WiSys®

ANNUAL REPORT

2020-2021

CONTENTS

WHO WE ARE

- Independent, nonprofit
- Supports research, innovation and entrepreneurship
- Serves students, faculty, staff and alumni at 11 regional UW institutions

WISYS PARTNERS

University of Wisconsin Eau Claire

University of Wisconsin Green Bay

University of Wisconsin La Crosse

UWO University of Wisconsin Oshkosh

University of Wisconsin Parkside

University of Wisconsin Platteville

University of Wisconsin River Falls

University of Wisconsin Stevens Point

University of Wisconsin Stout

University of Wisconsin Superior

University of Wisconsin Whitewater

WHAT WiSys® DOES

Fund Research

We connect researchers to grants, supporting every stage of their research.

Market Ideas

We provide intellectual property assistance when research or ideas lead to a commercial opportunity.

Inspire Students

We better the educational experience with events and opportunities to grow research and innovation skills.

Build Culture

We think big about fostering a culture of innovation on university campuses.

WiSys®

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Intern

Madeleine Callahan
Intern

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WISYS AMBASSADORS

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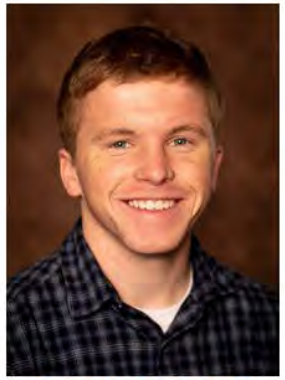
UW-River Falls

Mallory Brask
UW-Stout



Denny Christoff
UW-Green Bay

Rita Ebbott
UW-Green Bay

Aubrey Fochs
UW-Whitewater

Taylor Frodel
UW-Whitewater

Rylie Gramann
UW-La Crosse

Amber Heidenreich
UW-Superior

Hunter Koltunski
UW-Eau Claire

Drosianos Louvaris
UW Oshkosh

Kendra Potter
UW-Stevens Point

Jacqueline Sporie
UW-La Crosse

Kaitlyn Timmins
UW-Platteville

Elizabeth Wentzel
UW-Stout

WiSys®

GLOBAL GOOD PRACTICE

University-Industry Interaction Conference

June 2021

WiSys®

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM

RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE

- Honors the best and brightest students, faculty and staff in the UW System

- Awards leaders in innovation at special receptions such as at the Brittingham House

INNOVATORS OF THE YEAR

INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR

Dr. Mark Levenstein, UW-Platteville

Dr. Mark Levenstein, who specializes in molecular biology and biotechnology, is an assistant professor of biology and director for the Master of Science in Applied Biotechnology program at UW-Platteville. He has been involved with multiple invention ideas submitted to WiSys and excels at collaborating with colleagues in different fields.

He and Dr. Gokul Gopalakrishnan, an associate professor of engineering physics at UW-Platteville, have worked together on biological applications for filters with nanoscale pores.

Gopalakrishnan, a previous WiSys Innovator of the Year, developed technology for creating porous silicon nanomembranes with varying-shaped pores, creating a specialized and more effective filter based on the shape of the material being filtered. Gopalakrishnan said he developed that technology for electronics-related use, but he also wondered about possible biological applications. “When I talked to Mark about my idea, his eyes lit up right away, and he had four different ideas to pursue,” Gopalakrishnan said.

Levenstein’s work has centered on using the filters to separate biological materials that are similar in mass but

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not in shape or structure. Currently, trying to separate such materials with more uniform filters proves difficult. Levenstein and Gopalakrishnan's cutting-edge work is patent pending and WiSys is currently seeking a partner to develop and manufacture membranes.

Levenstein and Gopalakrishnan also work closely with Dr. James Hamilton, professor of chemistry at UW-Platteville, on NASA-funded research testing an adhesive polymer Hamilton invented. The polymer is currently used to clean and protect optical surfaces, such as telescopes and satellites, and Levenstein and fellow researchers are working on expanded uses for that polymer, including isolating and preserving microorganisms captured by that polymer so that they can be studied. "It's very interesting from NASA's point of view, that they wouldn't just lose those microorganisms," Levenstein said.

In addition to pursuing his own research interests, Levenstein is an eager mentor. He encourages students to pursue research and lab work as undergraduates and both of his major research projects involve student work. "I think my greatest satisfaction in teaching is being able to introduce students to bench research and to generate some excitement in them to pursue that as a career," he said. "I like to get students in the lab to see what research is like and to see if they like it. The lab is such a wonderful, vibrant place to be."

Recent UW-Platteville graduate Colton Lysaker was one of the students on whom Levenstein had a profound influence. Lysaker, now a PhD student in the neuroscience graduate program and Alzheimer's Disease Center at University of Kansas Medical Center, began doing undergraduate research with

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"I think my greatest satisfaction in teaching is being able to introduce students to bench research and to generate some excitement in them to pursue that as a career."

Levenstein as a first-year student.

"As the principal investigator for my projects, and advisor outside the lab, Mark helped me discover a passion for research," Lysaker said. "He challenged me to think critically and ask new questions every day I was in the lab."

In addition to assisting with the NASA-related research on the adhesive polymer, Lysaker also researched stem cell differentiation with a focus on cardiac fate decisions. Lysaker said Levenstein was a strong influence throughout his time at UW-Platteville and helped him to prepare for graduate school and training as a biomedical scientist.

"My time working under Mark was unforgettable and I relished my time as a student in his lab," Lysaker said.
Levenstein is also an active collaborator with WiSys in continuing to strengthen UW-Platteville's vibrant innovation culture.

He advocates for WiSys programming, including helping to organize and promote WiSys Innovation Mixers, serving as a judge in the WiSys Prototype Hackathon and encouraging students to be WiSys Ambassadors and serve as a liaison between WiSys and the campus innovation community.

"While his research and collaborations have led to new discoveries, it is perhaps his enthusiasm for mentoring young researchers and his work to create and support new innovation opportunities for students that are most impressive," said WiSys President Arjun Sanga. "His efforts continue to build the culture of innovation at UW-Platteville make him truly worthy of this recognition. Mark embodies everything we look for in a WiSys Innovator of the Year."

INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR

Brandon Behringer, UW-Parkside

Not many students develop inventions while pursuing their undergraduate degree, but Brandon Behringer, who is seeking a chemistry degree, did this several times over.

Since 2018, Behringer has submitted five inventions to WiSys for intellectual property protection and help with commercialization. WiSys has sought patents for two of those inventions.

Behringer said a lot of his inspiration for inventions comes from his own observations and asking "what if." When he hears that something isn't feasible, or an idea is too far-fetched, he said, "its 2021, we had the technology to go to the moon in 1969, anything is possible."

"I see problems in the world, and I look for ways to fix them," he said. "I think about what I would want in my hands, and what I would have the ingenuity to make."

One of his patent-worthy inventions, an anodizing pen, was a collaboration with fellow UW-Parkside student and co-inventor Allen Rocha. Anodizing is an electrochemical treatment that thickens the natural oxide layer on a metal surface and makes the metal more durable, corrosion-resistant and adherent to

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paints and glue.

