

Recent Research on the Biomedical Workforce: Implications for Designing Graduate Programs.

Council of Graduate Schools
December 6, 2012

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- June 14, 2012:
Release of NIH Biomedical Research
Workforce Advisory Committee Draft
Report



Implications to UNMC and Other Graduate Programs of Workforce Recommendations

- Less opportunity to put grad students and post doc fellows on research project grants
- Expect more pressure on our local (internal) fellowship training grants
- Need to transition graduate students to more external training grants and fellowship awards



Implications to UNMC and Other Graduate Programs of Workforce Recommendations

- Need to better track grad students and post doc fellows progress during and after training
- Need to expand pool of grad students and post-docs who are US citizens and permanent residents
- Need to better prepare for careers other than academia
- Need to better engage alumni for ongoing support to maintain excellence



University of Nebraska Medical Center

5 Colleges

Medicine

Dentistry

Pharmacy

Nursing

Public Health

And a School of Allied Health.



Student / Post-Doctoral Fellow Census

- **3,655 students**
 - 853 undergraduate
 - 2,340 professional
 - 462 graduate students
- 177 post-doctoral fellows
- 15 graduate programs



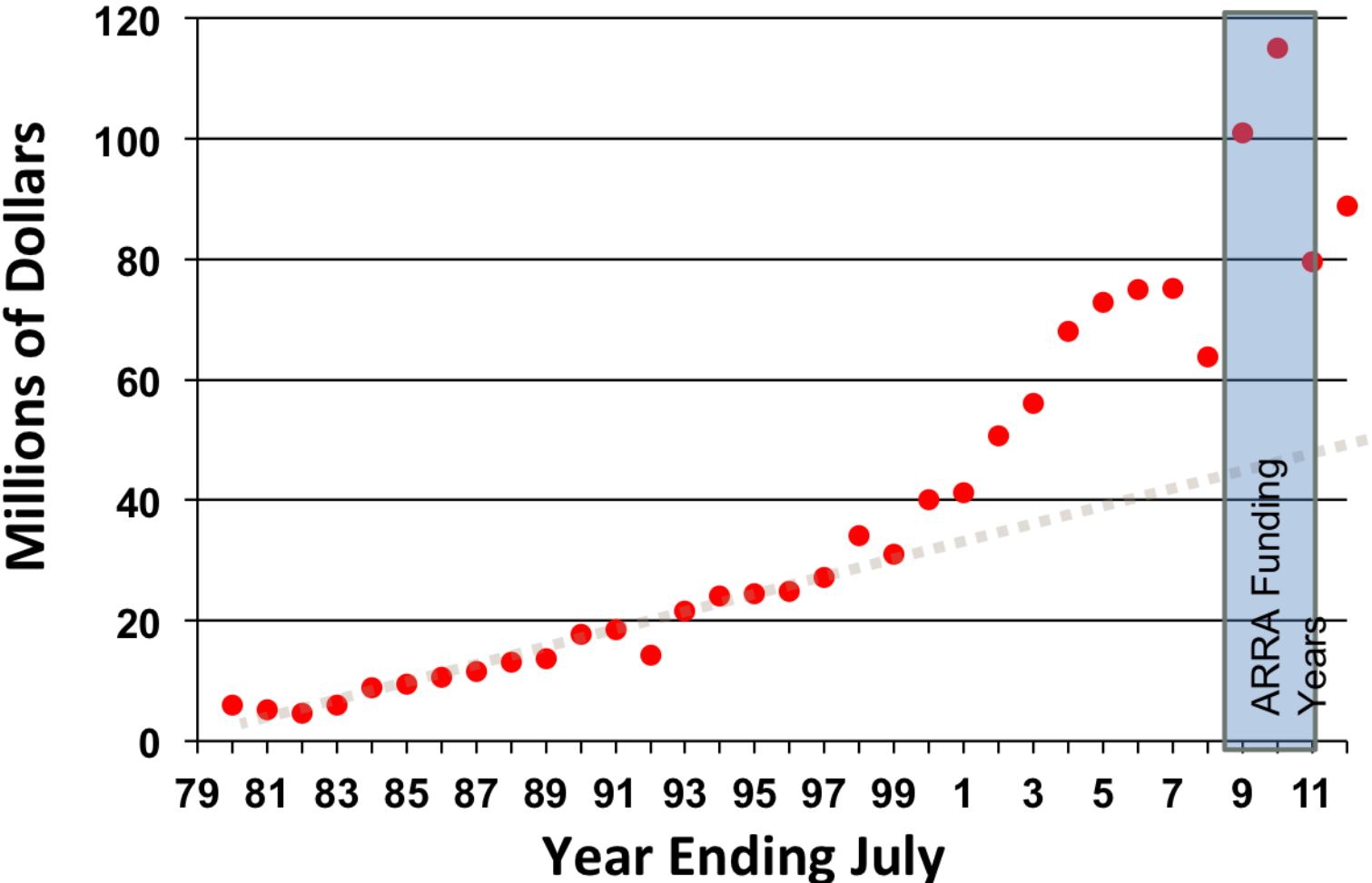
Strong International Students Presence

- 178/462 graduate students (38.5%)
- 124/177 post-doctoral fellows (70.1%)
- Not eligible for most federal training grants



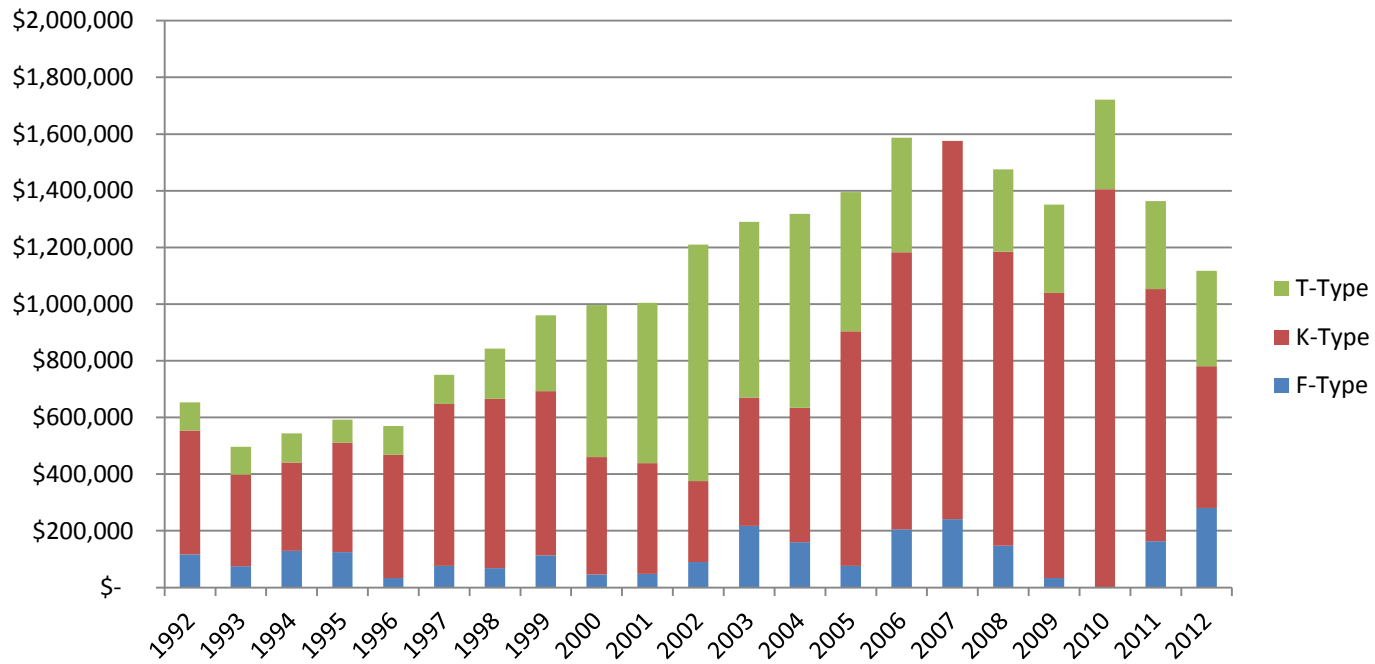
- No UNMC Graduate Studies Alumni Chapter at the present time

