

REPORT OF THE MARCH 21, 2021, INFORMATION SESSION

An information session (open session) for the Board of Visitors was held on Sunday, March 21, 2021, from 1:15 to 3:00 p.m. in the Latham Ballroom at The Inn at Virginia Tech, in Blacksburg, Virginia. There were no action items, and there was no public comment period. The agenda included:

- Annual Legislative Session Update – Elizabeth Hooper, Director of State Government Relations, began the presentation by speaking about legislation introduced during the 2021 General Assembly session that would directly impact Virginia Tech. She summarized relevant bills that passed, including one that specifically pertains to boards of visitors, and some that were not successful. Ken Miller, Vice President for Finance, followed with an update on the state budget. This included impacts of the pandemic; actions pertaining to compensation and benefits, capital projects, and other items specific to Virginia Tech; and other significant budget actions. Then Chris Yianilos, Executive Director of Government Relations, provided a federal funding update that focused on the six federal Covid relief packages, three of which affected higher education; and funding for research, agriculture, and student financial aid.
- Presentation on the Strategic Plan for the Innovation Campus - Dr. Lance Collins, Vice President and Executive Director of the Innovation Campus, explained the national imperative for the Innovation Campus and presented the vision, mission, and shared core values for the campus. He discussed the commitment to diversity and inclusion, unique graduate education, faculty planning, purpose-driven research, cross-campus collaborations, and partnerships. He provided an update on the world-class facilities and concluded by enumerating objectives and key results, which include evolving the area into an epicenter of technology excellence; aligning with industry and government partners; enriching the real-world educational experience; and graduating a high volume of diverse, high-quality graduate students.
- Presentation on Pathways to General Education – Dr. Stephen Biscotte, Director of General Education, gave a presentation on the Pathways General Education Curriculum, the principles upon which it is based, and its structure. He provided examples from the Data and Decision Sciences Pathways Minor, the Disability Studies Minor, and the Global Food Security and Health Minor to illustrate how the Pathways curriculum works.
- Due to time constraints, Constituent Reports were postponed until the full Board meeting the following afternoon.

*(Copies of the presentations and reports are filed
with the permanent minutes and attached.)*

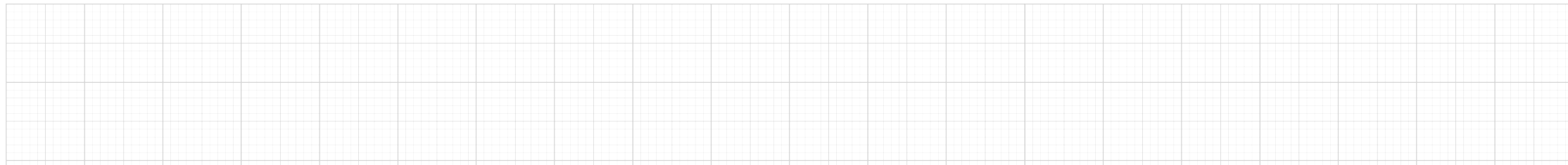
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

KEN MILLER, VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE

ELIZABETH HOOPER, DIRECTOR OF STATE GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

CHRIS YIANILOS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

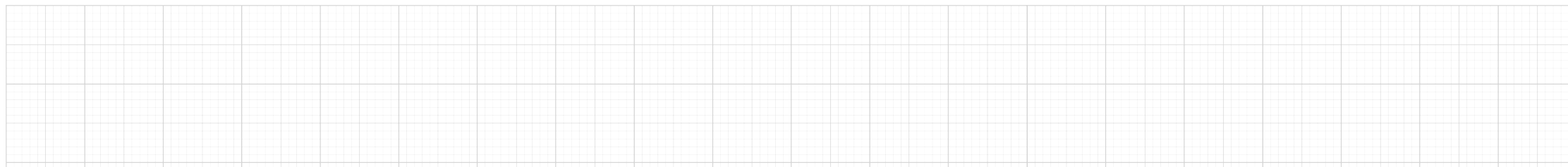
MARCH 21, 2021





GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

ELIZABETH HOOPER, DIRECTOR OF STATE GOVERNMENT RELATIONS



General Assembly Legislative Update

Attachment B

Legislation that PASSED included:

<u>HB1893/SB1212</u>	Establishes New River Valley Passenger Rail Station Authority
<u>HB1930</u>	Removes criminal history question on admissions applications
<u>HB1980</u>	Requires 5 schools to create scholarships for descendants of enslaved individuals
<u>HB1986/SB1204</u>	Management agreement between GMU and the Commonwealth
<u>HB2120</u>	Mandates additional disclosure requirements for Boards of Visitors
<u>HB2123/SB1387</u>	Eligibility for in-state tuition and financial aid for DACA students
<u>HB2204/SB1405</u>	Get Skilled, Get a Job, Give Back (G3 Program)
<u>SB1314</u>	Establishes the Office of Education and Labor Market Alignment within VEDP
<u>SB1417</u>	Adoption Programs required for all institutions that operate animal testing facilities.
<u>HB2312/SB1406</u>	Legalization of Marijuana

General Assembly Legislative Update Attachment B

Legislation that FAILED to pass included:

<u>HJ558</u>	Requests institutions to establish student meal donation programs
<u>HB1870</u>	Provides in-state tuition for victims of human trafficking
<u>HB1975</u>	Tuition and Mandatory Fee waivers for survivors of sexual assault
<u>HB2145</u>	\$2500 tuition cap on virtual instruction
<u>HB2280</u>	Contact information required for all BOV members
<u>SB1174</u>	Reporting requirements for the Governor's Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
<u>SB1305</u>	Requires contractual provisions for subcontracted work in construction contracts
<u>SB1359</u>	Athletic fees optional for undergraduate students



STATE BUDGET UPDATE

KEN MILLER, VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE



2020-22 State Budget Update

■ Environment for 2021 Session

- Improving economy led to increased optimism among the Governor's Advisory Council on Revenue Estimates.
- On-going impacts of COVID-19 including costs for continued testing and vaccination roll-out.
- Emphasis on one-time spending commitments, including deposit into revenue reserves, and positioning the Commonwealth for the next biennium.
- Debate over conformity with business tax provisions in the CARES Act and Consolidated Appropriations Act.

