$625K in NASA Program Funds | $375K in Leveraged Funds in FY2016

NASA holds a competitive program each year for 3-year awards totaling $750K. A 50% match is required from the State. 24 states, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam are eligible jurisdictions for the NASA EPSCoR program. Alabama currently has 2 awards. We have also been awarded a Research Infrastructure Development grant. These funds are used for small “Seed Grants” to researchers in early stages of their careers. This year we also helped support a new initiative for the NASA EPSCoR program, the Technical Interchange Meeting. This meeting, held in Huntsville and sponsored by NASA HQ and MSFC, allowed faculty from all EPSCoR states, including Alabama, to meet with NASA researchers at MSFC to stimulate collaboration between NASA centers and NASA EPSCoR faculty. Twelve Alabama researchers attended from four of our campuses.

NASA EPSCoR objectives are to:

- Contribute to and promote the development of research infrastructure in NASA EPSCoR jurisdictions in areas of strategic importance to the NASA mission.
- Improve the capabilities of the jurisdictions to gain support from sources outside of the NASA EPSCoR program.
- Develop partnerships between NASA research assets, academic institutions, and industry. Contribute to the overall research infrastructure, science and technology capabilities, higher education and economic development of the jurisdiction

5 Current NASA EPSCoR Seed Grant (award $16K/yr for 1-4 yrs) from Alabama:

Dr. Majid Beidaghi, AU  
Dr. Sarma Rani, UAH  
Dr. Ming Sun, UAH  
Dr. Lin Li, UA  
Dr. Vinu Unnikrishnan, UA

2 Current NASA EPSCoR Research CAN (award $750K for 3 yrs) from Alabama:

Drs. Ajay Agrawal and Brian Fisher, UA  
Dr. T. Grant Glover, USA

Dr. John C. Gregory, Director, Alabama NASA EPSCoR  
gregoryj@uah.edu  
(p) (256) 824-6800

Mrs. Rachael Damiani, Resource Manager NASA EPSCoR  
rachael.damiani@uah.edu  
(p) (256) 824-6076

The University of Alabama in Huntsville, 301 Sparkman Drive, SKH 321, Huntsville AL 35899
We have had 6 Seed Grant PIs graduate from the Seed Grant Program and go on to win successful proposals to further their research endeavors. They are:

**Dr. Maria Auad, AU**  
She won a $350,000 NSF grant to develop a collaborative research center for biorenewable nanobiomaterials with AU, TU, UAB and Cornell, and $365,000 DOD grant for Development of Novel Lightweight Transparent Materials.

**Dr. Lingze Duan, UAH**  
He received an NSF CAREER grant.

**Dr. Greg Thompson, UA**  
He won a $750K 3-year NASA EPSCoR Research CAN studying High Temperature Shape Memory Alloys for Improved Efficiency in Aeronautic Turbomachinery.

**Dr. Amy Lang, UA**  
She received 2 NSF awards totaling $875K to fund a new 3D flow velocity measurement system and funding for an REU site.

**Dr. George Nelson, UAH**  
He received an NSF CAREER grant.

**Dr. T. Grant Glover, USA**  
He won a $750K 3-year NASA EPSCoR Research CAN studying the Development of Dust Free Binders for Spacecraft Air Revitalization Systems.

Dr. Amy Lang, University of Alabama  
Associate Professor of Aerospace Engineering and Mechanics, and graduate student working in UA’s water tunnel facility.

*Photo Credit: Amy Lang / The University of Alabama*