Research funding grows at UAlbany,
University at Albany brought in $522.6 million research funding last year, up from $430 million in 2012, a growth the administration plans to sustain by hiring young academics to build its research programs.

The figures come from the UAlbany's 2013-14 annual research report released this week.

The university is adding 187 faculty positions over the next five years, said James Dias, vice president for research. Many of those faculty members will be academics beginning their careers who are interested in building the university's research programs. Dias and the UAlbany administration is focused on furthering research in four core areas: life sciences, data analytics, forensics and atmospheric science.

"When I think about these new assistant professors, I wonder, 'What are their visions, what are their dreams and will they be able to take their visions and dreams to scale?"' he said.

The $522.6 million figure includes research at the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering. The nanocollege accounted for $329.4 million of the total, and UAlbany accounted for $87.3 million. The remaining dollars are for research the university conducts in partnership with the state.

Dias said UAlbany is a prime place for younger academics to grow, pointing to the momentum created when Alain Kaloyeros came to the university as a professor in the 1990s. He now heads the nanocollege.

College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering research brought in $223.6 million in 2012 and $329.4 million in 2013. The nanocollege is in the process of splitting from UAlbany and merging with SUNY Institute of Technology. Dias has said he does not anticipate the split with the nanocollege will impact research at UAlbany.
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