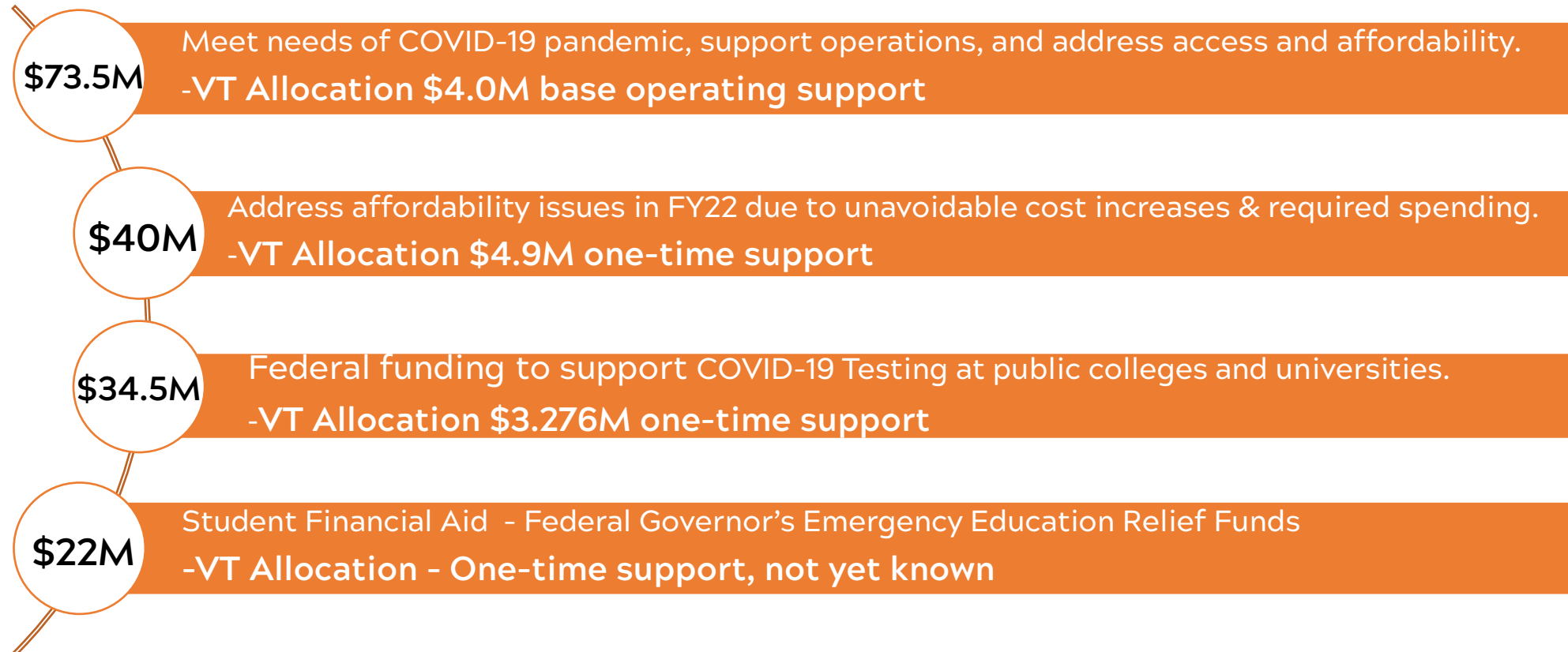


State Budget Update

Conference Budget



Higher Education Unified Amendment Provides Several Funding Pools for 2021-22



State Budget Update

Conference Budget

- Additional Items for Virginia Tech
 - \$150,000 for Unique Military Activities
 - \$1.6 million Virginia need-based undergraduate aid
 - Cooperative Extension / Agricultural Experiment Station (Agency 229)
 - \$1 million base operating to support “Building Resiliency” initiative
 - Internet Connectivity, Modernization of Research Equipment, and Critical Personnel (begin phasing-in twelve additional extension agents and six additional specialists)
 - \$4 million one-time Equipment Trust Funds for IT modernization and research equipment

2020-22 State Budget Update

Employee Compensation & Benefits Summary

	Executive	Conference
Faculty Salaries	<p>Effective September 1, 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contingent bonus of \$1500 for full-time employees Contingent bonus of \$750 for adjunct faculty 	<p>Effective June 10, 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminates Proposed Bonus 5% increase for all full-time employees Increase may vary based on performance for employees not covered under the Virginia Personnel Act. Note: the Commonwealth only provides 39 percent of the funding for 208 E&G salary increases
Health Insurance	<p>Lowered expected 6.7% increase to just 3.35% for 2021-22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This will impact employee and employer share 	No change to Executive Budget

State Support for Capital Projects

(State Support in millions)

	Executive	Conference
Undergraduate Lab Building	Not included	Proposes additional funding to support three previously planned higher education projects, including the <u>Undergraduate Lab Building</u> - Construction Funding totaling \$90.8 million
9(c) Debt Authorization	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supplement New Upper Quad Resident Hall: \$7.0 million 9(c) debt• Supplement Innovation Campus Academic Building Parking: \$27.1 million 9(c) debt	No change to Executive budget

Other Significant Budget Actions

■ State Rainy Day Fund and Revenue Reserve Fund

- Provides an additional \$250M (Governor 's introduced budget proposed \$650M)
- Total reserves will be \$2.1B by the end of the biennium

■ SCHEV Cost Study \$300,000

- Benchmarking study on the costs for higher education to identify methods to allocate additional funds to higher education when available.
- Preliminary report due by December 1, 2021 and a final report due by July 1, 2022.

■ Transportation Funding Initiative \$323.4M

- Combination of one-time federal funds , existing program funds, and General fund.
- Up to \$83.5M to extend intercity passenger rail from Roanoke to Christiansburg/Blacksburg
- Up to \$10.0M to support a connected infrastructure redevelopment demonstration program within and adjacent to the VT campus in the City of Falls Church.



FEDERAL FUNDING UPDATE

CHRIS YIANILOS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS



Overview of Federal COVID-19 Relief

**\$8.3
billion**

Coronavirus Preparedness And Response Supplemental Appropriations Act

Enacted 3-6-20

R&D for vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics; small business assistance; state and local response efforts.

**\$100
billion**

Families First Coronavirus Response Act

Enacted 3-18-20

Coverage for coronavirus testing; paid leave tax credits; Unemployment Insurance.

**\$2.2
trillion**

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act

Enacted 3-27-20

Coronavirus Relief Fund; Education Stabilization Fund; PPP; Provider Relief Fund; state and local aid.

**\$484
billion**

Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act

Enacted 4-24-20

Paycheck Protection Program, economic injury disaster loans, Provider Relief Fund, and testing capabilities.

**\$900
billion**

Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act

Enacted 12-27-20

Provider Relief Fund, Education Stabilization Fund, small business, Unemployment Insurance.

