NSF & VIRGINIA

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2019, the National Science Foundation made $165,309,000 in awards to Virginia in support of fundamental research, advanced technical education, entrepreneurial training, STEM teacher training, long-term ecological monitoring, small business development, major research instrumentation and more.

DID YOU KNOW?

DISCOVERY | Researchers at Virginia Tech have developed a method to improve 3D-printed prosthetics by integrating electronic sensors. A Virginia Tech professor and his interdisciplinary team of undergraduate student researchers have made inroads in integrating electronic sensors with personalized 3D-printed prosthetics — a development that one day will lead to more affordable electric-powered prosthetics.

STEM WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT | Virginia has more cybersecurity professionals per capita than any other state. With a $4,569,946 award from NSF, Virginia Tech is creating an NSF CyberCorps®: Scholarship for Service (SFS) program targeting undergraduate students entering their third year of study and majoring in computer engineering and computer science. The program provides three years of funding to complete a B.S. or M.A. degree. The program provides a major advancement in cybersecurity education at Virginia Tech by incentivizing study in cybersecurity, and by creating a pathway to federal employment.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS | In FY19 NSF had $13,151,822 in active awards through the Robert Noyce Scholarship program, which prepares equity-minded mathematics and science teachers to work in diverse communities of learners. The scholarship program is being funded at the University of Virginia (Main Campus), Randolph-Macon College, George Mason University, Virginia State University, Hampton University, Old Dominion University Research Foundation, Christopher Newport University, Virginia Commonwealth University, James Madison University, Virginia Commonwealth University, College of William and Mary and the University of Lynchburg.

SCIENCE & ENGINEERING INDICATORS | 7.55% of the Virginia workforce is employed in S&E occupations, and 13.25% of Virginia business establishments are industries with high employment in science, engineering and technology (SET) occupations.

FEDERALLY FUNDED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER | Charlottesville, Virginia, is home to the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO). NRAO conceives, designs, builds, operates and maintains state-of-the-art radio telescopes used by scientists from around the world. Operating synergistically with optical, infrared, X-ray and gravitational wave telescopes, NRAO facilities enable researchers to study a remarkably broad range of key problems in modern astrophysics that reach from within our solar system to the most distant galaxies in the universe. NRAO supports facilities in Chile and the U.S.