While the metal anodizing process generally involves submerging the metal object in an electrolyte bath, followed by the application of electrical current to alter the metal's surface, their pen offers a handheld solution that allows for precision anodizing.

Behringer's other notable project was the retrofit Peltier cooling device, which offers a compact means of continuously cooling food and other items in a portable cooler. The small device mounts to the lid of a cooler and in testing has shown to chill a room temperature beverage faster than an in-home refrigerator.

WiSys is currently seeking strategic partners that could provide a route to the market for each of those inventions. A patent has been issued in the United States for the cooling device, while a patent is pending on the anodizing pen. For more information on accessing these technologies, contact WiSys at licensing@wisys.org.

WiSys Senior Regional and Licensing Associate Tony Hanson, who serves UW-Parkside along with UW-La Crosse, UW-Platteville and UW-Whitewater, commended Behringer's initiative and creativity in working on inventions.

"I've always been impressed by Brandon's ability to identify opportunities for innovation," Hanson said. "Even if the project goes beyond his expertise, he has the drive to learn and explore as he works on new ideas."

To go beyond the idea stage on the retrofit Peltier cooling device, Behringer worked with faculty mentor Dr. William Parker, an assistant professor of mathematics and physic, to pursue

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"I see problems in the world, and I look for ways to fix them. I think about what I would want in my hands, and what I would have the ingenuity to make."

research funding through the UW System-funded and WiSys-administered Ignite Grant Program for prototype development. The grant program encourages faculty and staff (and in this case a student) to use their expertise on a project that could create economic development in Wisconsin.

"Brandon worked hard to understand the range of operation of the device he created and then to push it as far as it could go while still enjoying its practical use for himself," Parker said. "I appreciate Brandon's vivacity and creativity in finding ways to make life better through innovative applications."

The project gave Behringer the opportunity to do what he loves: "tinker." "That was a fun experience," Behringer said. "I got to build a bill of materials, learned thermodynamics and went through prototyping. It was a pretty cool experience."

Through sharing his innovative work, Behringer has been an example to his fellow students—showing them what's possible and what pathways they have to pursue their passions.

In addition to presenting his inventions at WiSys events, he also served as a WiSys Ambassador during the 2019-2020 academic year. This position serves as an important liaison to the campus innovation community. WiSys Ambassadors receive training in intellectual property and the technology transfer process and learn how to access resources offered by WiSys and other campus organizations designed to support technology development and entrepreneurial activity.

Behringer encourages other students to find something they're passionate about, ask questions and explore new ideas. "I think anyone can do this if they put their mind to it," he said. "You just think of something and pursue it."

INNOVATION CHAMPIONS

INNOVATION CHAMPION

Ann Rupnow, UW-Eau Claire

Ann Rupnow, UW-Eau Claire's entrepreneurship program manager, collaborated with WiSys and community leaders to pilot a new program, known as WiSys VentureHome, to build local startup hubs around the state to support entrepreneurs in their local communities.

Working with UW-Eau Claire and local coworking space CoLab, WiSys launched their first startup hub, or "VentureHome," in Eau Claire in February 2020. Rupnow was the point person for UW-Eau Claire leading up to the launch and currently serves as the co-chair of the WiSys VentureHome-Eau Claire steering committee, along with CoLab's Manager Elaine Coughlin.

"People like Ann turn ideas into reality. Her passion for entrepreneurship was instrumental in bringing together university and community stakeholders around a shared vision of supporting scalable startups," said Adhira Sunkara, WiSys' manager of innovative ventures. "UW-Eau Claire, and the Eau Claire community as a whole, are lucky to have such a top-notch collaborator working for them."

A key component of WiSys VentureHome is the Level Up! seed accelerator, which offers select entrepreneurs a five-month

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“Working with students, I love that aspect of my job. It’s fun to help them open their minds to see what can happen, what they can do.”

action-oriented program to take their business ideas to the next level, culminating in a pitch to investors.

Rupnow has played a big role in getting more than a dozen startups ready to jump into the marketplace since WiSys VentureHome-Eau Claire began operations. ParityBlu, a startup created by three UW-Eau Claire graduates and one UW-Madison alum, was among the businesses that graduated from Level Up!

ParityBlu CEO Sam Fitzhenry said his team valued Rupnow’s mentorship and support as they built their business around an app that unifies and streamlines use of multiple Bluetooth-enabled devices.

“Ann continually went the extra mile to build our networks and introduce opportunities that helped grow our company and solve problems,” said Fitzhenry. “Ann dedicates herself to guiding entrepreneurs through the most challenging territories of a startup, and always continues being an insightful and engaging leader. We are so glad to have received such an opportunity to work with her.”

Expertly guiding budding entrepreneurs isn’t new for Rupnow. She is the faculty advisor for UW-Eau Claire’s Collegiate Entrepreneurs’ Organization and its offshoot student-run coffee supply business Blugold Roast LLC. The nonprofit, university-branded company offers students valuable hands-on business experience.

Rupnow has also been a valuable partner and advocate for WiSys programming at UW-Eau Claire, including being a strong supporter of the WiSys Quick Pitch research communication competition and the entrepreneurial Startup 48 event, which is a qualifier for WiSys’ Wisconsin Big Idea Tournament.

INNOVATION CHAMPION

John Obielodan, UW-Platteville

In addition to his primary work at UW-Platteville as an Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering, Dr. John Obielodan stepped up to serve as the manager of the university's Prototyping Center—a collaborative effort with WiSys—in 2019.

He is responsible for fabricating and testing patentable technology submitted to WiSys, as well as using his engineering experience to help refine designs and offer feedback to inventors. The projects Obielodan works on come from various UW System campuses and cover a diverse range of technological fields—everything from recreation to agriculture.

"Many of the ideas that come to WiSys are conceptual in nature and John has helped bring many of them to life," said WiSys' Director of Patents and Licensing, Jennifer Souter.

During the past two years, Obielodan's work has supported six patent filings, two of which he is listed as a co-inventor due to his contribution to improvements in design. One of John's notable collaborations was with Sylvia Kehoe, professor of animal and food science at UW-River Falls. Kehoe came up with an idea to improve the common process of dehorning livestock. Nearly all dairy farms in Wisconsin practice some form of

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“I always derive satisfaction from solving problems. I derive satisfaction from seeing the outcome of my contributions and completing what I’ve set out to do.”

dehorning, most often using a caustic paste on calves. To curtail the risk of secondary exposures to both handlers and other animals to the caustic paste, Kehoe developed an adhesive patch for safe application.

Kehoe said she relied on Obielodan’s design expertise, creative input, and persistent testing of multiple versions to develop a working prototype. “I believe we went through five different versions only to land on one of our first ones,” Kehoe said. “He never complained and is such a team player.”

A patent is pending on the patch and WiSys is currently seeking a strategic partner that can manufacture and bring it to the marketplace. For more information on accessing this technology, contact WiSys at licensing@wisys.org.

