



*University of Illinois Department of Computer Science*

# Research Funding

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# What a Dept. Head can Do

- Ensure that the right incentives are in place (if you care about research funding, then you reward faculty that are successful getting it or helping other getting it)
  - salary, indirect cost returns, teaching buy-out, better administrative support, publicity...)
- Ensure that the right administrative support is in place
  - strong business office; help in writing major proposals and in administering major centers; help with P.R.
- Ensure that young faculty get mentoring (encouragement and help writing CAREER proposal; inclusion in larger grants; help writing other proposals; help finding their way in D.C.)
- Ensure that information flows: major initiatives, trends, program managers...
- Get personally involved with "top-down" funding sources (industry, DARPA, internal matching funds...) and major initiatives (large centers, esp. interdisciplinary)
- Be visible in D.C.
- If dept. too large or your plate is too full, then formally assign the job to one experienced faculty or more
- Encourage and nurture entrepreneurs (even, or especially if they are a pain in the neck)

# What a Dept. Head can't Do

- Tell faculty what research to do
- Force own views (e.g. on "good" and "bad" sources of funding) on faculty
- Assume that one size fits all
  - theory vs. system; small vs. large grants...
- Create an environment where a faculty with no research grants can live comfortably