UNMC Total Extramural Research Support



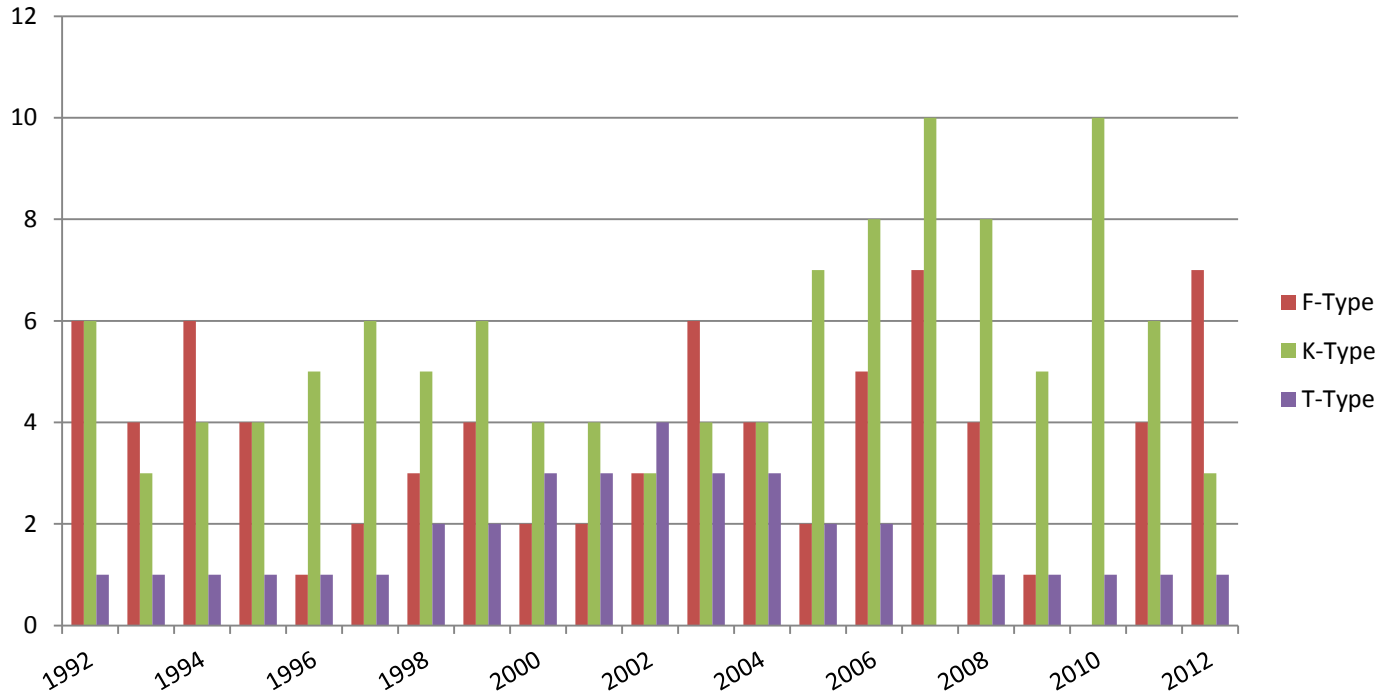


Annual Dollars in NIH Training Grants by Type





Number of NIH Training Grants by Type





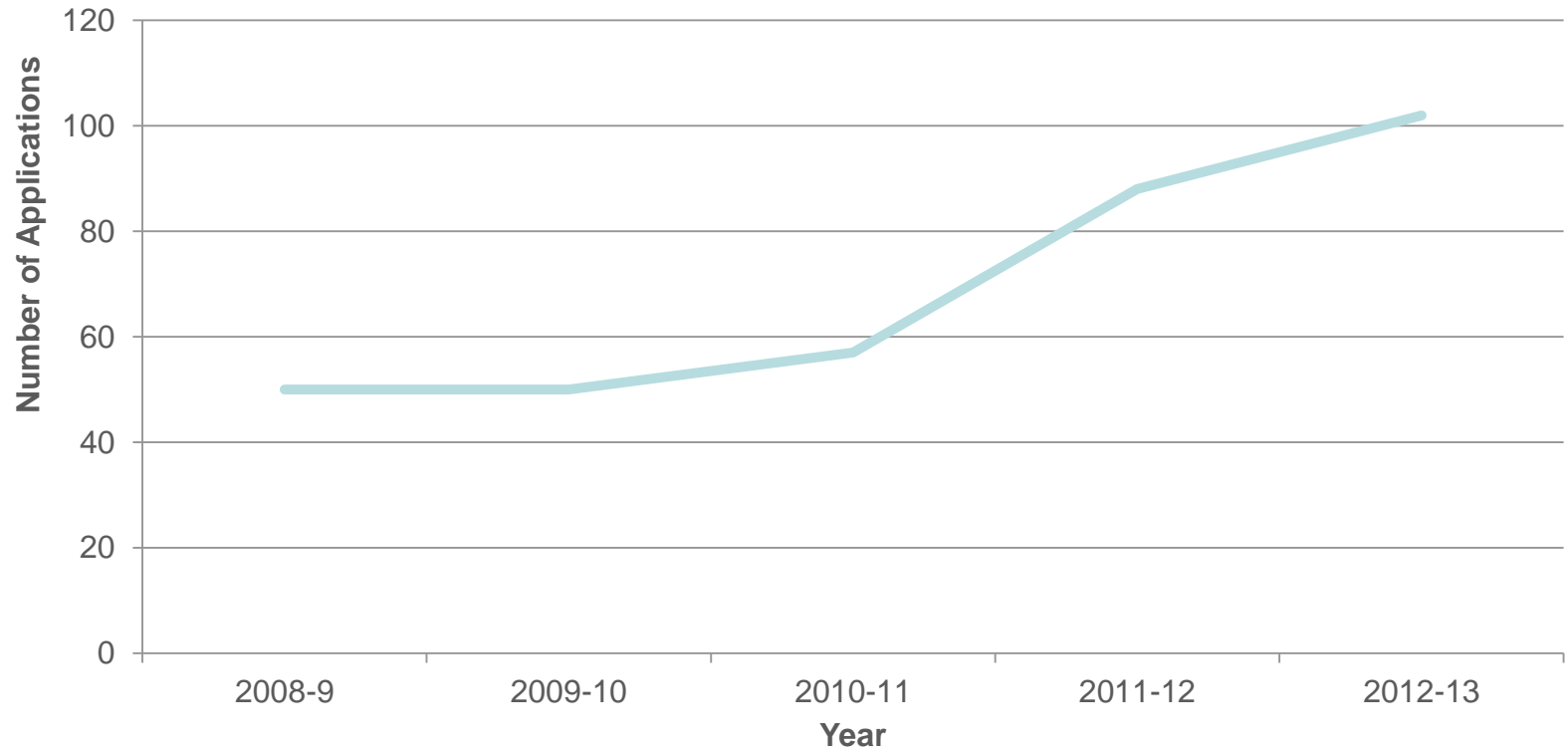
UNMC Fellowship Awards

- Office of Graduate Studies currently gives out ~\$1.5 million in fellowship training grants annually
- Covers graduate students for up to three years



Recent Doubling of UNMC Internal Grad Fellowship Applications

Applications for UNMC Graduate Fellowship Awards, 2008-9 to 2012-13





UNMC During 2012 Fiscal Year

- **NIH gave out**
 - \$623,788,838 in training grants
 - \$ 127,582,756 in NRSA Fellowships
 - \$20,884,348 in non NRSA training grants
- **UNMC**
 - No new NIH institutional training grants
 - Three new NIH fellowships



Aug 13, 2012: Initial Graduate Studies Strategic Planning Meeting

- 31 graduate studies leaders consisting of all 15 Graduate Program Directors and 16 other key research labs on campus



Six Strategic Goals

1. Increase US applicant pools to graduate and post graduate programs, improve minority recruitment (*to boost training grant applications*)
2. Ensure UNMC is collecting appropriate metrics for training grants
3. Improve alumni and external relations
4. Increase faculty mentorship pool
5. Develop and enhance training experiences
6. Improve office of graduate studies support



Current UNMC Status - 1

- Strategic planning and implementation going very well
 - Each goal has a standing committee which reports at monthly graduate faculty meeting
 - Revamped internal fellowship process and support systems to incentivize more external applications
 - Building a new tracking database system - GPSIS



Current UNMC Status - 2

- Establishing Graduate Studies Alumni chapter
- Introducing new courses and training experiences for grad students and post-docs
- Introducing IDPs for all grad students and post-docs (currently ad-hoc)



Summary

- Workforce recommendations could drastically change US graduate and post-graduate landscape
- Strategic planning and implementation will be key to ensure graduate programs that excel indefinitely



Questions for Discussion - 1

- Which of the recommendations of the Biomedical Workforce Group concern you the most?
 - Why?
 - How can your graduate studies program prepare itself to address this concern?



Questions for Discussion -2

- Which of the recommendations will be most challenging for you to implement?
- Why?



Questions for Discussion -3

- Which of the recommendations do you view most positively?
- Why?