The opportunity to collaborate and work on diverse multidisciplinary projects has been very stimulating and fulfilling, said Obielodan, who is also an inventor with several patents pending. The work also allows Obielodan to be an example for future inventors. He includes students in his work, giving them hands-on experiences to “learn in a creative fashion how to solve problems together,” Obielodan said.

When he isn’t helping other inventors or mentoring students, Obielodan explores his own research passions, primarily focused on novel materials development through additive manufacturing, also known as 3D printing processes.

Obielodan is one of the most active faculty members in working with WiSys to seek grants for his work and submit inventions for intellectual property protection when he sees the potential for commercialization. In the past seven years, he submitted 10 inventions to WiSys.

INNOVATION CHAMPION

Susan Gallagher-Lepak, UW-Green Bay

Even before becoming the Dean of the College of Health, Education and Social Welfare, Dr. Susan Gallagher-Lepak found ways to be a leader in advocating for students and expanding their educational experience. While serving as an assistant professor, she became connected with WiSys and quickly became a strong promoter of WiSys' services among her colleagues.

"I've always wanted to push for more innovation on campus, regardless of my role," she said. "As dean, it's been really important to me to think about innovation and have students gain innovation and entrepreneurial skills across campus."

She has been glad to see WiSys increase its opportunities for students in the past several years and credited WiSys President Arjun Sanga for his eagerness on that front. She touted the grant opportunities, student competitions and the WiSys Ambassador program, which employs students to be liaisons to campus innovation communities, as strong additions for students.

"It was Susan that led us down that path. She got us at

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“So many students have great ideas that they want to explore. WiSys has built out in a really amazing way and I’m really proud to be a part of that programming on campus.”

WiSys to think differently about our role on the campuses we serve,” said Sanga. “Most technology transfer organizations like WiSys have traditionally focused on supporting innovative faculty, working to commercialize their inventions and discoveries. Susan’s insights led us to put students front and center in our work not only at UW-Green Bay but in the entire UW System.”

WiSys’ focus on students has been a major reason for the organization’s successes in recent years, Sanga said. Today, one-third of all inventions submitted to WiSys for intellectual property protection and commercialization come from students and hundreds of students participate in WiSys research, innovation and entrepreneurship events annually.

“So many students have great ideas that they want to explore,” Gallagher-Lepak said. “WiSys has built out in a really amazing way and I’m really proud to be a part of that programming on campus.”

Gallagher-Lepak has done some building of her own. She helped to create the WiSys Innovation in Aging student idea contest at UW-Green Bay in 2017.

The event challenges students to examine the issues and barriers faced by aging adults and offer creative solutions to provide better quality of life for them. More than 100 students have participated in the event. In addition to the opportunity to win prize money, students grow idea development, collaboration and public presentation skills.

“If anything, what I’ve done is be an innovation catalyst on our campus,” she said. “It’s been exciting to work with WiSys and I value what WiSys brings to our campus.”

SUPPORTING STUDENTS

- Inspires next gen inventors, researchers, entrepreneurs
- Grows innovation skills via exciting events and contests
- Employs top-notch students as WiSys Ambassadors

WiSys Student Ambassador Program

- Enhances connection to campus innovators
- Paid student positions on every regional campus
- Encourages students to pursue research and educational opportunities

WiSys®

Student advances food safety research with WiSys grant

WiSys awarded grants to two WiSys Ambassadors to advance their knowledge and skills as young researchers through summer research programs.

UW-Stout student Mallory Brask received a $3,640 grant to research bacteria contamination in cheeses.

UW-La Crosse student Jacqueline Sporie received a $4,500 grant to research antimicrobial material that could enhance sanitation in many applications, including hospitals, schools and food production.

The grants are available to WiSys Ambassadors.

LEARN MORE: wisys.org/ambassadors

"Receiving funding to pursue projects is a rewarding experience that gives insight into what life as a scientist outside of the classroom can be like, and it's very exciting."

-Jacqueline Sporie

WiSys®

SUPPORTING ENTREPRENEURS

- Inspires “inner-entrepreneur” in UW regional institution talent
- Connects university and industry
- Mentors budding startups via WiSys VentureHome

04

WiSys gives student tech startup a boost

EAU CLAIRE—Four young entrepreneurs are turning an innovative app concept into a startup business with help from WiSys.

Taking advantage of two WiSys entrepreneurship programs, UW-Eau Claire alums Sam Fitzhenry, Max Bossert, Logan Ickert and UW-Madison graduate Nick Hersperger advanced their startup ParityBlu.

The team's app "ParityLink" is an all-in-one solution to connect multiple Bluetooth-enabled devices, such as TVs, speakers or smart thermostats into one centralized app.

The ParityBlu team was supported in both the WiSys APPStart Challenge and the WiSys VentureHome-Eau Claire startup accelerator.

LEARN MORE: wisys.org/appstart

WiSys® VentureHome®

WiSys VentureHome sparks local startups

- Everything your startup needs under one roof. ™
- Statewide resources, local supportive experts
- Mentored 12 Eau Claire startups in FY 2020-21

WiSys®

SUPPORTING GRANTSEEKERS

- Assists faculty/staff from any discipline pursue funding
- Develops better grant writers and grant proposals
- Builds research admin capacity

05

WiSys experts help UW-Platteville team land $120,000 grant

PLATTEVILLE—In July, the National Science Foundation awarded UW-Platteville a $120,792 grant to develop a model for creating more rural and local STEM teachers.

The award was a significant win for the efforts of the faculty team of Dr. Tim Deis, professor of mathematics; Dr. Jodean Grunow, senior lecturer of mathematics; and Dr. Leigh Monhardt, professor of education, during the past year.

The team leaned on WiSys research development services for support in applying for the federal grant.

