

Virginia Tech's Open Access Subvention Fund FY 2020 Report

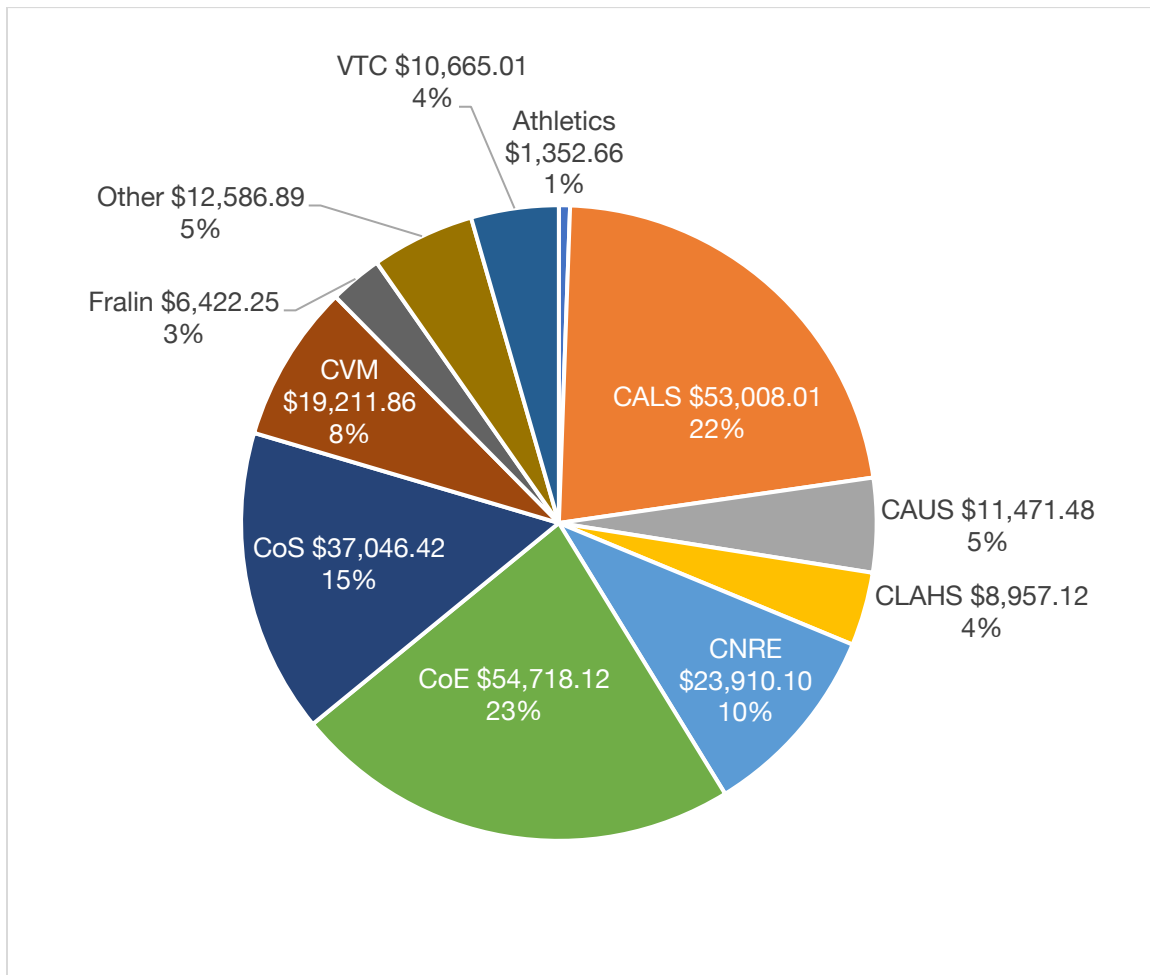
Gail McMillan, Leslie O'Brien, Philip Young, Julie Griffin; Oct. 7, 2020

Dean Tyler Walters allocated the 2020 VT OASF \$150,000 to support article processing charges (APC) in open access journals. This year the Libraries received 203 requests, an increase of 32 over 2019. 83% of the requests met the [award criteria](#). The OASF awarded \$239,349.92 for 168 articles.

