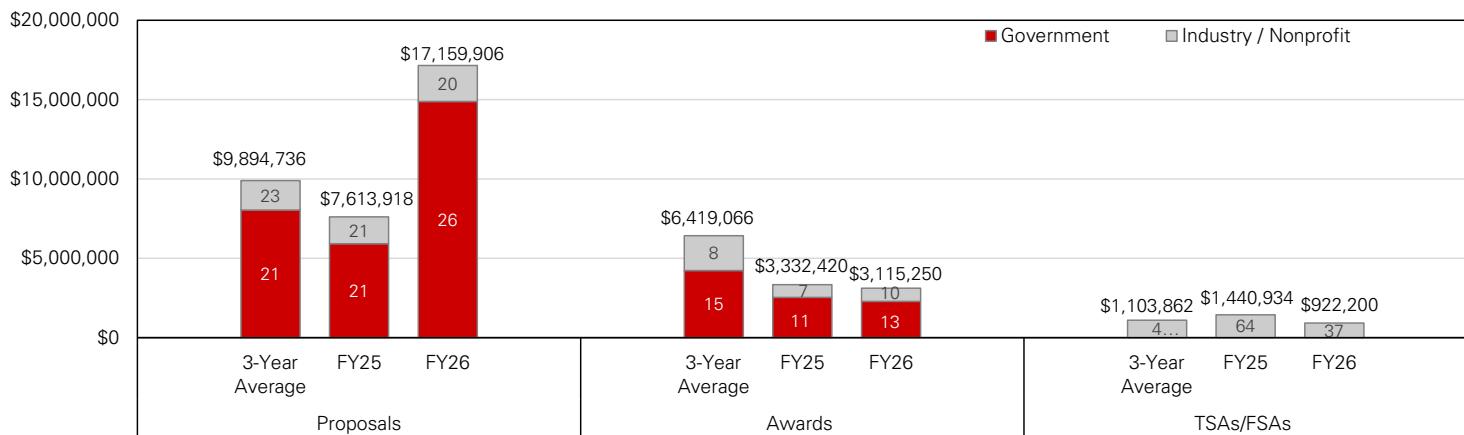


The research programs in the Wilson College of Textiles at NC State University are innovative, life-saving, creative, global and thriving. The college also provides tech service to all stakeholders and supports the economic development of the State and beyond. This newsletter gives a brief overview on the research and tech service activities of the faculty, staff and students during the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2026.

FY26 vs. FY25 vs. Three-Year Average (Q1 + Q2)



NUMBERS TO DATE (FY26 Q2)

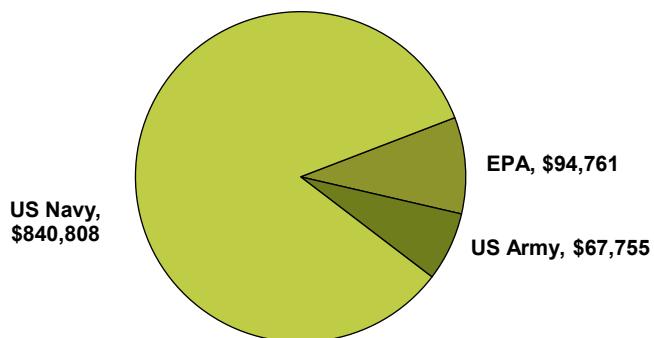
Research Awards Received (\$1,105,281)

- Federal: \$1,003,324 | US Environmental Protection Agency, US Army, US Navy
- Industry/Nonprofit: \$101,957 | ExxonMobil Technology and Engineering Company, Lion Group Inc., YKK Corporation

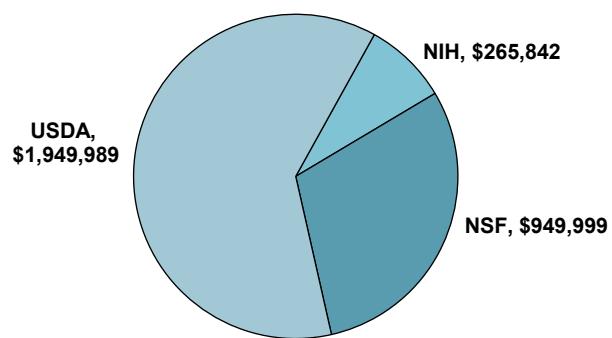
Research Proposals Submitted (\$4,411,316)

- Federal: \$3,165,830 | National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, US Department of Agriculture
- Industry/Nonprofit: \$1,245,486 | American Heart Association, Cotton Inc., NC IDEA, NC Innovation, SCEYE Inc., TNT Development, Under Armour

FY26 Q2 Federal Awards by Agency



FY26 Q2 Federal Proposals by Agency



NUMBERS TO DATE (FY26 Q2) Cont.

Inter-college Research Proposals (6)

- Wilson College share: \$3,467,486 | With CALS, CNR, COE, CVM

Inter-dept./unit Research Proposals (1) \$649,995

Inter-dept./unit Research Awards (1) \$50,462

Graduate Student Support

- 76 Ph.D. Student RAs (Avg. Stipend: \$24,768 / year)
- 11 M.S. Student RAs (Avg. Stipend: \$21,065 / year)

RESEARCH AWARDS AT OR ABOVE \$50,000 (FY26 Q2)

1. Kavita Mathur and Lisa Chapman — TDA Research, Inc. (U.S. Navy): \$360,000
2. Andre West — Technology Holding, LLC (U.S. Navy): \$190,458
3. Emiel DenHartog — Motive Labs, LLC (U.S. Army): \$67,755
4. Emiel DenHartog — Hawaii Innovation Inc. (U.S. Navy): \$65,350
5. Ericka Ford — Lion Group, Inc.: \$50,462
6. Jialong Shen and Ericka Ford — YKK Corporation: \$50,000
7. Eunkyoung Shim — Wake Forest University (EPA): \$50,000

Note: One confidential project valued at \$225,000 is not included in this list.

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

The Wilson College Research Opportunity Seed Fund (ROSF) targets to promote interdisciplinary, faculty-initiated research projects with potential for extramural support. The following project (\$10,000) was selected by the College Research Committee for funding in Spring 2026.

Sustainable Polyurethane for Footwear: An Evidence-Based Path from Materials to Market (Hanna Lee, Jialong Shen, and Kedena Henriques-Thompson). Sustainable polyurethane (PU), which is often called “green” PU or bio-based PU (BioPU), can help address the footwear industry’s sustainability and circularity challenges by reducing reliance on petrochemical inputs while enabling lower-impact, more recyclable materials without sacrificing comfort and durability. Dr. Hanna Lee, Dr. Jialong Shen, and Dr. Kedena Henriques-Thompson are working together to evaluate and accelerate the commercialization of sustainable PU footwear by integrating material and processing insights, performance considerations, and consumer and market perspectives. The project will build an aggregated database spanning technical, performance, supply-chain, environmental, market, and consumer sentiment information related to “green” PU materials, identify key drivers and barriers to adoption, and link verifiable life-cycle evidence with consumer trust and willingness to buy. Ultimately, the work will provide footwear-specific recommendations for suppliers and brands, reduce the risk of overclaiming, and support credible, scalable pathways toward more sustainable PU footwear.

