



THE RESEARCH FOUNDATION
The State University of New York

Employee Introduction to The Research Foundation of SUNY

July 2008

The Research Foundation's Mission and Vision

Welcome to The Research Foundation of SUNY (RF), a private nonprofit corporation.

Our Mission

- The Research Foundation of SUNY (RF) supports the advancement of education, research and discovery at the State University of New York (SUNY).

Our Vision

- To be internationally recognized and respected as the most responsive and agile university research partner providing expertise and comprehensive services to help the campuses and the university system achieve their visions.

RF Support

The RF supports faculty and staff conducting **sponsored programs** and research that extend the boundaries of human knowledge and drive economic development.

- **Sponsored program:** A program (to conduct research, training or public service) that is funded by a sponsor (federal/state government, businesses and foundations such as the American Cancer Society) through a formal written grant or contract.

Why a Research Foundation?

The RF gives SUNY faculty and staff the infrastructure and flexibility they need to pursue their **sponsored program** goals. **Sponsored programs** operate on short time frames (usually only one year to complete the project) and often require:

- prefunding of expenditures prior to sponsor reimbursement.
- flexibility to employ people within the project start and end dates.
- timely purchase of supplies and equipment and reimbursement of travel costs.
- timely billing of sponsors for payment.



RF Core Values

- The Research Foundation strives to accomplish its mission by:
 - Respecting each employee and individual with whom we interact.
 - Maintaining a customer focus.
 - Providing efficient and effective operations.
 - Promoting professional and ethical behavior.
 - Encouraging flexibility and adaptability to change.
 - Facilitating collaboration.

Ethics

- The Research Foundation (RF) strives to maintain the highest ethical standards in all of its operations; promotes professional conduct among its employees and any individual acting on behalf of the RF; and ensures a level of accountability appropriate for a world-class organization.
- The RF's ethics hotline is one way to encourage everyone in the Research Foundation (RF) community to fully understand and embrace the concept of ethics and accountability.
- Submit a report of fraud, waste or abuse to the ethics hotline on the RF Web site (www.rfsuny.org) or call in a report to 800-670-7225.

RF Key Facts

- ❑ Private, nonprofit 501(c) 3 educational corporation.
- ❑ Established in 1951.
- ❑ Operates under 1977 agreement with SUNY that was approved by the NYS Attorney General, State Comptroller, and Director of the Budget.
- ❑ Offices at 30 SUNY locations (state-operated) and a central office in Albany.
- ❑ One of over 100 university-connected research foundations in the United States and is recognized as the largest and most comprehensive.

RF is not SUNY or NYS

- The RF does not receive state appropriations or services provided to New York State agencies.
- Employees of the RF are not indemnified under the NYS Public Officers Law, are not entitled to representation by the New York State Attorney General, and do not participate in the state's retirement or fringe benefits programs.
- The RF is responsible for its own financial, legal, and business systems, its personnel policies, payroll services and employee fringe benefits programs.
 - RF employees receive a competitive benefits package comparable to that of their state counterparts.

Leadership

- The RF is governed by a board of directors composed of:
 - representatives of business and industry.
 - researchers.
 - campus and system administrators.

- The chancellor of the University serves as chair of the board *ex officio*.



