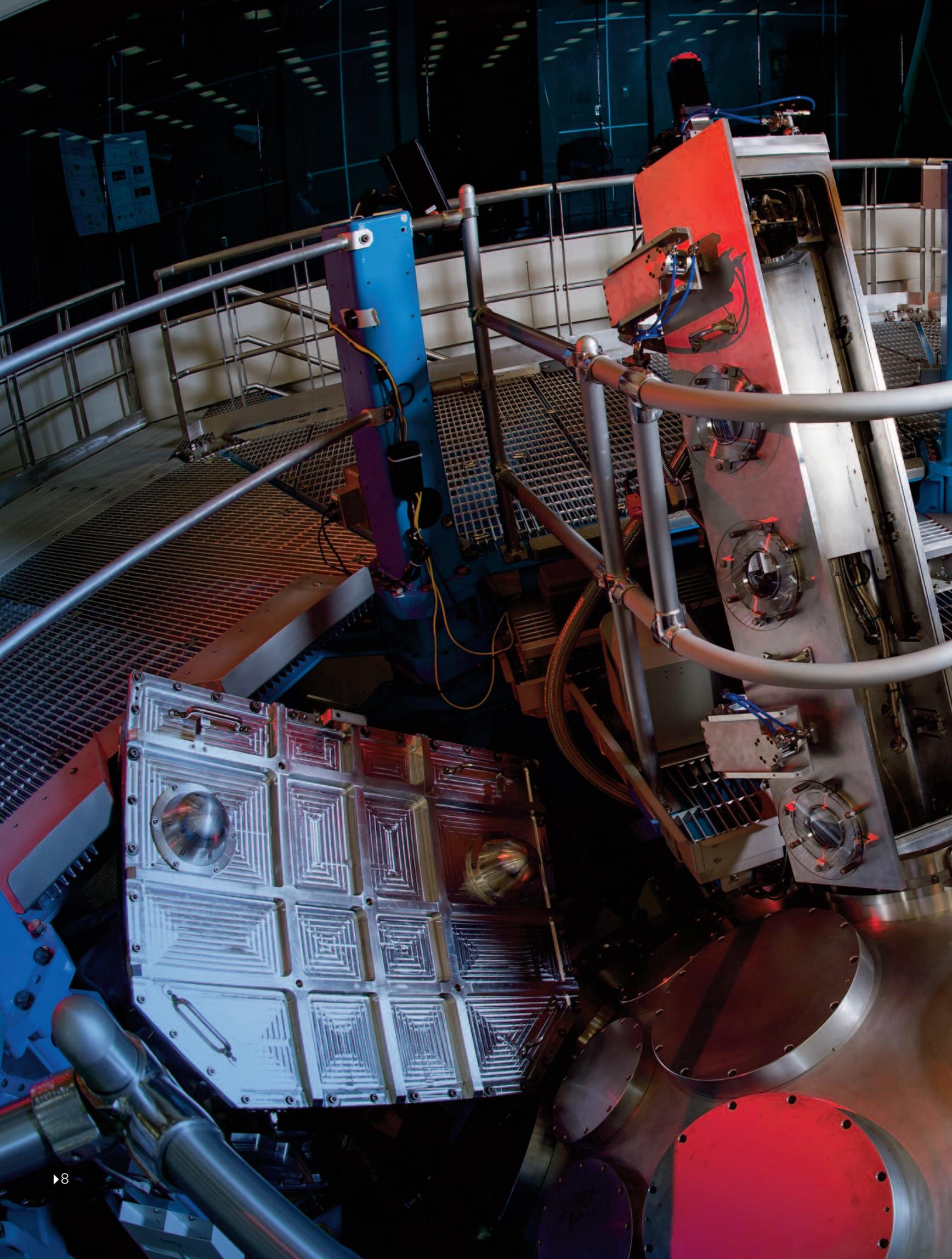
The facts

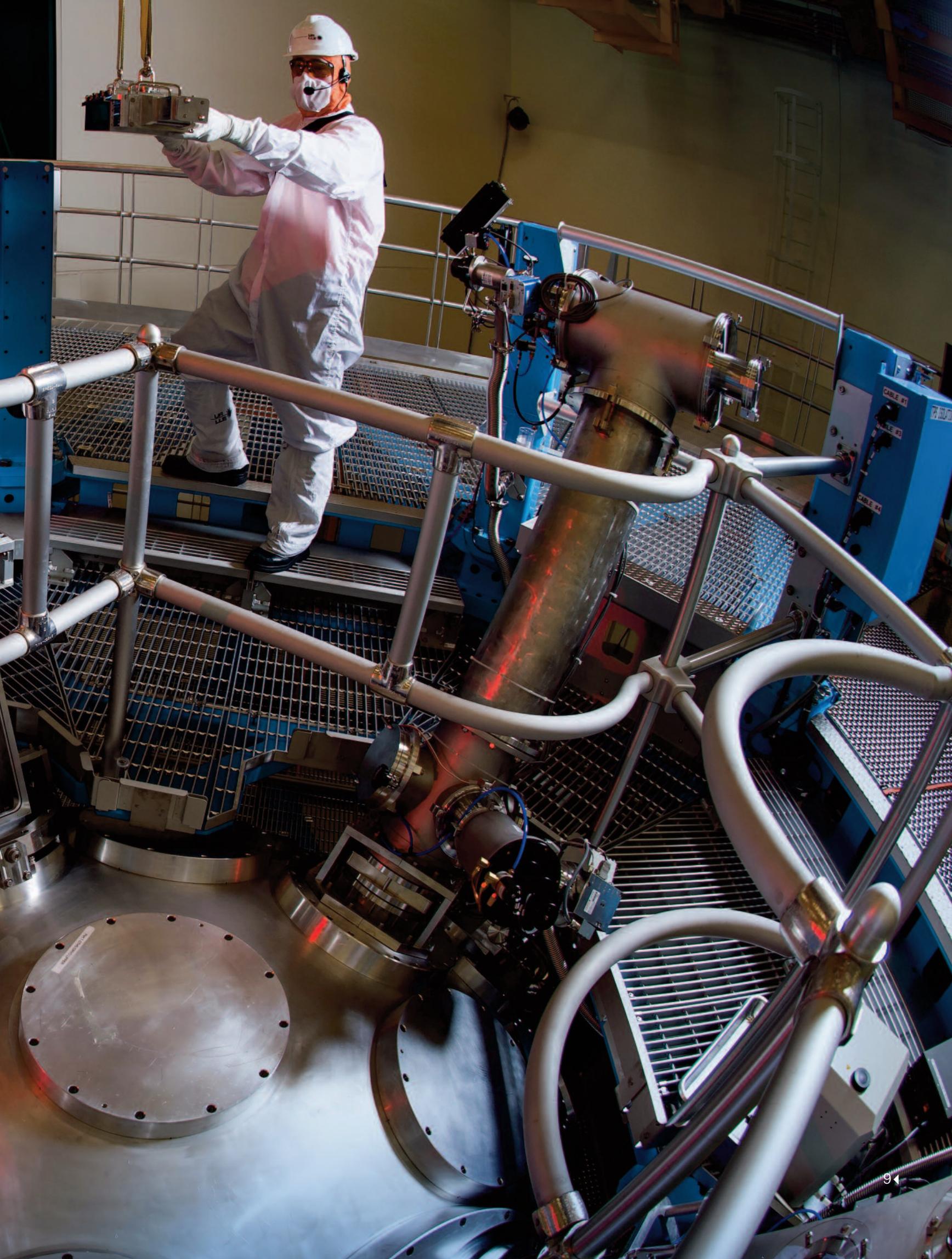
\$ **70**
million

UR Medicine provided **\$70 million** in uncompensated care last year.

Strong Memorial Hospital **saves 35%** on outpatient pharmaceutical costs thanks to 340B.

Thanks to funding through the Title VII Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students program, UR was able to provide **\$15,000 scholarships to 25 medical students** in the 2015-16 academic year.





The facts

\$**157.8**
million
In Annual
NIH Funding

Funding through the NIH is the University of Rochester's largest source of federally sponsored research, receiving **\$157.8M in NIH funding** in 2015, more than institutions in Albany, Buffalo, and Syracuse combined.

In 2015, UR was awarded a nearly **\$3M NSF Research Traineeship (NRT)** to prepare Ph.D. students to harness the burgeoning power of data science to make inroads into understanding the neural foundations of human behavior to develop solutions to today's societal challenges.

In 2015, LLE and the Sandia National Lab received a two-year, **\$3.8M** grant through DOE's ARPA-E for research to help accelerate the development and use of low-cost, high-yield fusion reactions for energy purposes.

UR Professor Chunlei Guo received a **\$330,000 grant** from the U.S. Army Research Office to support his work developing a laser that puts super-absorbent and super-repellent materials on metals. The grant will be used to research an application for military vehicles.