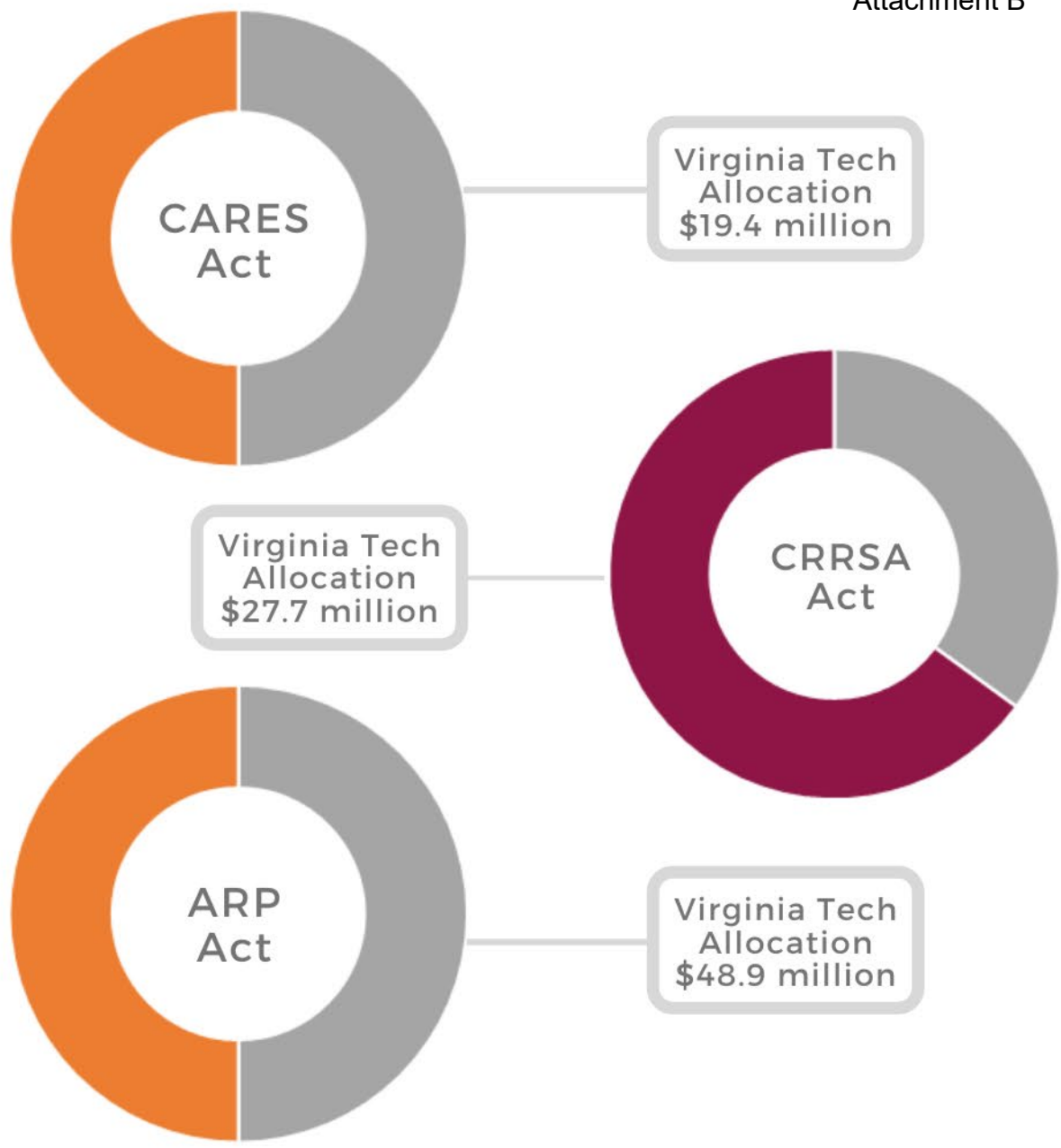
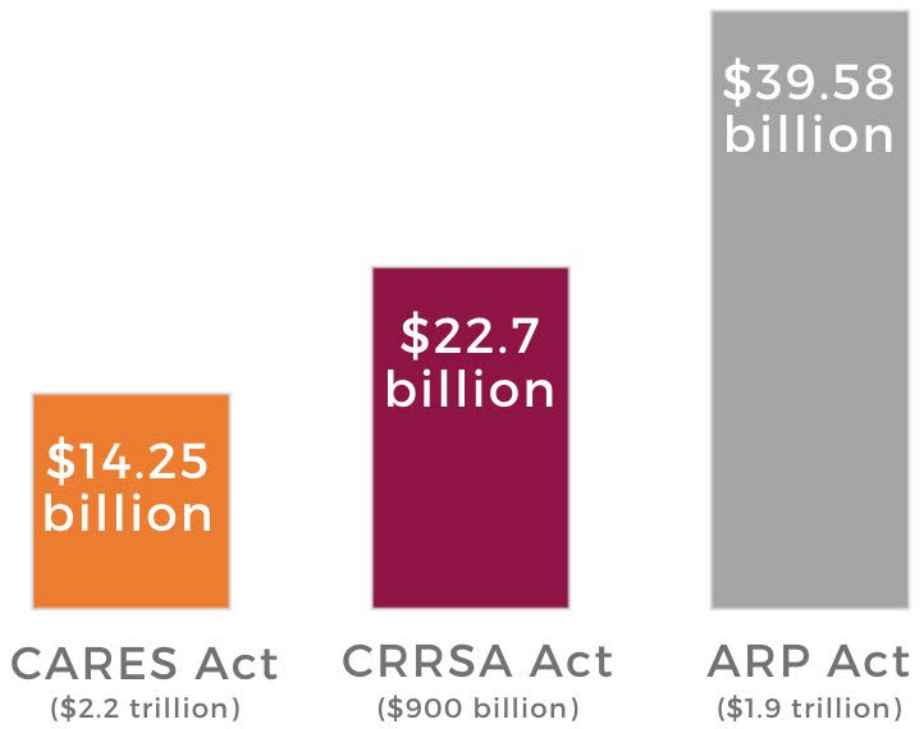
**\$1.9
trillion**

American Rescue Plan Act

March 2021

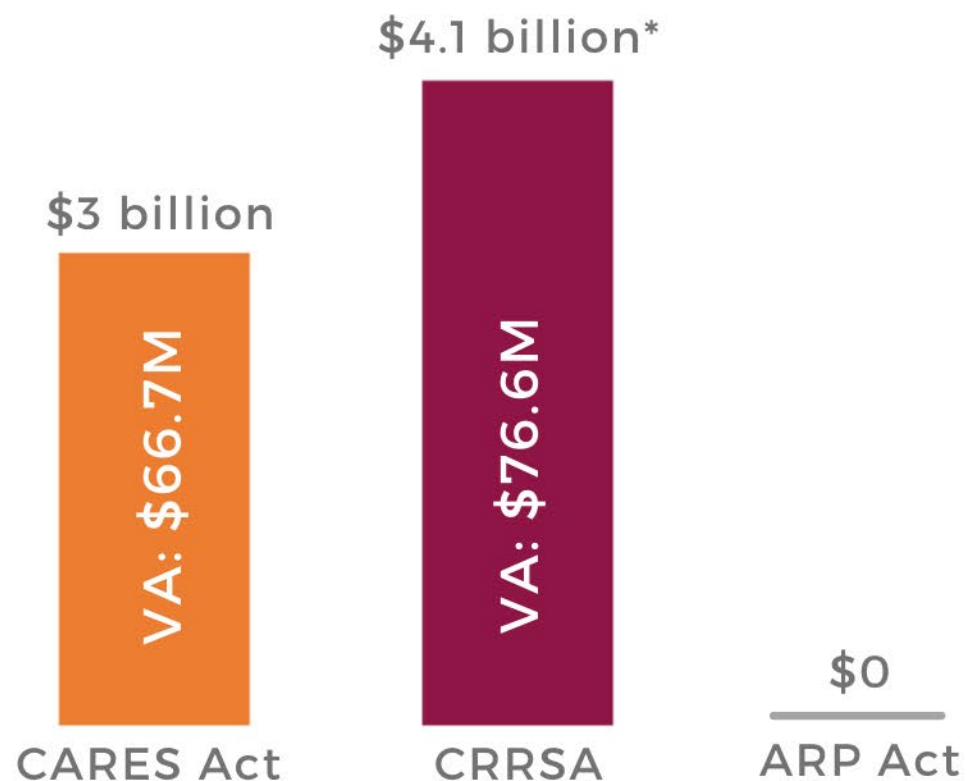
Education Stabilization Fund; state and local aid; funding for vaccines, testing, tracing; tax provisions.