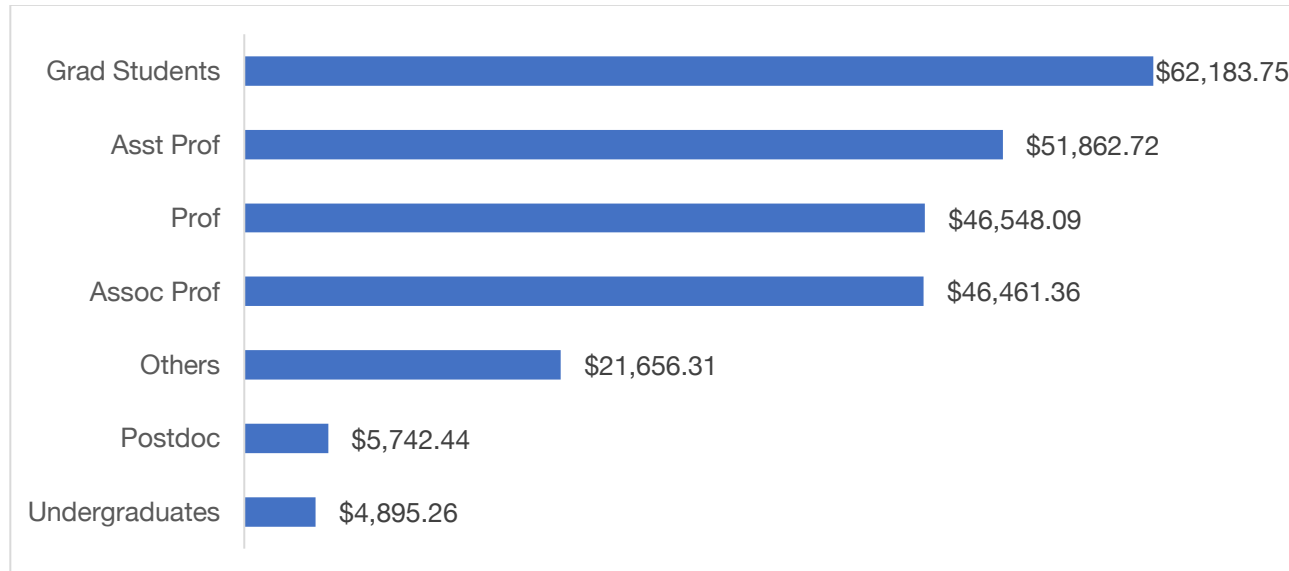
35 requests (17%) were not funded. Of these, 74% were due to publishers' hybrid policies; 20% due to authors having other sources of funding, and 6% for other reasons.

The Fund supported 417 unique Virginia Tech students, staff, and faculty authors, 79 more than last year. 72 of those authors published more than one OA article, and 35 articles had authors in more than one college (7 more than last year).

VT OASF 2020 Support for Colleges/Centers/Institutes



VT OASF 2020 Support by Classifications



Other = instructors, lab managers & technicians, research associates, staff, etc.

Support for Publishers and Journals

Publishers' APCs for the 203 requests were about \$357,332 (\$69,773 more than last year). The highest APC was again \$5200 charged by Nature for Nature Communications and Elsevier for Cell Reports. The average publisher's APC was \$1760 (\$78 more than last year), while the average award was \$1459. Awards were reduced for at least 71 articles due to [discounts](#) from publishers with whom the library has a membership or existing subscription (38 more than last year).