Support for University-based Scientific Research, the Arts, and the Humanities

More than half of our nation's economic growth over the past 50 years is attributed to innovation and scientific and technological progress, much of which is the result of federally funded scientific research. University-based scientific research fuels the new ideas and technologies on which our economy, health, and national security depend. Stable and sustained investment in research is critical to driving U.S. leadership in innovation, job creation, and long-term economic growth.

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Biomedical research funded by the NIH and performed at research universities not only saves lives, but also assures U.S. leadership in the life sciences revolution of the 21st century. For example, the NIH, with the help of UR researchers and others, has made extraordinary progress in the development of a universal flu vaccine. In 2012 alone, NIH investments have led to the creation of more than 400,000 high-quality jobs and generated nearly \$60 billion in economic output.

- ▶ *We thank Congress for providing additional funds for NIH in FY16, and urge at least \$34.6 billion in discretionary funding for the NIH in FY17.*

National Science Foundation (NSF)

As the cornerstone of America's basic research enterprise, the NSF is committed to fundamental, interdisciplinary, high-risk, and transformative research and education across all science and engineering disciplines. NSF-funded research has led to fiber optics, the Internet, nanotechnology, and many other advances. Robust and sustained support for NSF will help address the backlog of highly-rated research proposals that have not been supported due to insufficient funding.

- ▶ *Please provide \$7.96 billion in discretionary funding for the NSF in FY17.*

Department of Energy (DOE)

The DOE's Office of Science is the nation's primary supporter of research in the physical sciences, including fields such as high energy physics and fusion that support the University's LLE. The Office of Science sponsors 50% of all university physics research at more than 300 institutions, and links to other fields such as the biological sciences, computing, and engineering. The DOE's Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) supports research that is unlikely to be supported by industry, but has the potential to dramatically change how we acquire and use energy in the future.

- ▶ *Provide at least \$5.6 billion for the Department of Energy Office of Science in FY17. In addition, please provide \$500 million for the ARPA-E program and additional support for the Office of Fusion Energy Science, which funds the Fusion Science Center for Extreme States of Matter at the University's LLE.*

Department of Defense (DoD) Basic Research

Defense 6.1 basic research programs support cutting-edge scientific and engineering research as well as undergraduate scholarships, graduate research assistantships, and fellowships that maintain our military superiority and strengthen our nation's scientific and technical workforce. DoD funded research is known for high risk, high reward endeavors that have led to paradigm shifts in the nation's technical capabilities.

- ▶ *Support at least \$2.9 billion in funding for Defense 6.1 basic research in FY17 and \$14.3 billion for Defense S&T.*

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

For more than 50 years, NASA has captivated the public with accomplishments that have revolutionized our understanding of earth and space sciences, the life sciences, and aeronautics, and have led to new technologies. In addition to the space program and mission directorates, NASA's university-based programs help educate America's future technological and scientific workforce.

- ▶ Support robust funding for NASA, including at least \$5.9 billion for Science, \$672 million for Aeronautics, and \$725 million for Space Technology.

Support the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)

NEA programs encourage creativity through support for performances, exhibitions, festivals, artist residencies, and other art projects throughout the country in a variety of disciplines that have a great impact on art education and local economies. Each NEA grant dollar is typically matched by nine dollars of additional investments in nonprofit arts organizations.

- ▶ Support at least \$155 million in FY17 for the NEA to ensure sufficient support for the NEA's grant-making programs.

Support the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

The humanities programs funded by the NEH are vital to ensuring that America can compete successfully in a global economy and advance sound public policy to address the challenges of the 21st century. These programs stimulate the creativity and innovation that have brought world leadership and underlie the cultural intelligence that buttresses successful diplomacy.

- ▶ Support at least \$155 million for the NEH in FY17.

As NASA looks to send humans to Mars, the UR in 2015 was awarded **\$1.8 million from NASA** to study whether extended deep space travel places astronauts at risk for neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer's. The grant is one of nine funded by NASA to better understand and reduce the risks of long journeys in deep space.

In 2012, the Memorial Art Gallery received a **\$15,000 NEA Art Works grant** to conserve 37 Depression-era drawings by Rochester artist Carl Peters. The project was completed and was the focus of an exhibition at the MAG from October 2015–January 2016.



The facts

\$ **110**
million
Photonics
Award

HTR has created or retained more than **2,500 jobs** over the last 5 years.