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund



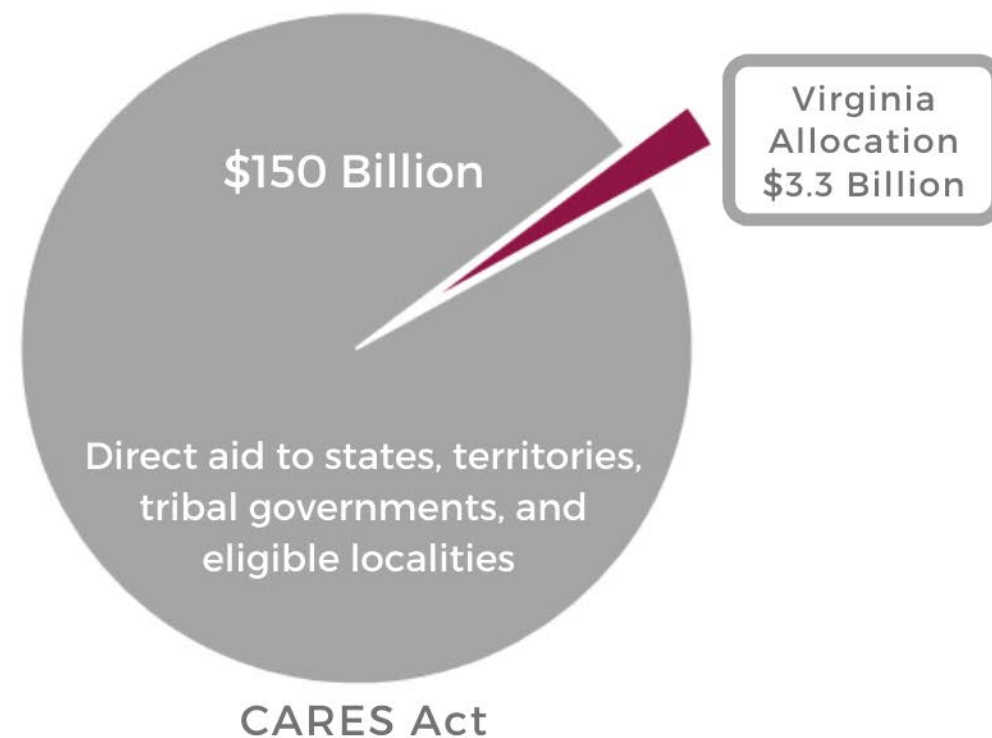
Governors Discretionary Funding

Governors Emergency Education Relief Fund



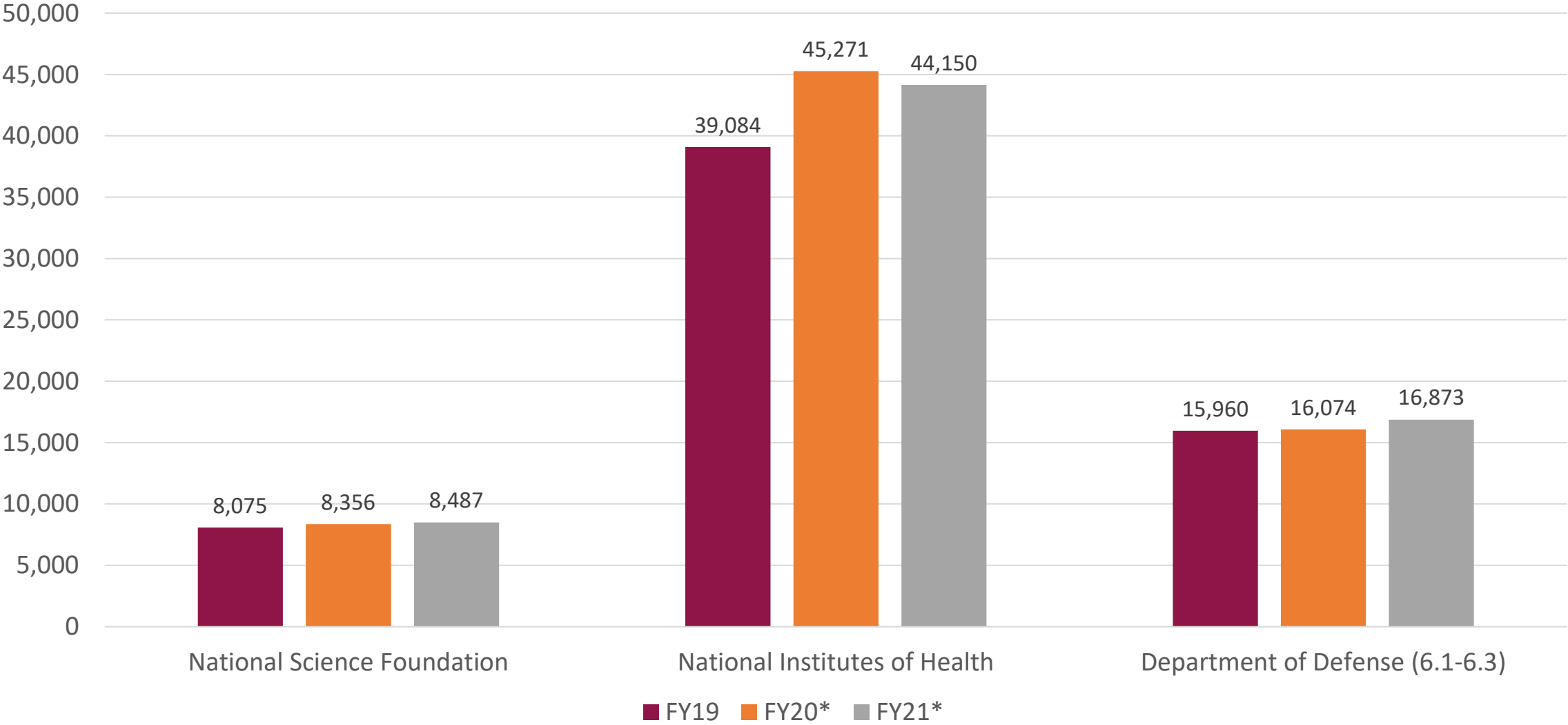
*\$2.75 billion reserved for non-public schools

Coronavirus Relief Fund (state and local)