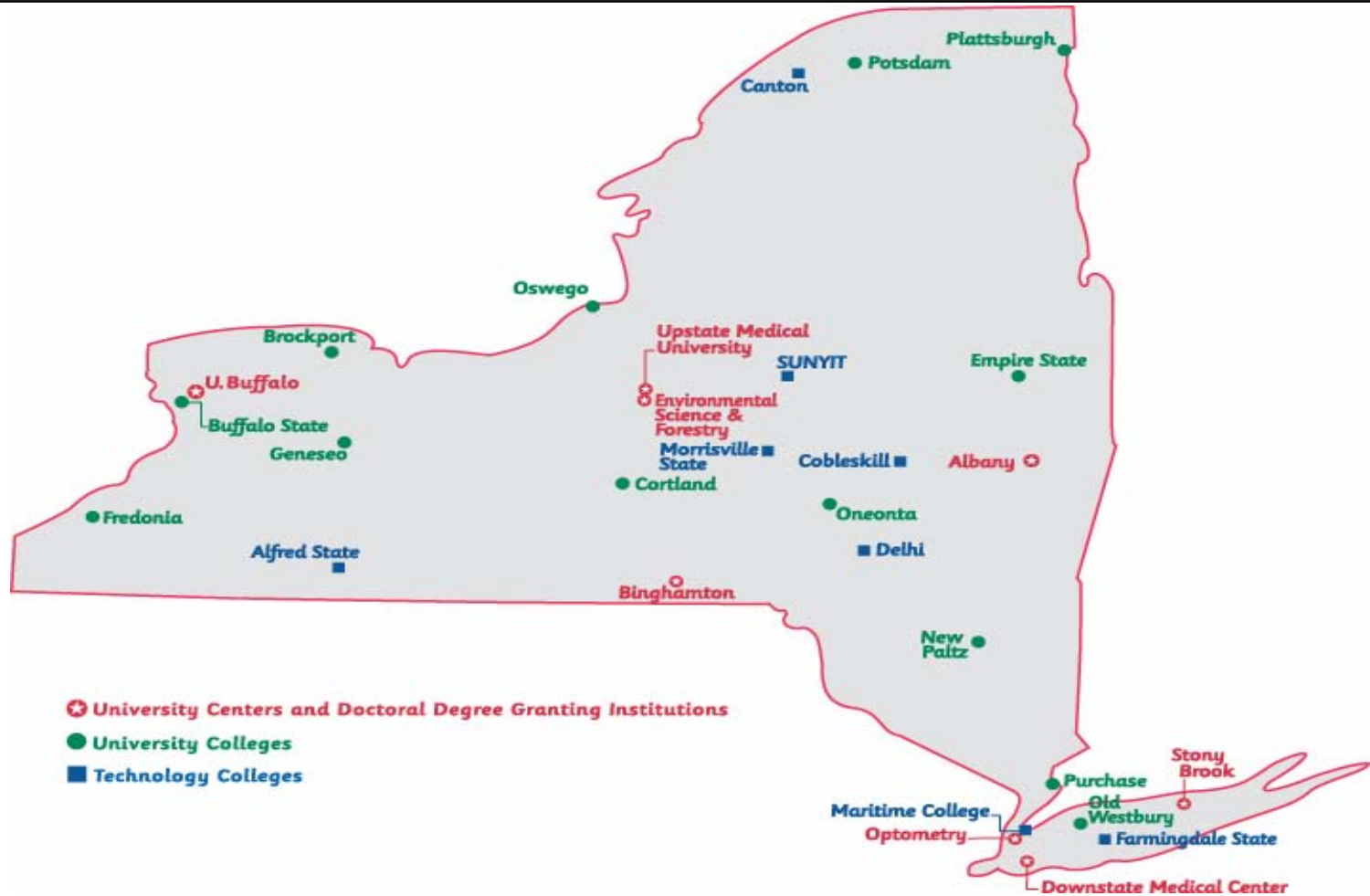
RF Central Office in Albany

- Is the corporate headquarters of the RF.
- Provides a framework for performing operational activity at the campus level related to RF services.
- Performs centralized sponsored programs and technology transfer operational activity for campuses where volumes don't warrant performing the activity at the campus.
- Employs approximately 170 people, which represents a small percentage of the RF's 17,400 employees state-wide.

RF Campus Offices

- Campus RF offices perform day-to-day operational activity related to RF services.
- The RF operations manager (OM) at each campus is responsible for Research Foundation activity at the campus.
 - The OM is appointed by the RF's board on the recommendation of the respective campus president.