Support for Economic Development and Higher Education Regulatory Relief

With 27,590 total employees, an increase of more than 4,460 employees over the last five years, the University has grown to be one of the largest private employers in New York State and the largest private employer based in Upstate New York. We have brought education, research, and commercialization together to become a major hub of innovation and economic growth. As a result, the University is an active partner and leader in efforts to promote and grow our regional economy. The University was proud to have helped lead the effort to secure a \$110 million national photonics award that will be headquartered in Rochester and builds on past efforts at the federal level, as well as to lead the effort to win an historic \$500 million award from New York State to revitalize our economy.

We thank Congress for its support of academic-based economic development programs and seek its support to address burdensome policies and regulations that inhibit our ability to continue to add jobs, expand our research capacity, and create new companies and technologies.

Support the National Institute for Standards and Technology's (NIST) Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) Program

High Tech Rochester (HTR), the region's only state- and federally-designated business incubator, is an affiliate of the University of Rochester. HTR is one of New York State's ten designated Regional Technology Development Centers and part of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP). The mission of MEP nationally – and of HTR's services in the Finger Lakes region – is to support the growth of small- to mid-sized manufacturing companies to help them create and retain jobs, improve productivity, reduce costs, and expand capacity. For every one dollar of federal investment, the MEP generates \$17 in new sales growth and \$24 in new client investment, which translates into \$2.3 billion in new sales annually. Over the last five years, HTR has completed more than 300 projects with 180 growth stage manufacturing companies.

- ▶ *Support \$1.019 billion for NIST and \$151 million for MEP in FY17.*

Support the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and High Tech Rochester's Business Accelerator Project

HTR's programs and services support innovation and growth across all stages of the company life cycle. As a result, HTR has had an estimated economic impact of nearly \$500 million and created or retained more than 2,500 jobs over the last five years. HTR's Business Accelerator Cooperative project will establish a centralized incubator facility to coordinate programs and services to support entrepreneurship and innovation and drive economic growth across all sectors in the nine-county Finger Lakes region. The project, which has long been a priority of the Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council, has received \$10 million from New York State. HTR is currently seeking a \$3 million grant from the EDA to support construction of the new facility in the historic Sibley Building, which will serve as the anchor for the City of Rochester's newly designated Downtown Innovation Zone.

- ▶ *Support \$3 million for High Tech Rochester's EDA application to construct a new state-of-the-art business incubator in downtown Rochester, as well as \$261 million for the EDA and an additional \$50 million in mandatory spending for a new competitive grant initiative to further incentivize partnerships between federal labs, academia and regional economic development organizations.*

Oppose the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) Overtime Proposed Rule

Many employees on campuses are currently exempt from the FLSA's overtime pay requirements. In 2015, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) proposed new rules for overtime pay that, if enacted, would double the exemption from overtime pay from \$23,660 per year to \$54,440 per year. This proposed change poses particular challenges for colleges and universities, which require a unique breadth of positions not considered under the manufacturer-oriented framework of the FLSA.

The University agrees that an increase to the minimum salary threshold is due and that DOL must update salary levels and regulations periodically to ensure the exemptions are not abused. However, a 113% increase is simply too large to implement and fails to account for regional and industry sector differences in pay. To comply with the proposed change, colleges and universities would increase salaries for a few individuals whose current pay is closest to the new threshold, but would need to reclassify the vast majority of impacted employees to hourly status. This mass reclassification would be to the detriment of employees, institutions and students. The changes would have a particularly negatively impact on the important role post-doctoral researchers play in the scientific enterprise by increasing the cost of and thus inhibiting important research. In total, more than 2,000 University of Rochester employees would be directly impacted by this proposed rule, including approximately 200 post-docs, at a total estimated cost of almost \$15 million.

- ▶ *We ask our Congressional delegation to contact the DOL and urge DOL to reconsider and set a salary level more in line with historic trends, to consider expanding the exemption for certain learned professionals from the minimum salary level, and to phase in the new salary level over time to allow employers and employees enough time to make adjustments and preparations.*

Support the Student Worker Exemption Act

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) mandates that employers with more than 100 full-time equivalent (FTE) employees, including colleges and universities, offer health insurance to nearly all employees – including graduate students – working 30 or more hours per week, beginning in 2016. Such a requirement would inflict significant budgetary and administrative burdens and require the nearly impossible task of separating graduate student work done for a degree from “employment” work done for the University. Our students already have access to quality, affordable health care coverage through a variety of means, including the University-subsidized student plan, which costs one-third of an employee plan and has comparable coverage consistent with the ACA.