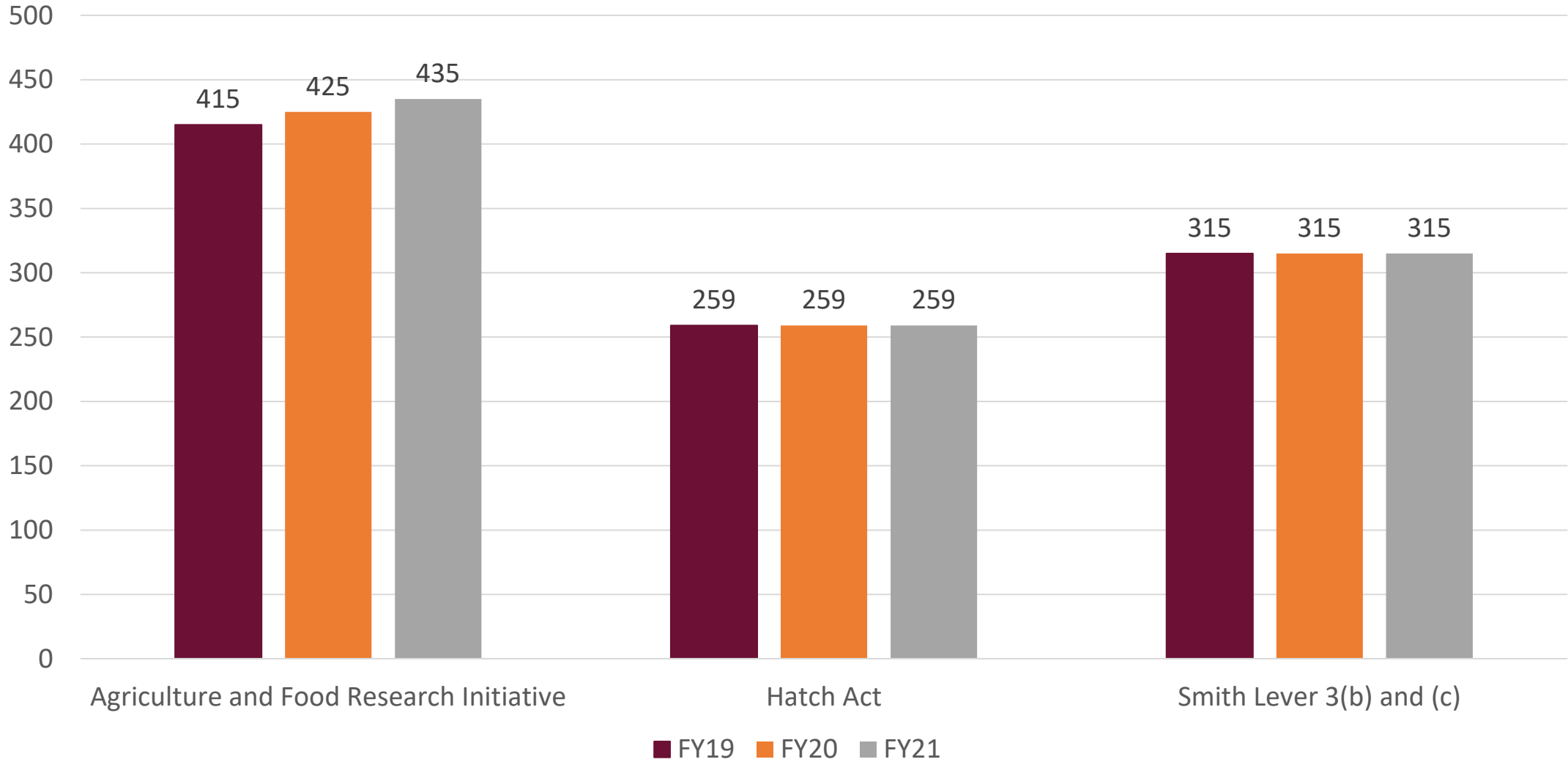
American Rescue Plan Act
\$350 billion

FEDERAL RESEARCH FUNDING
(in millions)

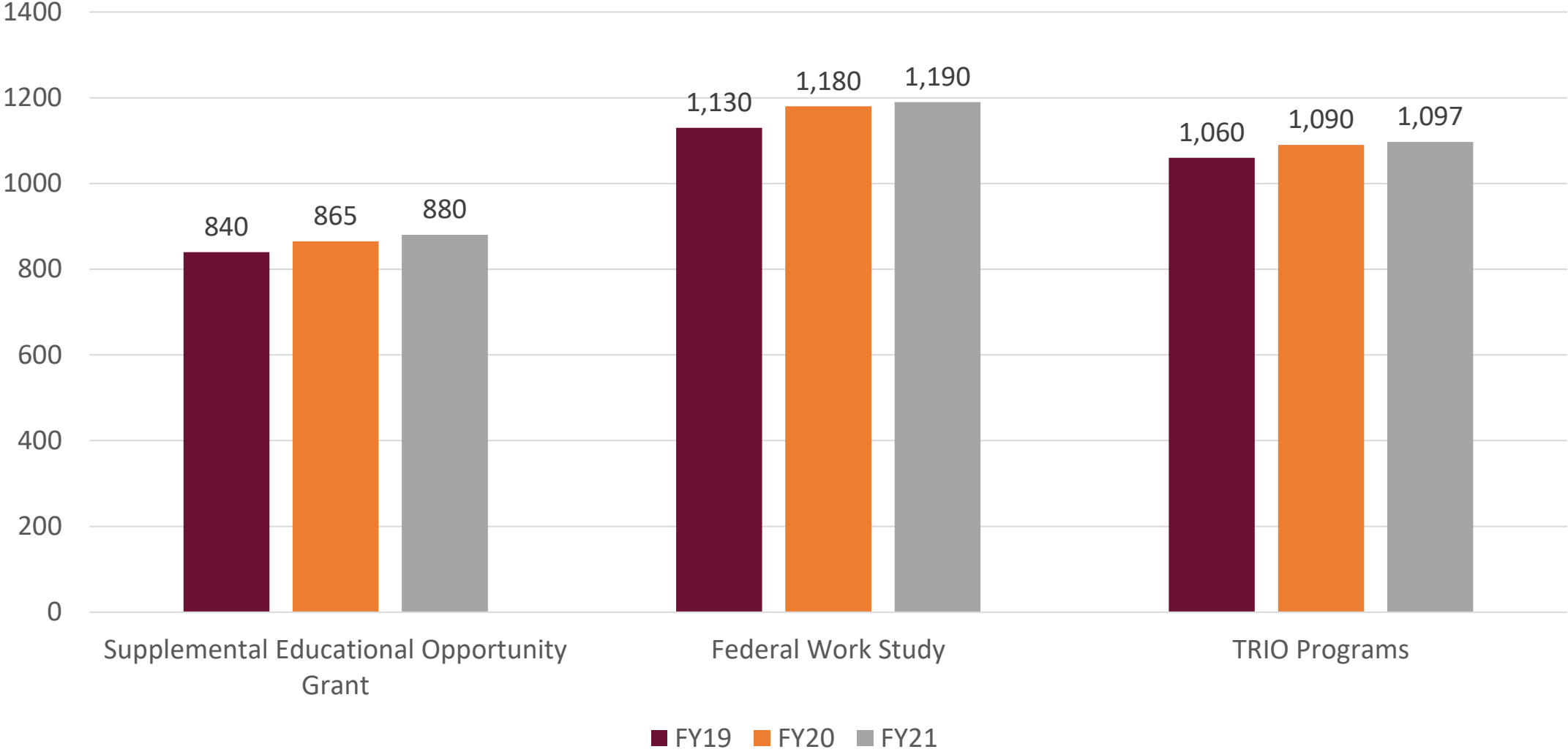


*FY20 & FY21 Include Supplemental Coronavirus Appropriations

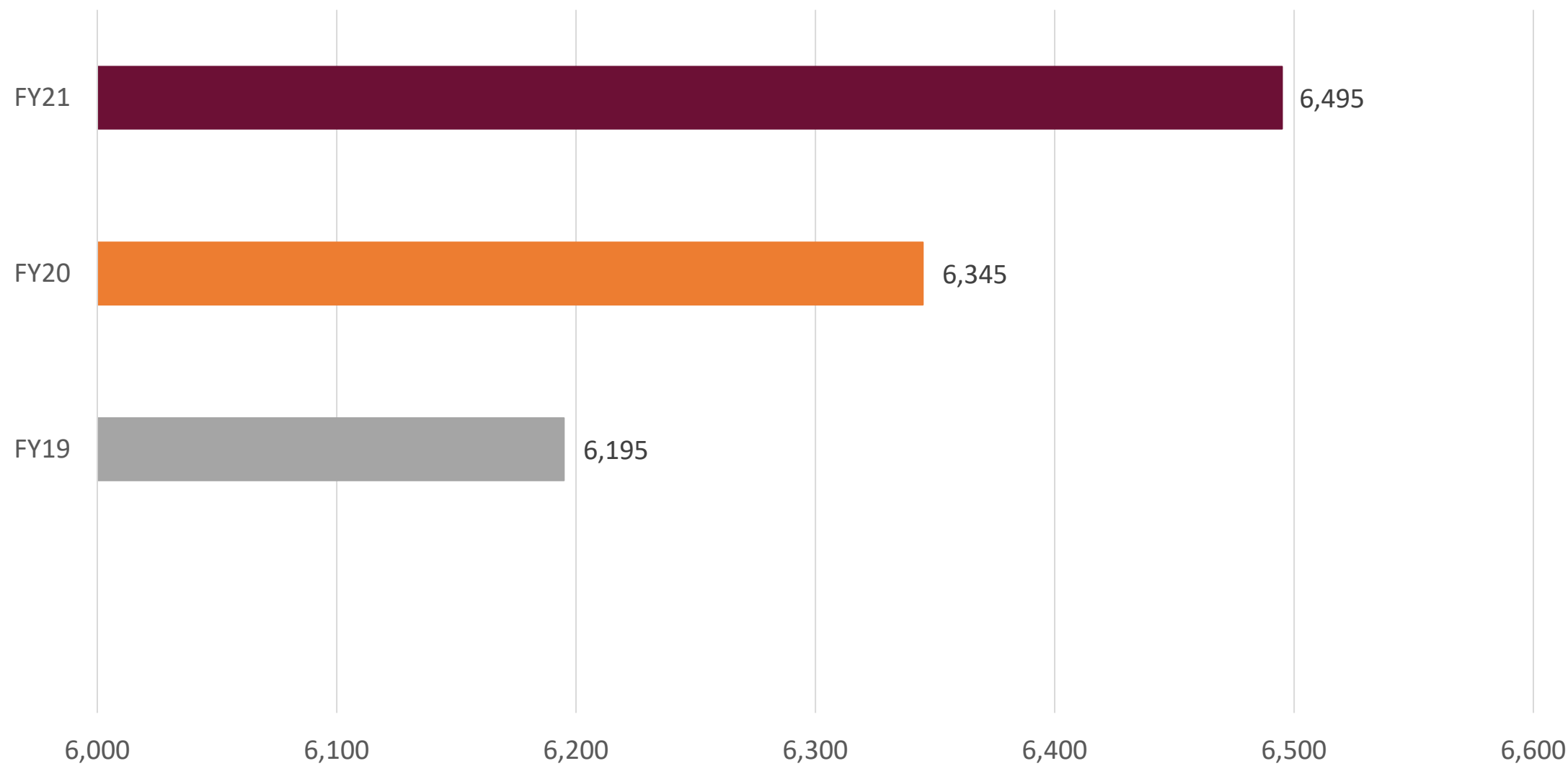
AGRICULTURE
(in millions)