RF Campus Offices



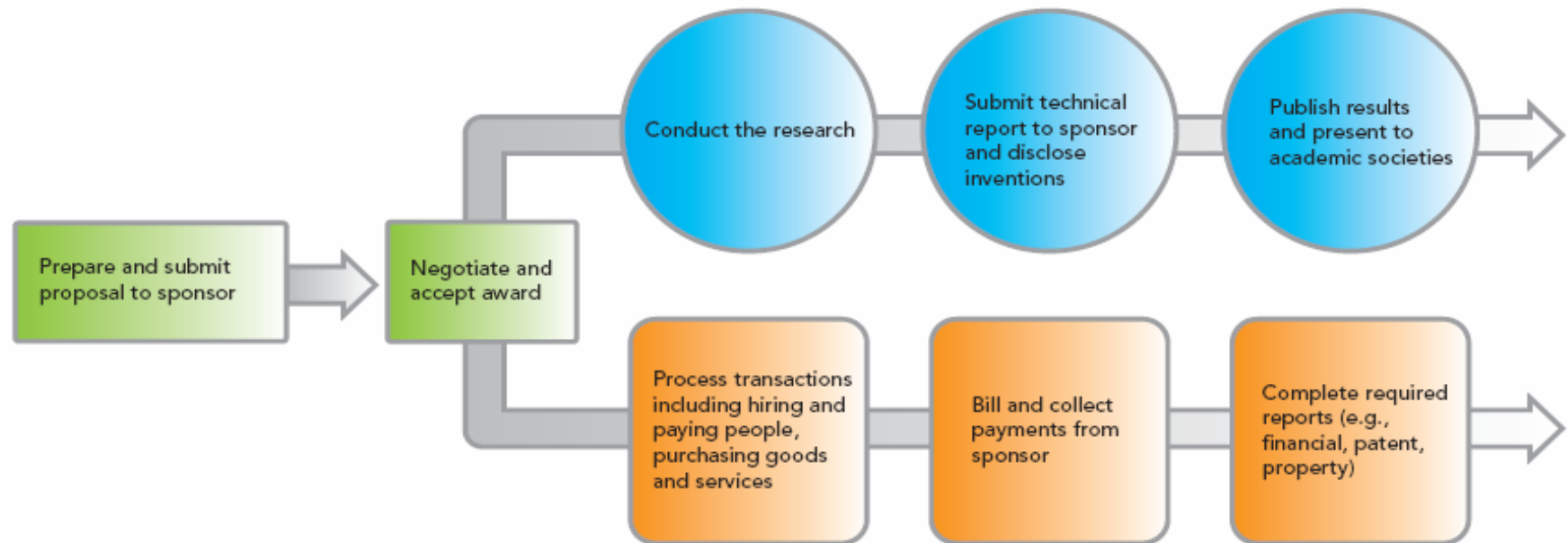
Sponsored Programs Administration

- ❑ The RF's core service is sponsored programs administration.
- ❑ Sponsored programs administration encompasses the functions which help faculty and staff conduct their sponsored program, including:
 - ❑ contract and grant accounting
 - ❑ human resources, payroll, and benefits
 - ❑ purchasing and accounts payable

Sponsored Program Lifecycle

Pre-award

Post-award



Principal investigator and RF business office

Principal investigator

RF business office



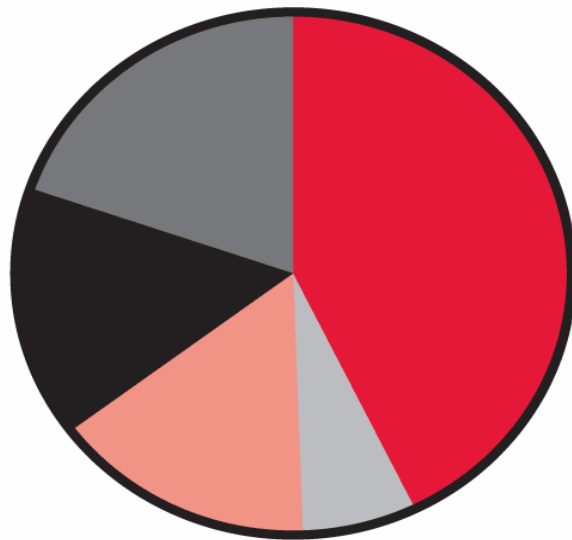
Sponsored Program Volume

- ❑ In fiscal year 2008, the RF managed approximately \$784 million in awards from federal and state governments, businesses and foundations in support of more than 7,672 campus-based research and training programs.
- ❑ The RF's project-related and administrative activities provide jobs to approximately 17,400 people per year.
- ❑ Sponsored programs are carried out in New York State, throughout the United States and abroad.

Volume by Sponsor Type (FY2008)

\$ Volume and Breakdown

(in dollars)



| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| ■ Federal | 336,285,058 |
| ■ Federal – Through Other | 51,722,906 |
| ■ Federal – Through NYS | 120,754,163 |
| ■ NYS – Direct | 122,144,090 |
| ■ Business, Industry & Other | 153,418,062 |
| Total | 784,324,279 |

Other RF Services

- Technology Transfer
 - Protect and market inventions that result from sponsored programs.

- Affiliated corporation establishment and oversight
 - Create separate corporations for government-industry-university partnerships (for example Brookhaven Science Associates, LLC to run Brookhaven National Laboratory).

- Human resources, payroll, purchasing for campus-related organizations
 - For clinical practice plans and other “agencies”.

Additional Resources

Find out more information about:

The RF:

- [Visit the RF Web site](http://www.rfsuny.org) at www.rfsuny.org

Your RF Employment:

- [Read the Employee Handbook](#) - To locate the *Employee Handbook*, log in to the RF Web site (www.rfsuny.org) and click Your RF Employment in the left navigation. *Employee Handbook* is the first link in the drop-down list.