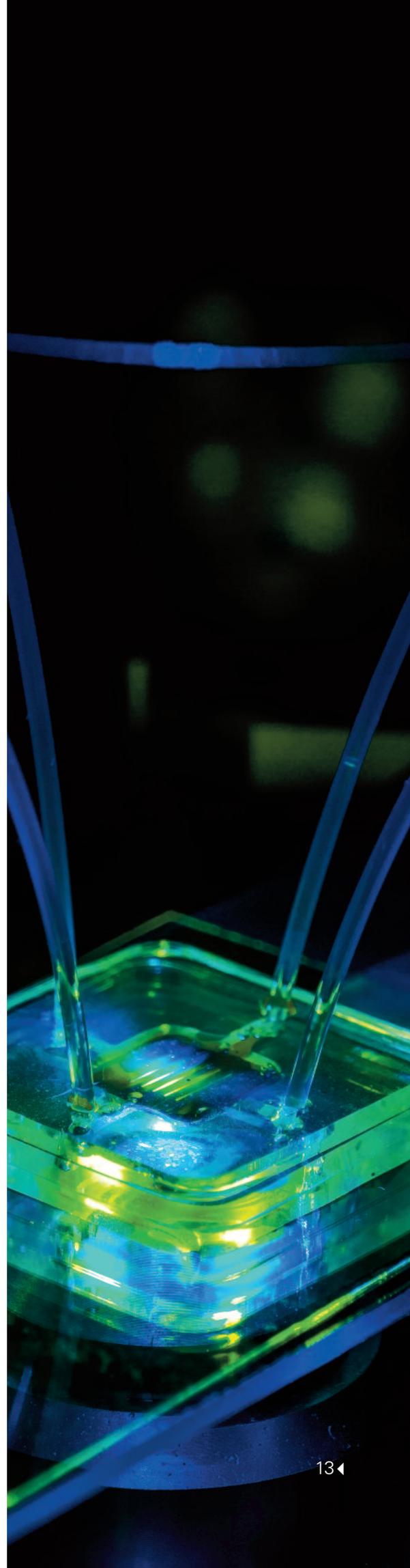
- ▶ *While the IRS and Department of Treasury have provided temporary transition relief for institutions until 2017, we will continue to work with Congress to secure clear guidance that ensures colleges and universities, which are not seeking to elude the ACA's employer shared responsibility requirements, can continue to subsidize health coverage for students without fear of liability under the ACA and without limiting student opportunities.*

Streamline the Regulation of Higher Education

Since 1965, the Higher Education Act (HEA) has been a critical vehicle for expanding access to postsecondary education for low- and middle-income Americans.

As Congress seeks legislation that complements our efforts to make high-quality postsecondary education accessible, provide students with a world-class academic experience, and educate future leaders, reform should enhance college access; promote college completion; support effective assessment of student achievement; preserve diversity and quality; promote innovation; elevate graduate education; ensure appropriate accountability; and back consumer disclosure tools, such as a streamlined FAFSA form to better help students and their families understand their educational options and the value of a college degree.

- ▶ *We also encourage Congress to pass legislation in 2016 that builds off the work and recommendations of the bipartisan Task Force on Federal Regulation of Higher Education, which was led by Senator Lamar Alexander and Senator Barbara Mikulski, to eliminate excessive regulatory burden and streamline duplicative reporting requirements for colleges and universities.*



University of R



Rochester



The facts

85%
of students
receive grants
or scholarships

Nearly 20% of UR undergraduates are eligible for and receive assistance through the Pell Grant program.

85% of UR students receive institutional grants or scholarships toward the cost of college.

95% of UR's Upward Bound students enroll in college.

This year, the University of Rochester is providing more than **\$100 million** in institutional aid to students.

Support for Student Aid

Ensuring Access to Higher Education

We must ensure all students have the opportunity to attend college and improve their knowledge and skills for today's workforce. Last year, with the assistance of Pell Grants, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, Federal Work-Study, and other forms of state and federal student aid, more than one million American students earned degrees and are contributing to our economy.

Support for Pell Grants

The Federal Pell Grant Program provides critical need-based grants to low-income undergraduate students who might otherwise not have access to college.

At the University of Rochester, 1,094 students are receiving assistance through the Pell Grant program this year, with an average award of \$4,571.

