

From: **President's Office** <[president@amherst.edu](mailto:president@amherst.edu)>  
Date: Mon, Jun 27, 2022 at 1:11 PM  
Subject: Enhanced Support for Faculty Research  
To: President's Office Amherst College <[president@amherst.edu](mailto:president@amherst.edu)>

Dear Faculty Colleagues,

We often describe Amherst College as a “research college,” a place where faculty carry out the highest level of research possible in a liberal arts college setting. We are immensely proud of the stellar scholars who make up our faculty. In recent years, we have come to recognize that we need to provide additional support so that you can pursue your research dreams, not least with the students whom you mentor and guide so expertly. Accordingly, one of the goals of the *Promise* campaign has been to provide enhancements for faculty research. Today, we are pleased to inform you of the following enhancements:

- The budget for academic interns has been doubled. All faculty who applied for academic interns for the coming academic year were guaranteed one intern; in addition, all requests for an additional intern have been granted. Going forward, all faculty members will be guaranteed one academic intern for the academic year (Fall, January, and Spring terms), as well as one academic intern for the summer. Requests for additional interns will be granted as funding permits.
- The Faculty Research Award Program (FRAP) budget has also been doubled. This will allow the maximum amount for small grants to be increased from \$6,000 to \$10,000 and for large grants to be increased from \$30,000 to \$50,000. Please note that there are two rounds of applications for FRAP monies, with submissions due each October 1 and February 1.
- The College has long sought to provide additional technical support for faculty in the laboratory sciences. The *Promise* campaign has now made possible one lab technician for every two untenured faculty members in the laboratory sciences. The amount allocated for a full technician position in 2022-2023 is \$56,670. The adjusted whole FTE salary of \$56,670 will yield an hourly rate of \$27.50 based upon forty hours per week for 52 weeks. There are several ways to use these funds. Two faculty members may jointly hire a single individual and split the time, or each faculty member may hire a laboratory technician for 20 hours per week. There is also the possibility of supplementing the technician salary via internal or external funds. This funding is available only for laboratory assistant costs and is not fungible. Eligibility for this support will be extended to include the first year after a faculty member is tenured, normally a sabbatical year.
- As of July 1, 2022, the annual Travel and Research allocation of \$2,500 will increase to \$3,000 for faculty, and from \$1,500 to \$1,800 for eligible staff.

We hope that this additional support will prove helpful for your research.

Sincerely,

Biddy and Catherine