LEARN MORE: nsf.gov

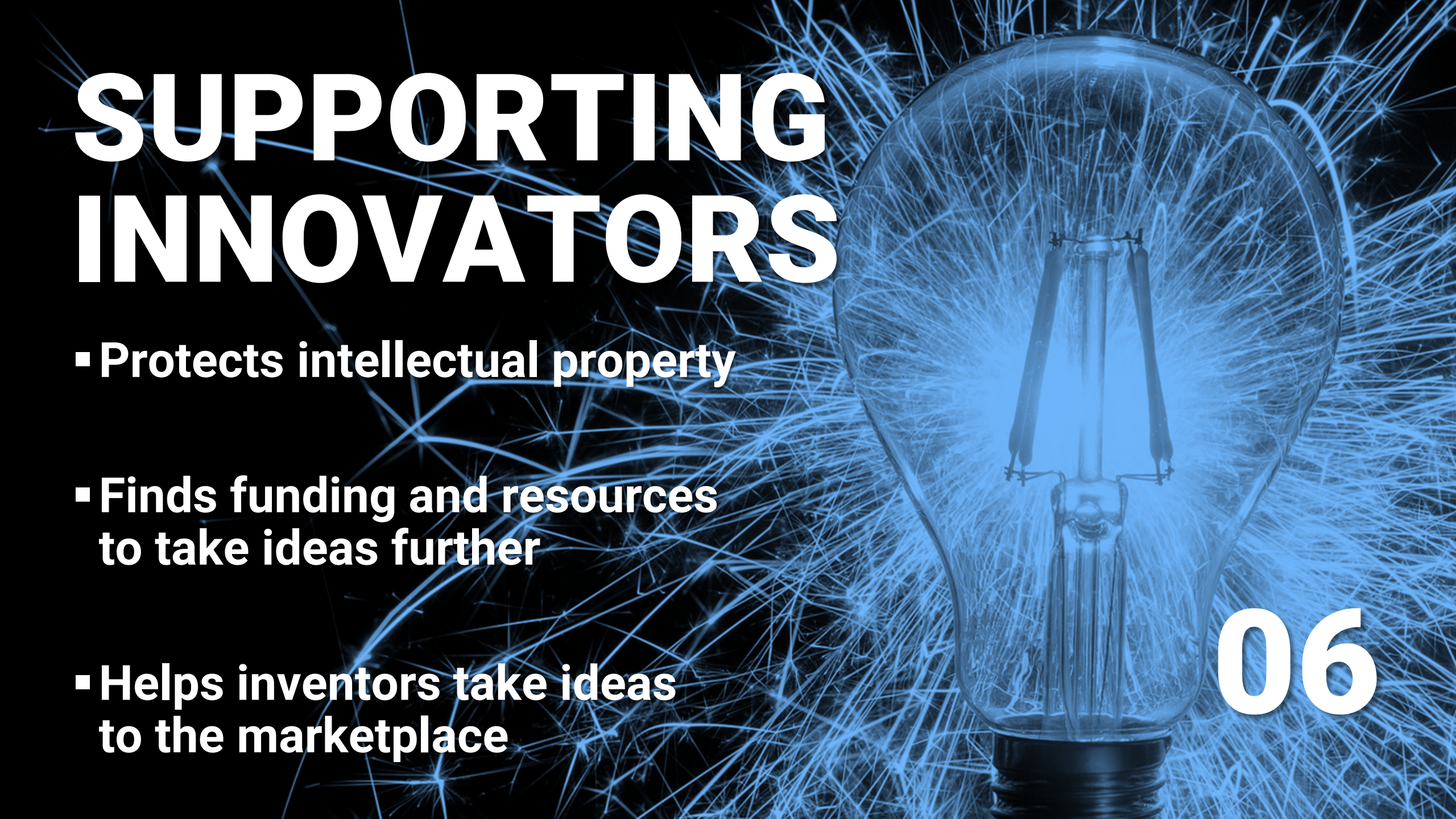
WiSys Grant Writing Webinar Series enables faculty grantseeking

- Trains hundreds of faculty and staff to be better grant writers
- Explores external funding opportunities
- Provides expert advice on the art of grant writing

WiSys®

SUPPORTING INNOVATORS

- Protects intellectual property
- Finds funding and resources to take ideas further
- Helps inventors take ideas to the marketplace



06

UW-Platteville Prototyping Center pact bring ideas to life

PLATTEVILLE—Thanks to a partnership between WiSys and UW-Platteville's Dr. John Obielodan, associate professor of mechanical engineering, half a dozen UW System inventions have gone from idea to reality during the past two years.

As the Prototyping Center manager, Obielodan works with WiSys to design, re-design, modify, fabricate and test patentable products in readiness for intellectual property transfer to potential investors. The work has supported six patent filings.

In addition to helping UW System inventors test out their ideas, Obielodan uses the Prototyping Center to offer students hands-on work experience.

LEARN MORE: uwplatt.edu

Growing the Mayo and UW-Eau Claire connection

EAU CLAIRE—WiSys works to foster fruitful partnerships between universities and industry partners, including the groundbreaking research agreement between UW-Eau Claire and the Mayo Clinic Health System.

In addition to contributing financially to the effort, WiSys helped facilitate Innovation Brainstorm events to encourage dialogue and exchange, with the goal of creating new research collaborations in April.

The events featured Mayo clinicians presenting research problems, followed by problem solving and discussions with UW-Eau Claire faculty.

LEARN MORE: uwec.edu

BUILDING BRIDGES ACROSS THE SYSTEM

- Partners with 11 regional universities to nurture innovation
- Innovation doesn't just happen in big cities and in big universities
- The ENTIRE system is full of success stories

07

UW-EAU CLAIRE

CAMPUS SNAPSHOT

5 INVENTION DISCLOSURES

2 PATENTS FILED

19.5K GRANT FUNDS

Blugold wins state championship for research presentation

EAU CLAIRE—The annual Quick Pitch event is a statewide competition that inspires UW System students to consider the overall impact of their student-faculty research.

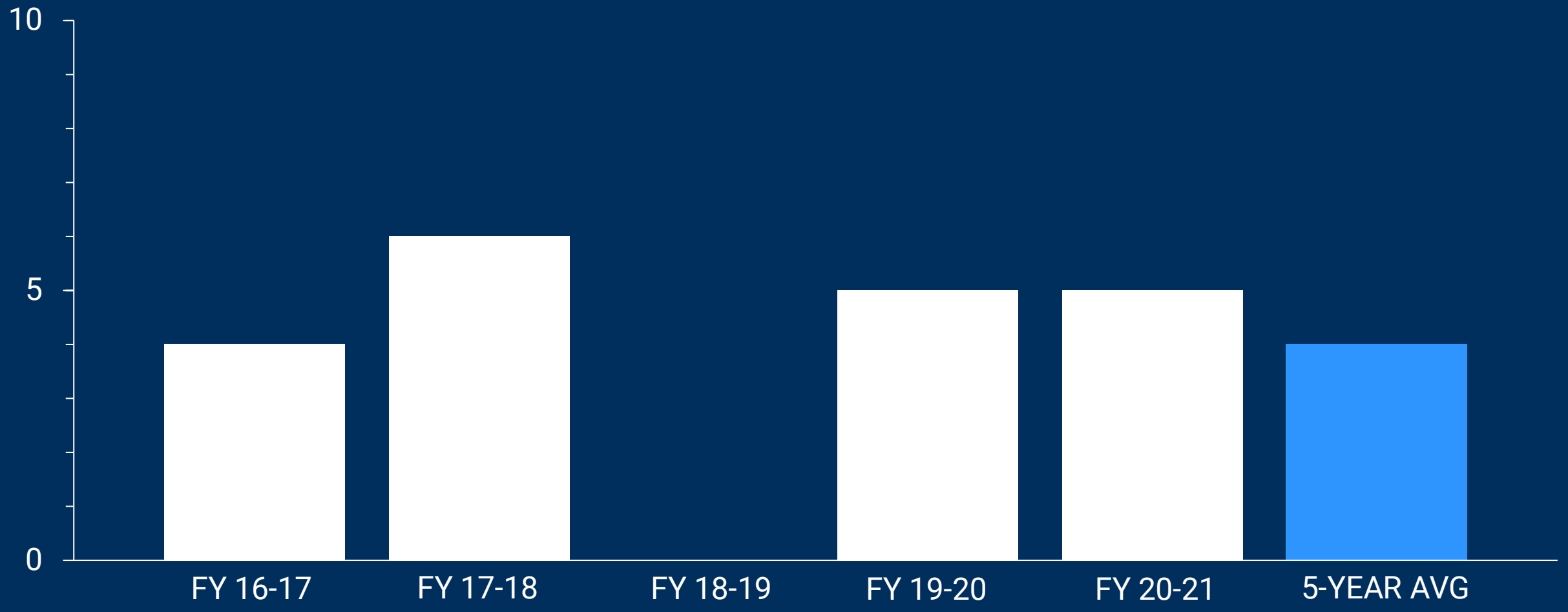
Participants have three minutes to impress a panel of judges with their findings and their ability to articulate the larger importance to society.