- ▶ *Maintain the discretionary base and continue indexing the mandatory add-on to inflation to allow the scheduled increase in the maximum Pell Grant to \$5,935.*

Support for Federal Work-Study (FWS)

Federal Work-Study helps students finance the cost of college through part-time employment. In the current academic year, the University of Rochester received \$806,606 to support about 1,000 work-study positions. Nearly 20% of UR's FWS funding helps support the Career Services Job Location and Development Program and UReading, a tutoring and mentoring program that pairs undergraduates with preschool and kindergarten students from the Rochester City School District.

- ▶ *Provide at least \$989.7 million for FWS in FY17.*

Support Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG) and GEAR UP

SEOG and GEAR UP provide grants to low- and middle-income students and fund programs that help at-risk students get into and stay in college. In the 2014–15 academic year, the University of Rochester received \$550,488 in federal funding for SEOG, providing 1,040 students with an average award of \$491.

- ▶ *Support \$733.1 million for SEOG and \$322 million for GEAR UP in FY17.*

Support Funding for TRIO

Federal Funding for TRIO programs such as Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math Science, and McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement provide vital outreach and student support services for low-income, minority, and potential first-generation college students. UR's highly successful Upward Bound programs provide college preparation and other academic support to more than 100 students in the Rochester City School District.

- ▶ *We are grateful for the increased funding for TRIO in FY16, and support \$900 million for TRIO in FY17.*

Support for Federal Loan Programs

Federal support for student loans, particularly for graduate and professional students, has eroded in recent years. From the phase out of the Perkins Loan program to increased borrowing costs, these reductions in support have come at the same time demand for highly educated and trained workers is increasing.

- ▶ *We urge Congress and the Administration to develop a long-term strategy for sustaining federally-backed loan programs to ensure both undergraduate and graduate students can meet their financial needs.*





Support for Higher Education

Preparing our future leaders

Support for Graduate Education Programs

The Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) program helps ensure a strong pipeline of talented experts and educators to meet the demands of our 21st century workforce. In 2015, the University of Rochester received GAANN awards totaling more than \$787,000 to support fellowships in programs including physics and chemistry.

- ▶ *We support including the arts, humanities, and social disciplines as eligible fields for grant competition in FY17. Support at least \$29.3 million in funding for the GAANN in FY17.*

Support Education Research

The Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences (IES) offers high quality, evidence-based research and innovations in teaching and learning. The Advanced Research Projects Agency for Education (ARPA-ED) pursues technological breakthroughs with the potential to improve the effectiveness and productivity of teaching and learning, and the First in the World Initiative is an evidence-based program supporting the development and evaluation of innovative strategies designed to improve college completion, particularly for students with financial need.

- ▶ *Support \$618 for IES, \$50 for ARPA-ED, and \$100 for the First in the World Initiative.*

Support International Education Programs

The Title VI programs support our nation's long-term national security, global leadership, and economic competitiveness. The nation needs a steady supply of graduates with expertise in less commonly taught languages, world areas, and transnational trends to maintain U.S. diplomacy and future global engagement.

- ▶ *Support at least \$76 million for the Department of Education's International Education and Foreign Language programs in FY17.*



The nation needs

a steady supply of graduates with expertise in less commonly taught languages, world areas, and transnational trends to maintain U.S. diplomacy and future global engagement.

Support Programs to Assist Students with Developmental and Other Disabilities

UR's Strong Center for Developmental Disabilities (SCDD), an HHS University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD), advances services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. SCDD's Institute for Innovative Transition, funded by the Department of Education's Transition and Post-Secondary Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities (TPSID) program, supports students with intellectual disabilities in the transition to adulthood through access to higher education, vocational training, and job placement. UR also participates in the HHS Leadership in Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities and Related Disorders (LEND) program to prepare graduate-level trainees for leadership roles in these fields.

- ▶ Please provide at least \$39 million for UCEDD, \$29 million for LEND, and \$11.8 million for TPSID in FY17.

Reform the Path to Green Card Status

The U.S. cannot compete for the world's most talented students unless those students know that they will have employment opportunities after graduation. Only 140,000 employment-based green cards are available annually, which puts pressure on the equally insufficient H-1B visa program to serve as a bridge while awaiting permanent residency.

- ▶ We can no longer afford to turn away talented individuals or make them wait decades to obtain a green card. Congress must raise the cap on H-1B visas, and provide sufficient green card relief to ensure that the U.S. can retain, attract and employ the talent needed to fuel a high-tech economy.







For more information please contact:



UNIVERSITY of
ROCHESTER

Office of Government & Community Relations
601 Elmwood Ave., Box 706, Rochester, NY 14642
www.ogcr.rochester.edu

585.273.5955

