

ANNUAL REPORT

Research Committee

**University of North Alabama
Florence, Alabama**

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Date submitted

Submitted to: Dr. Lauren Killen
Chair, Shared Governance Executive Committee

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA

ANNUAL REPORT 2025-2026

I. Executive Summary

The University Research Committee released the 2025-2026 grant application in January 2026; completed applications were due in February 2026. The committee met on February 16th, 2026 to review grant proposals and vote on funding awards. 12 projects with a total budget of \$20,724.23 were eventually funded.

II. The Committee's Charge (from the Shared Governance Document)

1. To serve as an advisory committee on the university's research function and related issues
2. To serve as a screening board, recommending action for university released time and non-released time research grants (not including those grants given through individual college research committees)
3. To gather information on the University's research efforts and related issues, and assess university performance in these areas in light of the information obtained
4. To propose changes in university policies, procedures, and practices on research and related issues
5. To handle any proposals the committee may make affecting university policy according to section C.2 "Shared Governance Procedure for Policy Change Recommendations"
6. To submit a final written report electronically by the first day of the fall semester to the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs with a copy sent to the Chair of the SGEC

III. The Committee met on the following dates:

12/2/2025 (Email communication): Election of the vice chair & start of revision of the application form.

02/16/2026 (Teams meeting): Grant application evaluation meeting.

IV. What were the Committee's actions and accomplishments this year relative to each of the items of the charge?

This year, 12 project proposals from 11 departments and five colleges were funded through the University Research Committee with a total fund of \$20,724.23. One additional project was initially funded but withdrawn by the PI.

V. What were the Committee's formal recommendations?

After careful evaluation, the committee recommended partially or fully funding 12 projects out of 14 submitted proposals for various activities such as research projects and creative artworks.

VI. What does the Committee plan to accomplish?

A. In the coming year?

The committee continually updates the application form, clarifying certain funding restrictions and updated policies. One main issue is dealing with faculty requests for software and hardware that is not provided by IT and pay for survey participants.

B. In future years?

The committee tries to make the grant application process as smooth and easy as possible.

VII. What are the Committee's weaknesses?

The application process and review period could be shortened and clarified. Scheduling difficulties usually holds back the review process. One application was denied for inappropriate requests or incorrect applications

A. What can the Shared Governance Committee help you do to address the weaknesses?

N/A

VIII. Comments

N/A