Fossum, whose presentation was titled "Understanding the Severity of COVID-19: A Point of View Through the Lens of a Computational Chemist," earned a $700 first-place prize.

LEARN MORE: wisys.org/quickpitch

INVENTION DISCLOSURES

UW-Eau Claire inventions submitted to WiSys, 2016-2021



UW-GREEN BAY

CAMPUS SNAPSHOT

7 INVENTION DISCLOSURES

1 PATENT FILED

43.6K GRANT FUNDS

Students find success in ‘Innovation in Aging’

GREEN BAY—Persevering through the pandemic, WiSys continued its partnership with UW-Green Bay on the WiSys Innovation in Aging student idea contest in February.

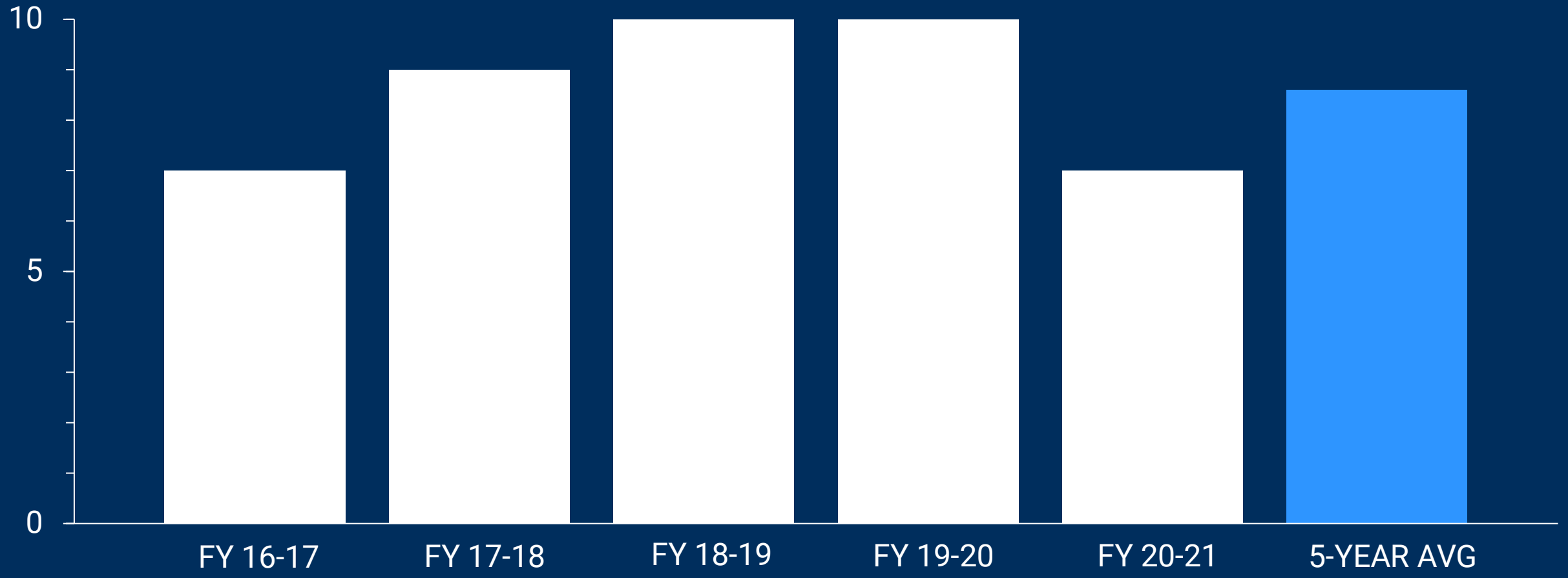
The contest, which was held virtually, challenged students to find innovative solutions to the hardships faced by the elderly.

This year’s winner Cheri Branham won a $1,000 prize for her innovative service to pair tech-savvy mentors with older adults who want training on how to use computers and other devices. Branham also went on to pitch the concept at the Wisconsin Big Idea Tournament, presented by WiSys.

LEARN MORE: wisys.org/aging

INVENTION DISCLOSURES

UW-Green Bay inventions submitted to WiSys, 2016-2021



UW-LA CROSSE

CAMPUS SNAPSHOT

4 INVENTION DISCLOSURES

3 PATENTS FILED

138K GRANT FUNDS

Professors use Ignite Grant to study antimicrobial materials

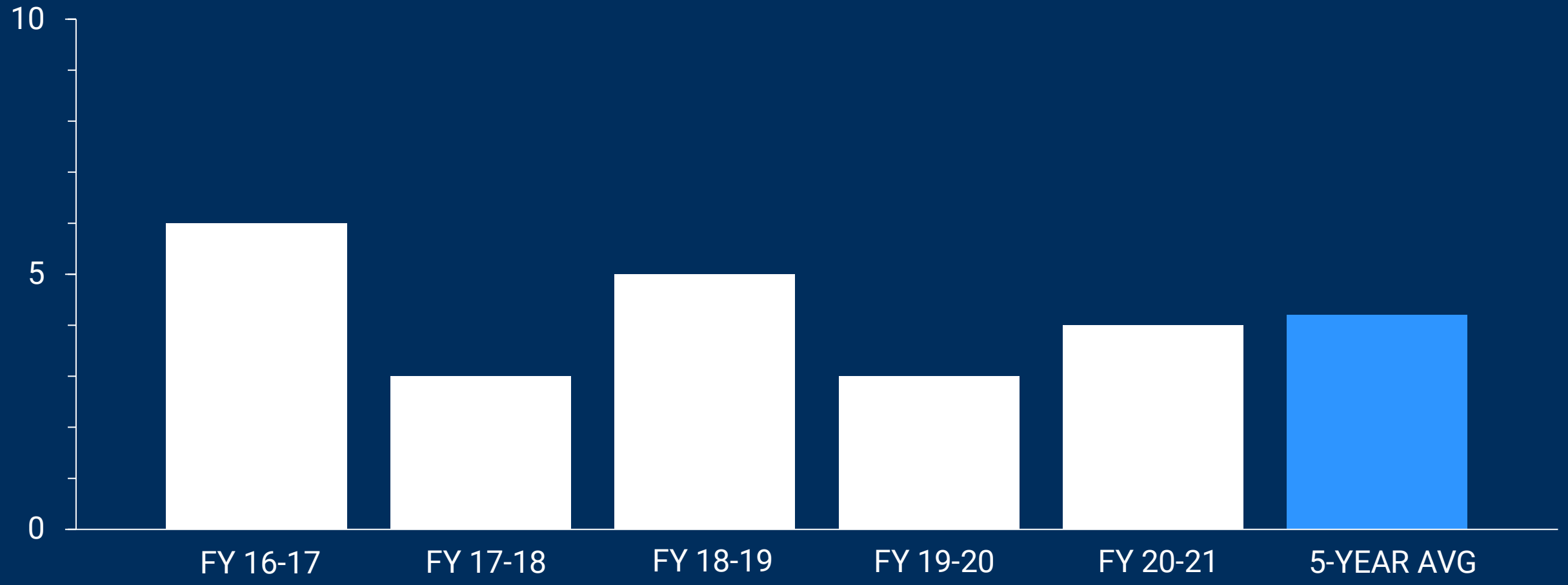
LA CROSSE—The Ignite Grant program, which is UW System-funded and WiSys-administrated, is helping facilitate the cutting-edge research of two UW-La Crosse faculty members.