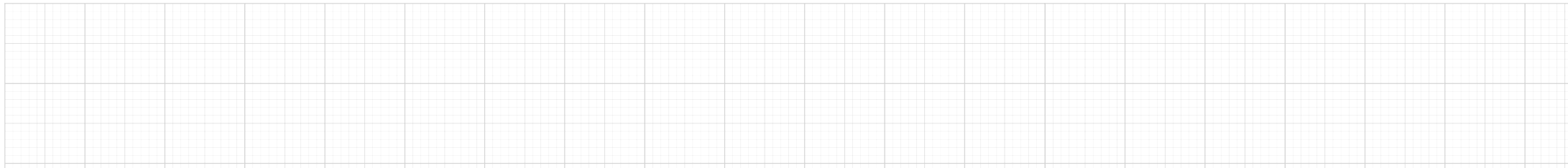
STUDENT FINANCIAL AID AND OUTREACH (in millions)



MAXIMUM PELL GRANT



Discussion





INNOVATION CAMPUS

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Lance R. Collins, Vice President and Executive Director

03/21/2021

NATIONAL IMPERATIVE

The U.S. must maintain its leadership role in advancing technology to address society's greatest challenges. The most **critical resource is talent**.

We must **remove barriers** to access.

Technology districts need to rise to the challenge. Arguably, the most important of these is in our nation's capital. **Proximity matters**, as it amplifies collaboration and imbues a focus across the tech ecosystem.

The Innovation Campus was developed to **unite the private and public sectors with brilliant faculty and students to catalyze and focus the region's tech ecosystem** to sustain the U.S. technology edge.

The campus is designed to foster deep, durable collaborations across government, industry and academia. It will take **all of us working together** to achieve this **national imperative**.

OUR VISION

The Virginia Tech Innovation Campus will be both a place and a culture that ***unlocks the power of diverse people and ideas*** to solve the world's most pressing problems through technology

OUR MISSION

The Virginia Tech Innovation Campus will create the nation's leading architects of complex, cutting-edge digital technologies through a graduate education that ***embeds our diverse students and faculty*** into the science and technology ecosystem of our nation's capital and beyond. Our experiential curriculum and research address real-world, human-centered challenges derived from technically-innovative companies and government agencies.

SHARED CORE VALUES

- Diverse and Inclusive Communities
- Knowledge and Innovation
- Opportunity and Affordability
- Excellence and Integrity
- Convergence of Research and Education



COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Innovation Campus will be *most diverse
graduate tech program* in the country.

UNIQUE GRADUATE EDUCATION

- Master of Engineering
- Enrollment Management— focus on **Diversity**
- **Project-Based Education**
- Research Degrees
- Post-doctorate Appointments

FACULTY PLANNING



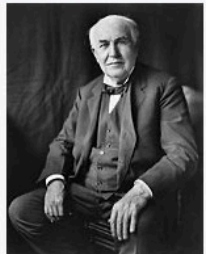
Phase I – 2020-2025

- Focus on core hiring
- Establish campus culture
- Budgeted from tuition, philanthropy and indirect

Phase II – 2026-2030

- Strategic hiring outside core
- Partial support from external unit

Applied and Basic research

		Considerations of use?	
		No	Yes
Quest for fundamental understanding?	Yes	 Pure basic research	 Use-inspired basic research
	No	—	 Pure applied research

Source: Wikipedia (Pasteur's Quadrant)

PURPOSE DRIVEN RESEARCH

ADVANCING THE “ART OF THE POSSIBLE”

- Cybersecurity
- Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning
- “Next G” Wireless Communication
- Cloud/Edge computing
- Quantum Information Science and Technology (QIST)

IMPROVING THE “HUMAN EXPERIENCE”

- Human-Machine Frontier
- Immersive Technology (Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality)
- Technology and Policy/Business/Entrepreneurship
- Human-Centered Technology Design

BUILT FOR PARTNERSHIPS

- Foundational Partners (up to 3)
- Anchor Partners (one per research theme)
- Ecosystem Partners (up to 20)
- Innovation Partners
- Project Sponsors
- RTI Study
- Interviewing large, medium and small companies
- Focus groups to establish best practices

WORLD CLASS SITE **AND CAMPUS**



CROSS CAMPUS COLLABORATIONS

- Faculty Exchange Program
- Joint Research Program
- Student Exchange Program

OBJECTIVES AND KEY RESULTS

- ***Evolve the D.C. Area*** and the Commonwealth of Virginia into an epicenter of technology excellence and talent by achieving distinction in our focus areas
- ***Align with industry & government partners*** by actively engaging with them in project curriculum and research
- ***Enrich the 'real-world' educational experience*** (appreciation of context, importance of teamwork, exercise of communication skills) of students via project-based learning and internship opportunities
- ***Graduate a high volume*** of diverse, high-quality graduate students

THANK YOU.



PATHWAYS

TO GENERAL EDUCATION

What is General Education?

