

# Research Overview

Creighton  
UNIVERSITY

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**Devendra Agrawal, PhD**

> **School of Medicine**

*PI on \$15 million in active NIH grants to study cardiovascular diseases*

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**Erin Walcek Averett, PhD**

> **College of Arts and Sciences**

> **Archaeology**

*Received funding from the National Science Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities*

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**Amy Badura Brack, PhD**

> **College of Arts and Sciences**

> **Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder**

*Received a \$1.2 million grant from At Ease USA for PTSD study*

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**Xian-Ming Chen, MD**

> **School of Medicine**

*Received a \$1.8 million NIH grant to study how certain cells defend against cryptosporidiosis, which infects weakened immune systems*

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**Chris Destache, PharmD**

> **School of Pharmacy and Health Professions**

> **Nanotechnology, HIV and TB**

*Testing a novel approach to HIV prevention by combining drugs and a protein*

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**Ernie Goss, PhD**

> **Heider College of Business**

> **Labor economics, econometrics and macroeconomics**

*Produces two monthly reports: The rural Mainstreet Index, which surveys bankers' insights about business conditions in 10 states, and the Mid-American Outlook, which surveys purchasing managers in nine states*

Creighton University faculty and students conduct research across a remarkable breadth of human endeavor and inquiry. Archaeology, cancer, cardiovascular disease, dental materials, digital humanities, nanotechnology, neuroscience, particle physics, HIV, osteoporosis and Parkinson's disease are among the areas in which Creighton researchers excel. This overview only skims the surface of scholarly activity at the University. For details, visit [creighton.edu/research](http://creighton.edu/research).

## Creighton Research at a Glance

**\$21.7 million**

Total External Funding for FY18



**69%**

of external funding comes from highly competitive federal awards

Named a **Top School for Undergraduate Research/Creative Projects** by *U.S. News & World Report*

**\$7.6 million**

of the total federal awards are National Institutes of Health (NIH) awards

**36%**

of Creighton undergraduate students participate in research before graduating

## College of Arts and Sciences, Heider College of Business, Graduate School, School of Law and University-Wide

- Through funding from the Nebraska Tobacco Settlement Biomedical Research Development Fund, Creighton University supports several research projects in the biomedical and health sciences each year. The return on the state of Nebraska's investment has been exemplary, with each dollar leading to nearly \$5 in new extramural funding for Creighton University.
- Research in the College of Arts and Sciences spans dozens of disciplines, includes many interdisciplinary collaborations, and provides numerous opportunities for faculty to mentor undergraduate researchers. Current research projects are funded by grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, NASA and other private foundations and agencies.
- Creighton law students have authored more than 900 original research articles in the *Creighton Law Review*, a publication with nationwide circulation.

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**Michael Kelly, JD**

> School of Law

> International law,  
prosecution of genocide,  
internet law

*Testified before U.S. Congress on  
property claims affecting the  
Cuban embargo*

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**Joan Lappe, PhD**

> College of Nursing

> Osteoporosis, Vitamin D

*Led studies that suggest a  
relationship between vitamin D  
and cancer prevention*

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**Henry Lynch, MD**

> School of Medicine

> Hereditary Cancer

*Received the 2017 Luminary  
Award in GI Cancers*

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**Janet Seger, PhD**

> College of Arts and Sciences

*Conducts research on ultra-  
peripheral heavy ion collisions  
at one of the premier particle  
detectors in the world, the STAR  
detector (Solenoidal Tracker at  
RHIC).*

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**Sonia Rocha-Sanchez, PhD**

> School of Dentistry

> Tissue regeneration,  
translational research

*Has received multiple NIH  
awards to examine the role of  
supporting cells in cochlear hair  
cell regeneration*

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**Jian Zuo, PhD**

> School of Medicine

*Has received a three-year grant  
from the Department of Defense  
Hearing Restoration Research  
Program*

- From 2015 to 2017, more than 250 graduate students successfully completed either a master's thesis, a PhD dissertation or an EdD dissertation.
- In the 2016-2017 academic year, Heider College of Business faculty authored more than 100 publications and made more than 75 presentations throughout the world.
- The Heider College of Business is home to widely cited economist Ernie Goss, PhD, and the founders of the field of financial psychology, Ted Klontz, PhD, and Bradley Klontz, PsyD.
- The *Creighton Journal of Interdisciplinary Leadership*, launched in 2015, is one of the only journals in the country focused on interdisciplinary leadership.
- During the 2016-2017 fiscal year, the Reinert-Alumni Memorial Library acquired 1,015 books and 777 journal articles for students and faculty. During this same period, the Health Sciences Library acquired 39 books and 916 journal articles for students and faculty.

## Health Sciences

- Research grants awarded to the School of Medicine for the most recent academic year totaled more than \$10 million. Cardiovascular disease, hereditary cancer, neuroscience, infectious disease and metabolism/nutrition are some of the most active research areas.
- The College of Nursing faculty developed the Creighton Competency Evaluation Instrument (C-CEI) that was used in a groundbreaking study on nursing care simulation by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing. It is now used internationally to measure clinical competence.
- In one of the first projects of its kind in the U.S., College of Nursing faculty are partnering with an open health care system — CHI Health — to support the development and evaluation of a new model of interprofessional primary health care that will prepare “collaboration-ready” health professions graduates.
- Researchers in the School of Pharmacy and Health Professions have multiple active NIH awards to explore treatment of HIV and tuberculosis.
- The newly expanded Rehabilitation Science Laboratory features a 900-square-foot area equipped with cutting-edge technology for computer-aided imaging and a revamped 3,000-square-foot room for heavier equipment and treatment capabilities. Interdisciplinary projects in the lab include an investigation into physical therapy options for treating Parkinson's disease.
- Dental industry partners including Dentsply, Premier Dental Products and Sunstar work with dental materials researchers in the School of Dentistry to help develop new products for better patient care.
- The School of Dentistry has international research partnerships with Nihon University and Shofu Corporation in Japan.