Dr. Seth King, associate professor of physics, and Dr. Xinhui Li, associate professor of microbiology, are using an Ignite Grant to study antimicrobial materials that could have useful applications in schools, hospitals and food service areas. Ignite Grants encourage UW System faculty and staff to use their expertise to develop ideas and technology that support economic development for Wisconsin.

LEARN MORE: wisys.org/grants

INVENTION DISCLOSURES

UW-La Crosse inventions submitted to WiSys, 2016-2021



UW OSHKOSH

CAMPUS SNAPSHOT

2 INVENTION DISCLOSURES

2 PATENTS FILED

98.1K GRANT FUNDS

Student becomes expert communicator through ‘Pitch’ event

OSHKOSH—With help from the WiSys Quick Pitch research communication contest, UW Oshkosh student Julia Thompson is mastering the communication of complicated information.

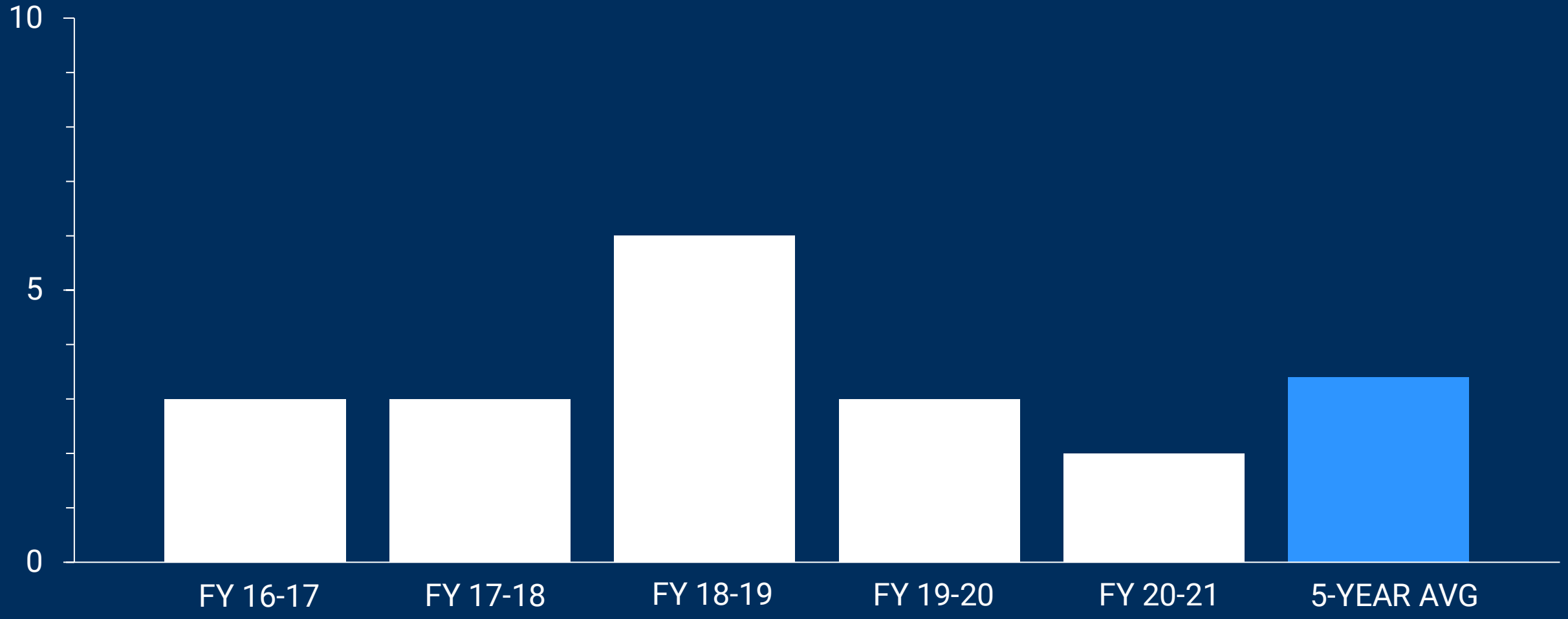
For the second year in a row, Thompson won the UW Oshkosh leg of the statewide event that teaches students to explain their research succinctly.

“Quick Pitch encouraged me to continue thinking critically about the way I write and present content in all of my classes and research endeavors,” said Thompson, whose research focused on the gender gap in information technology jobs.

LEARN MORE: wisys.org/quickpitch

INVENTION DISCLOSURES

UW Oshkosh inventions submitted to WiSys, 2016-2021



UW-PARKSIDE

CAMPUS SNAPSHOT

3 INVENTION DISCLOSURES

2 PATENTS FILED

152K GRANT FUNDS

Student wins WiSys statewide contest for entrepreneurs

SOMERS—The Wisconsin Big Idea Tournament highlighted innovative UW-Parkside student Gabrielle Richardson in May.