“The part of a liberal education curriculum **shared** by all students. It provides **broad** exposure to multiple disciplines and forms the **basis** for developing important intellectual and civic capacities. **General education can take many different forms.**”

— Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U)

The Pathways General Education Curriculum

Principles:

- **Integration**
- **Inclusivity**
- **Relevance**

The Pathways General Education Curriculum

Core Concepts

Discourse

9 credits

Reasoning in the Social Sciences

6 credits

Critique and Practice in Design and the Arts

6 credits

Reasoning in the Natural Sciences

6 credits

Quantitative and Computational Thinking

9 credits

Critical Thinking in the Humanities

6 credits

Critical Analysis of Identity and Equity in the United States

3 credits (may be double-counted
with another core concept)

Integrative Concepts

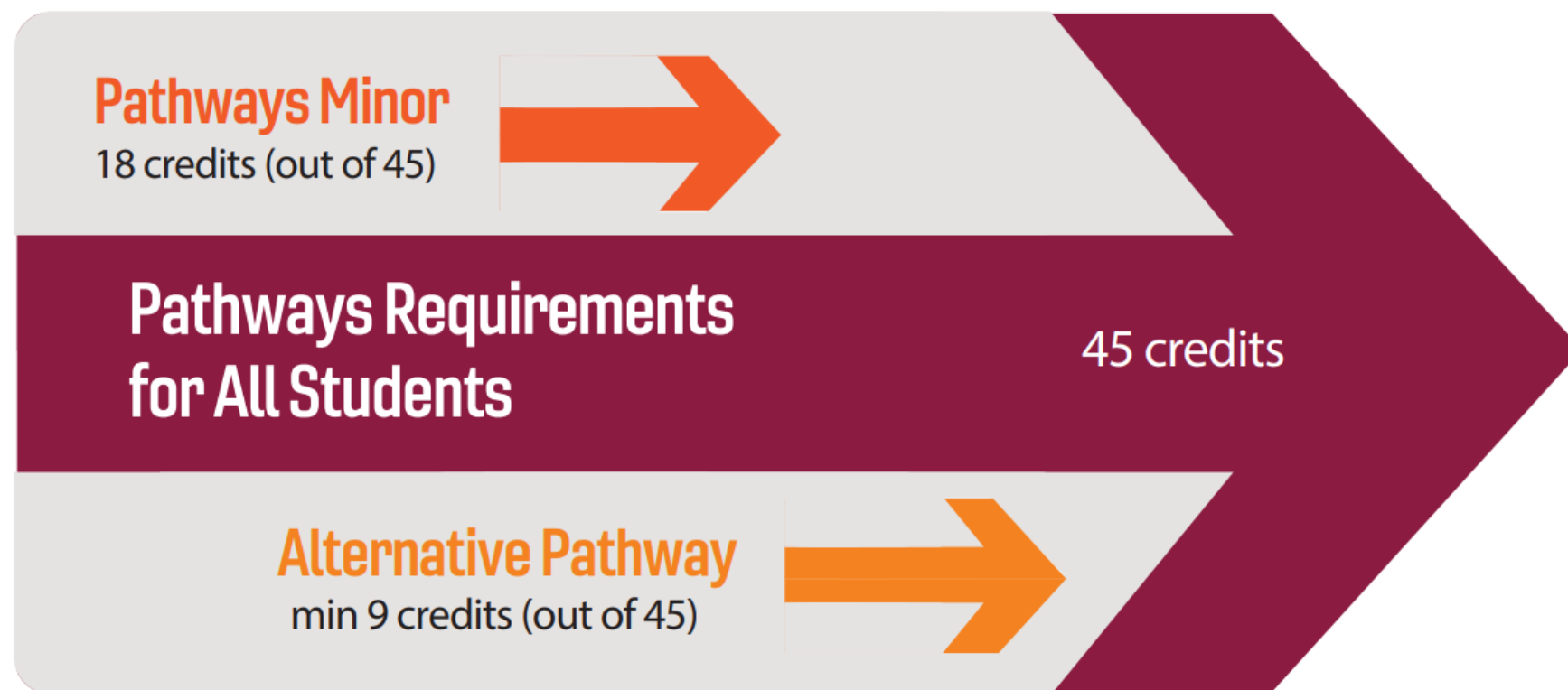
Ethical Reasoning

Throughout

Intercultural and Global Awareness

Throughout

The Pathways General Education Structure



Introduction to Data in Social Context

Data & Decisions Pathways Minor

Exploring 21st-century issues, developing 21st-century skills

HIST/SOC/STS 2604: Intro to Data in Social Context

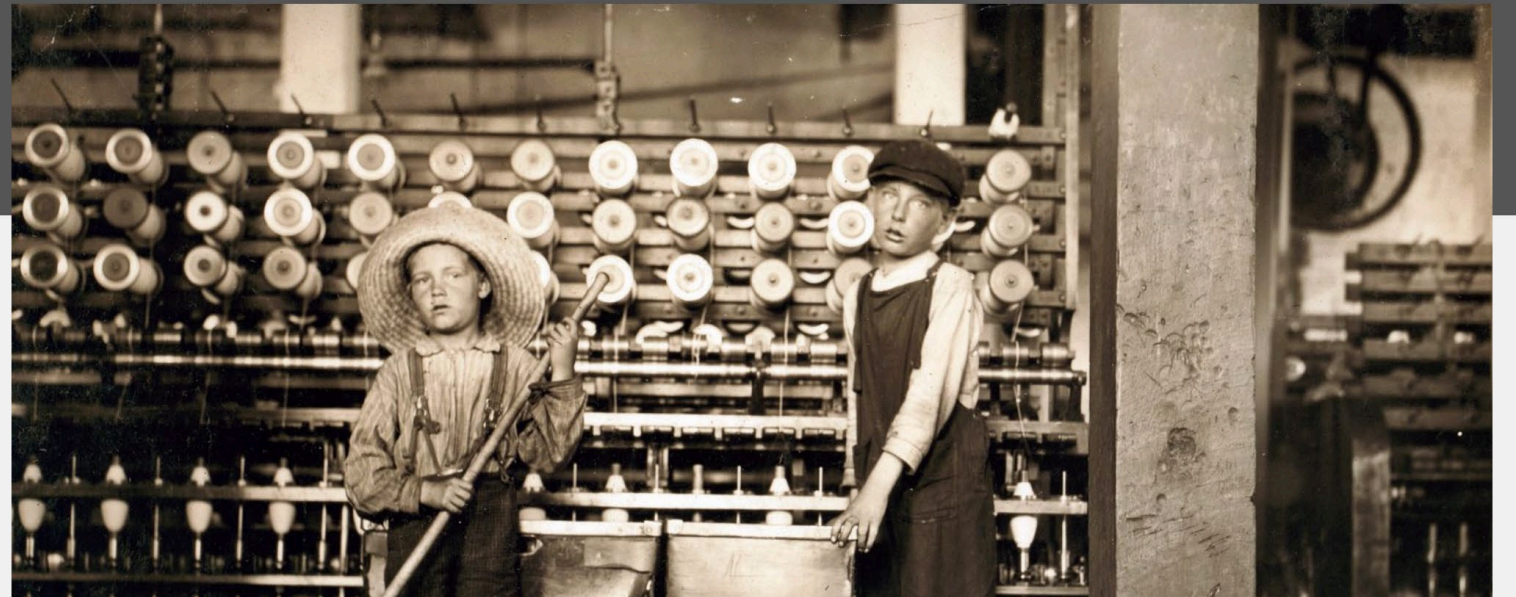
"The central questions for this course are also key issues for living in a world of data:

- What do we know?
- How do we know what we know?
- Who decides what we know?"

– Professor Tom Ewing

Data in Social Context project draws attention of Library of Congress

January 16, 2020



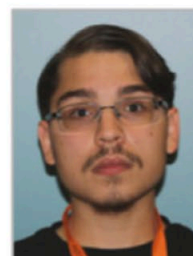
HIST/SOC/STS 2604: Intro to Data in Social Context

"To my eye, these presentations reflect a remarkable moment as historical research pursued in real time, in a real, historically significant time."

– Jeffrey Reznick, chief of the History of Medicine Division of the National Library of Medicine, in reaction to the students' work.

