Report Tracks Research at ASCO Member Schools

ASCO's 2014-2015 Research Survey Report was distributed to the ASCO Board of Directors in March. The survey now covers the period July 1-June 30 rather than Oct. 1-Sept. 30 as in prior years. Another change to this year's survey is that projects are listed by research expenses rather than grant amount. Research expenses reflect what the program actually earned during the period July 1-June 30. In addition, research conducted by subcontract collaborators, i.e., optometry schools that are collaborating centers on research subcontracts, is now listed in a separate table and not counted in the totals listed below.

Total research expenses at ASCO member institutions during the report period were approximately $25.85 million. (Some amounts are approximate and some were not available. One school didn't participate in the survey.) The National Eye Institute (NEI) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) funded more projects by far (110) than any other source. The combined research expenses for NEI projects were approximately $16 million. Other top expenditures (excluding industry) were for projects funded by NASA, Brien Holden Vision Institute, the NIH's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and the U.S. Department of Defense.

A new table in the report lists industry-funded research separately by category and shows that the highest percentage of industry-funded research expenditures was in the area of contact lens research (53.1%), followed by technology research (20.3%) and pharmaceuticals (19.8%). There were no reported expenses for spectacles research during the report period. The balance (6.7%) was "other" research.

The Research Report includes research facilities information, a list of industry-funded research expenses by category and by school, a list of other research expenses by school, a list of subcontract collaborators by school, and top research sources and expenditures. A list of the top research sources and expenditures can be found here.