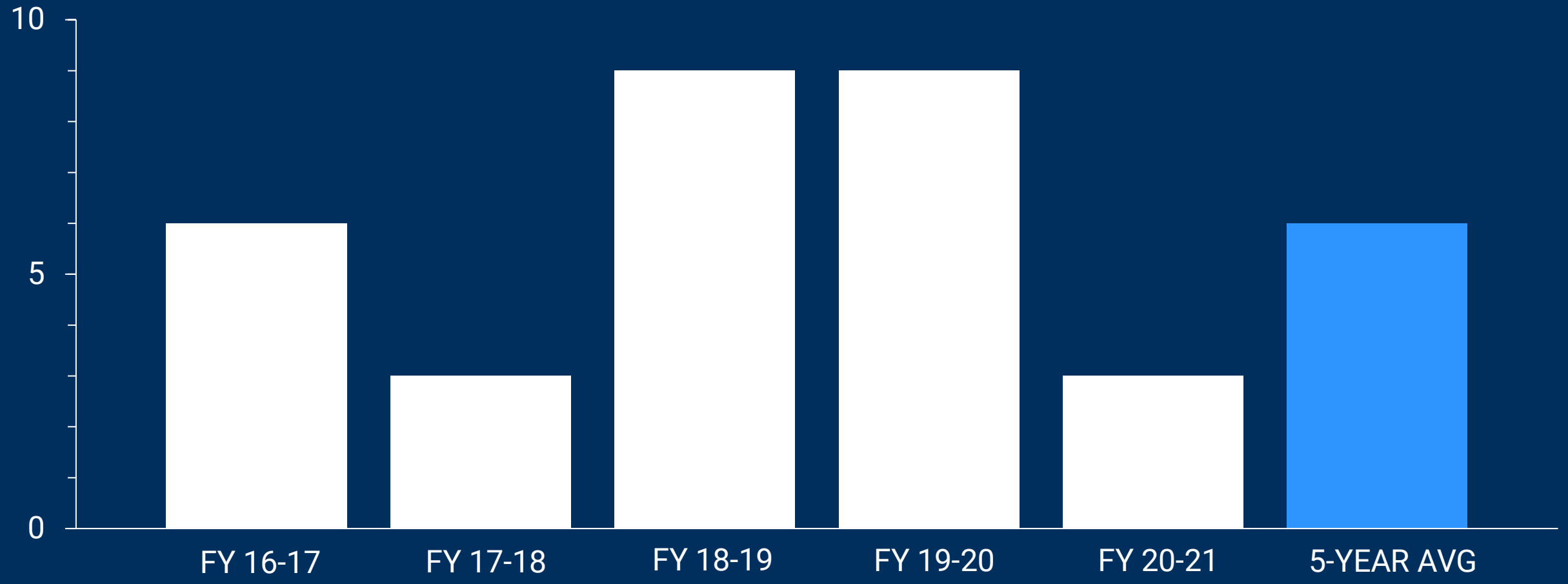
The pre-med student won the statewide entrepreneurship contest and a $2,500 prize for an app idea that helps health care providers treat non-English speaking patients. Her app was inspired by her time volunteering at a free health care clinic, where language could be a barrier to treatment.

The developmental contest offers students a chance at seed funding for their ideas, as well as entrepreneurial mentorship from business leaders.

LEARN MORE: wisys.org/bigidea

INVENTION DISCLOSURES

UW-Parkside inventions submitted to WiSys, 2016-2021



UW-PLATTEVILLE

CAMPUS SNAPSHOT

24 INVENTION DISCLOSURES

7 PATENTS AWARDED

166K GRANT FUNDS

Student's electric snowboard prototype wins WiSys prize

PLATTEVILLE—UW-Platteville mechanical engineering student Evan Tennie wowed judges with his entry into the WiSys Prototype Hackathon in April.

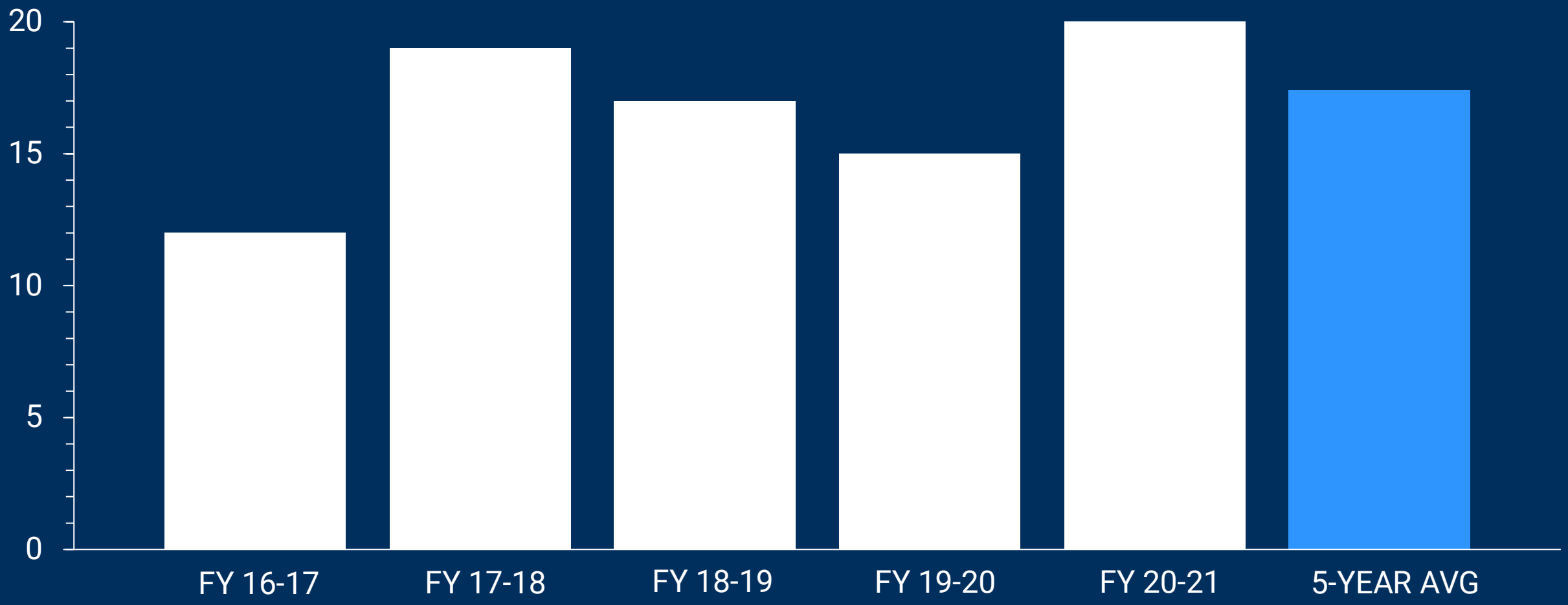
Tennie's "GoBoard" concept puts a motorized track on a snowboard so that a person can snowboard on non-hilly terrain. Tennie came up with the idea because he enjoyed snowboarding but did not always want to drive to a ski hill.

The hackathon engages students to design innovative product prototypes and demonstrate their commercial relevance. Teams have a dedicated day to design and build a prototype.

LEARN MORE: wisys.org/hack

INVENTION DISCLOSURES

UW-Platteville inventions submitted to WiSys, 2016-2021



UW-RIVER FALLS

CAMPUS SNAPSHOT

2 INVENTION DISCLOSURES

4 PATENTS FILED

11.7K GRANT FUNDS

Professor’s idea aims to improve common farm process

RIVER FALLS—WiSys worked with Dr. Sylvia Kehoe, professor of animal and food science at UW-River Falls, to develop her idea to improve the process of using a caustic paste to dehorn calves.