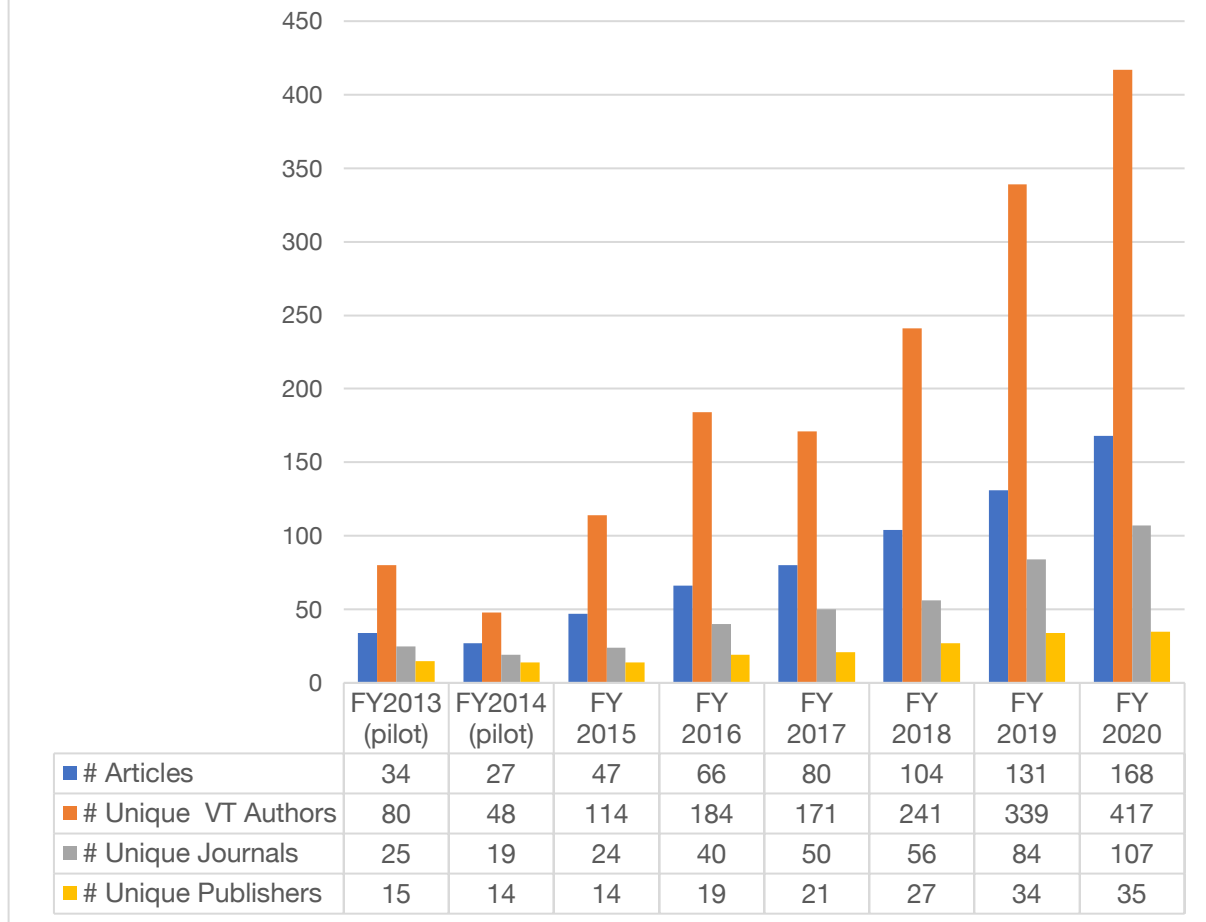
OASF 2020 supported 107 unique journals. 25 journals published more than one article. *PLoS One* published 11, *Sustainability* (MDPI) and *Scientific Reports* (Nature) published 8 each, and the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* published 7.

THE OASF supported 35 unique publishers. 14 of them received funding for multiple articles:

1. BMC (11)
2. Elsevier (12)
3. Frontiers (19)
4. IEEE (5)
5. Institute for STEM Education and Research (2)
6. InTechOpen (4)
7. MDPI (55)
8. Nature (12)
9. Oxford (6)
10. PLoS (14)
11. Springer (2)
12. Springer Nature (3)
13. Wiley (3) [exclusive of VIVA]
14. Wolters Kluwer (2)

The [OASF collection](#) in VTechWorks currently has 596 funded articles (158 more than last year).

Overview of VT OASF Publishing Support 2013/14-2020



VT OASF FY2013/14 – FY2020 Funding Support Summary

Fiscal Year	Funds Allocated	Article Support Requested	Articles Supported
Pilot			
2013-2014	\$ 24,000	67 \$ 100,546	55 \$ 58,700
2015	\$ 50,000	88 \$ 129,967	48 \$ 49,711
2016	\$ 86,000	83 \$ 145,275	63 \$ 85,140
2017	\$ 100,000	110 \$ 134,867	80 \$ 104,699
2018	\$ 150,000	143 \$ 183,292	104 \$ 123,571
2019	\$ 140,000	171 \$ 204,175	131 \$ 165,234
2020	\$ 150,000	203 \$ 296,149	168 \$ 239,350
	\$ 700,000	504 \$ 1,194,271	649 \$ 826,405

Recent Cumulative Data Reported to SPARC

	2018	2019	2020
Unique Publishers	57	50	64
Unique Journals	155	186	254
Unique Departments	77	81	85
Unique Submitting Authors	662	1,771	1812
Articles Reimbursed	341	293	499
Articles Approved	351	521	640

OASF Survey

Gail, Leslie, and Ed Lener prepared a survey designed to help gauge the success of the OASF, get input on the usefulness of the OASF Guidelines, and improve the request and award process. The survey link was emailed to 812 VT authors and co-authors of articles that requested support from the OASF since its inception and to participants in the NLI/PDN OASF sessions. Dean Walters received the survey report Dec. 18, 2019, and on Aug. 31, 2020, the Scholarly Kitchen published our blog [“Assessing User Perceptions of an Open Access Subvention Fund.”](#) As of Sept. 9, it had been read 2185 times, according to SK chef Lisa Hinchliffe. Currently the authors are analyzing the data further in order to prepare an article for publication in an open access journal.