Virginia Tech history students to present research findings on the 1918 flu pandemic during live National Library of Medicine videocast

April 28, 2020



Miguel Alvarez
Blacksburg VA



Jacob Beachley
Charlottesville VA



Ian Gardiner
Richmond VA



Louisa Glazunova
Blacksburg VA



Yash Joshi
Ashburn VA



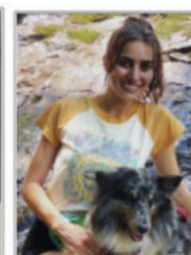
Katie Kromer
Oakton VA



Matthew Mirabella
Boston MA



Connor O'Hanlon
Long Island NY



Emily Swanson
Blacksburg VA



Alessia Scotto
Blacksburg VA



Fiona Tran
Centreville VA



Stephenia Valencic
Christiansburg VA



Introduction

Core

Restricted
Electives

Capstone

Data in Social Context

Data in Our Lives

Introduction to
Computational Thinking

Digital Planet

Introduction to Business
Analytics and Business
IntelligenceIntroduction to Urban
Analytics

Data Matter

Behavioral
Decision ScienceSelected
Courses
Applying
Data and
Decisions

Analytics in Action

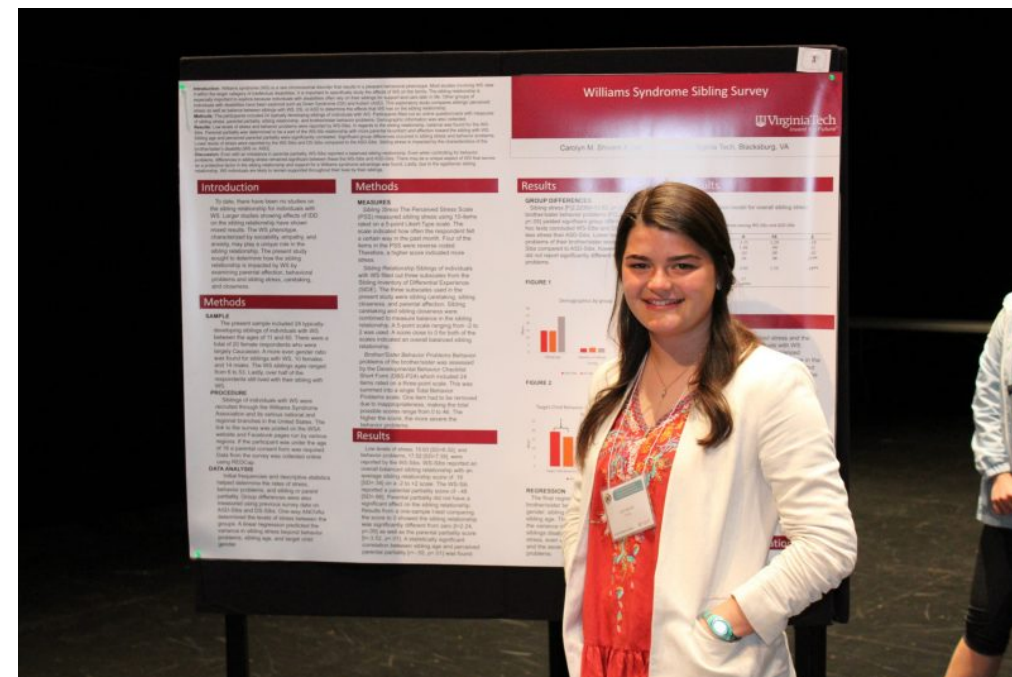
Data & Decisions Pathways Minor



Disabilities Studies Minor



From disability and accessibility theory...



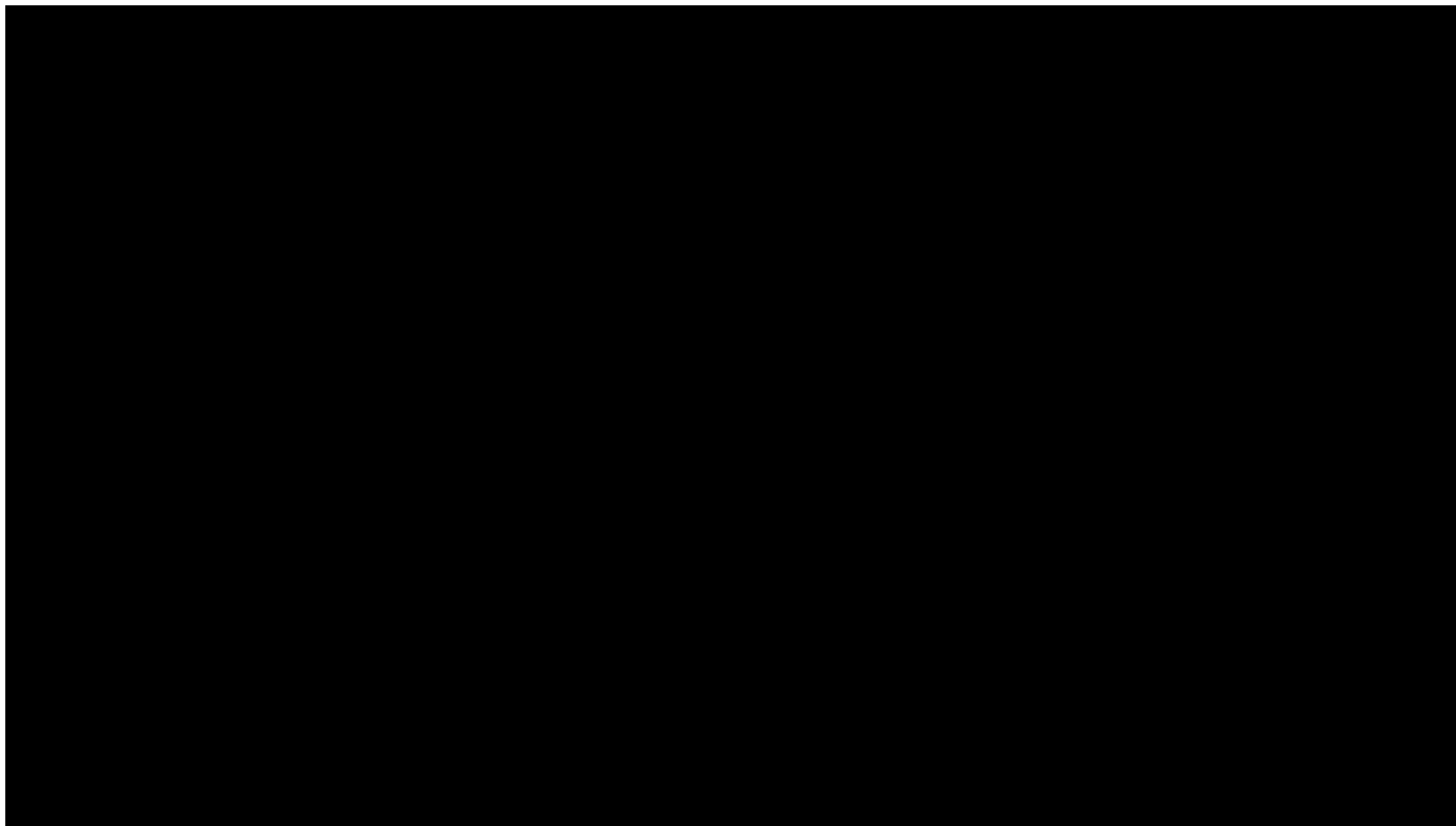
... to practice, presentation, and even publication



Global Food Security and Health Minor



Pathways: Student-Centered, Student-Showcased



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Twitter: [@StephenBiscotte](https://twitter.com/StephenBiscotte)