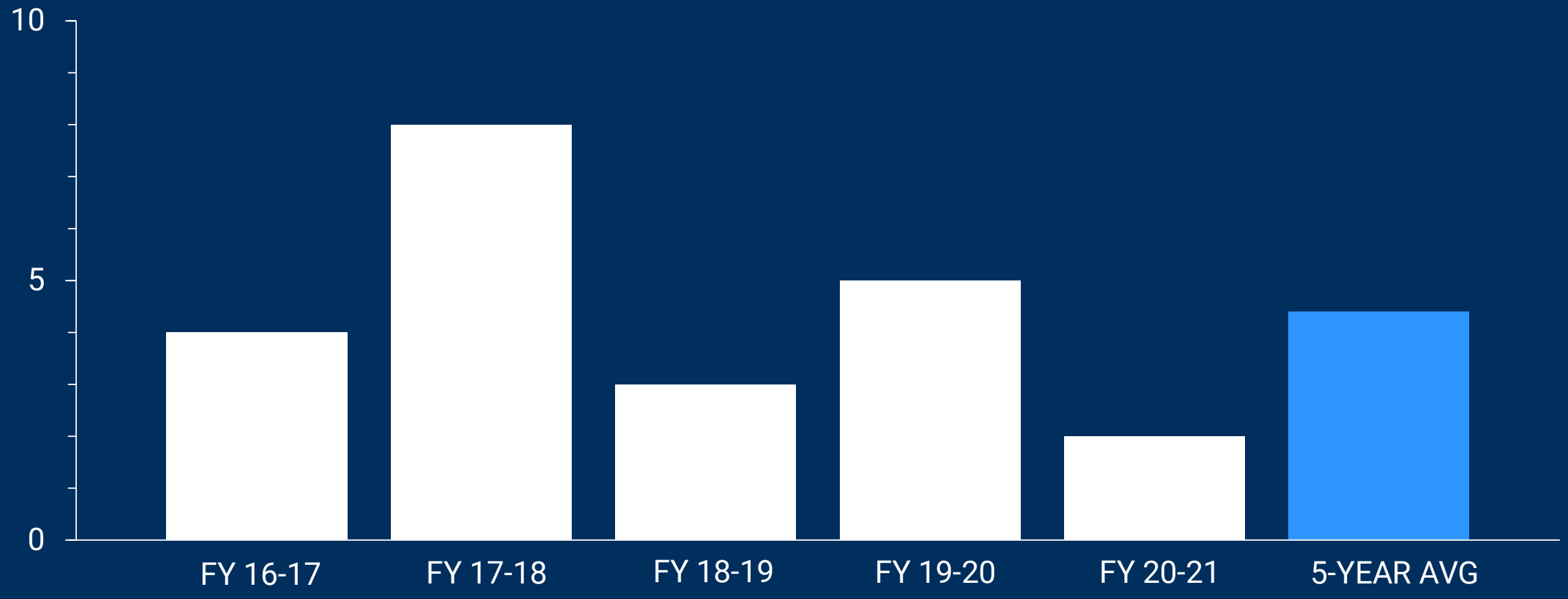
To curtail the risk of secondary exposures to both handlers and other animals to the caustic paste, Kehoe developed an adhesive patch for safe application working with UW-Platteville’s Associate Professor Dr. John Obielodan.

WiSys helped facilitate the connection between Kehoe and Obielodan, who manages UW-Platteville’s Prototyping Center, and also filed a patent for the patch that was developed.

LEARN MORE: wisys.org

INVENTION DISCLOSURES

UW-River Falls inventions submitted to WiSys, 2016-2021



UW-STEVENS POINT

CAMPUS SNAPSHOT

1 INVENTION DISCLOSURE

1 PATENT AWARDED

Chancellor Gibson volunteers as WiSys research event judge

STEVENS POINT—Signifying a deepening relationship between WiSys and UW-Stevens Point in the last year, Chancellor Thomas Gibson volunteered to serve as a judge for a WiSys research communication contest known as WiSys Quick Pitch in May.

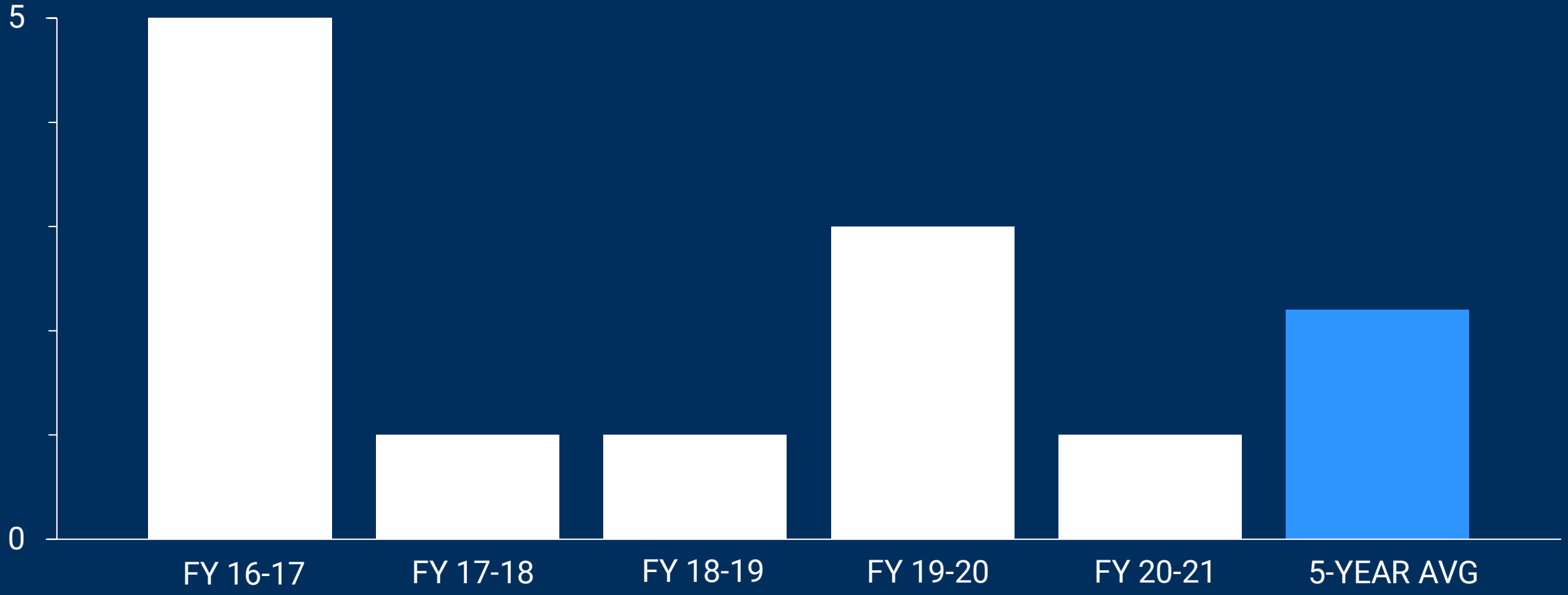
Gibson was among a panel of judges evaluating three-minute presentations by student researchers attempting to explain the importance of their work to the public.

Gibson began his tenure at the university in January and has been a strong supporter of WiSys' efforts to advance research, innovation and entrepreneurship on campus.

LEARN MORE: wisys.org/quickpitch

INVENTION DISCLOSURES

UW-Stevens Point inventions submitted to WiSys, 2016-2021



UW-STOUT

CAMPUS SNAPSHOT

10 INVENTION DISCLOSURES

2 PATENTS FILED

112K GRANT FUNDS

WiSys Spark Grant funds promising food research

MENOMINEE—A WiSys Spark Grant allowed UW-Stout Associate Professor Pranabendu Mitra and his students to research healthy food additives.

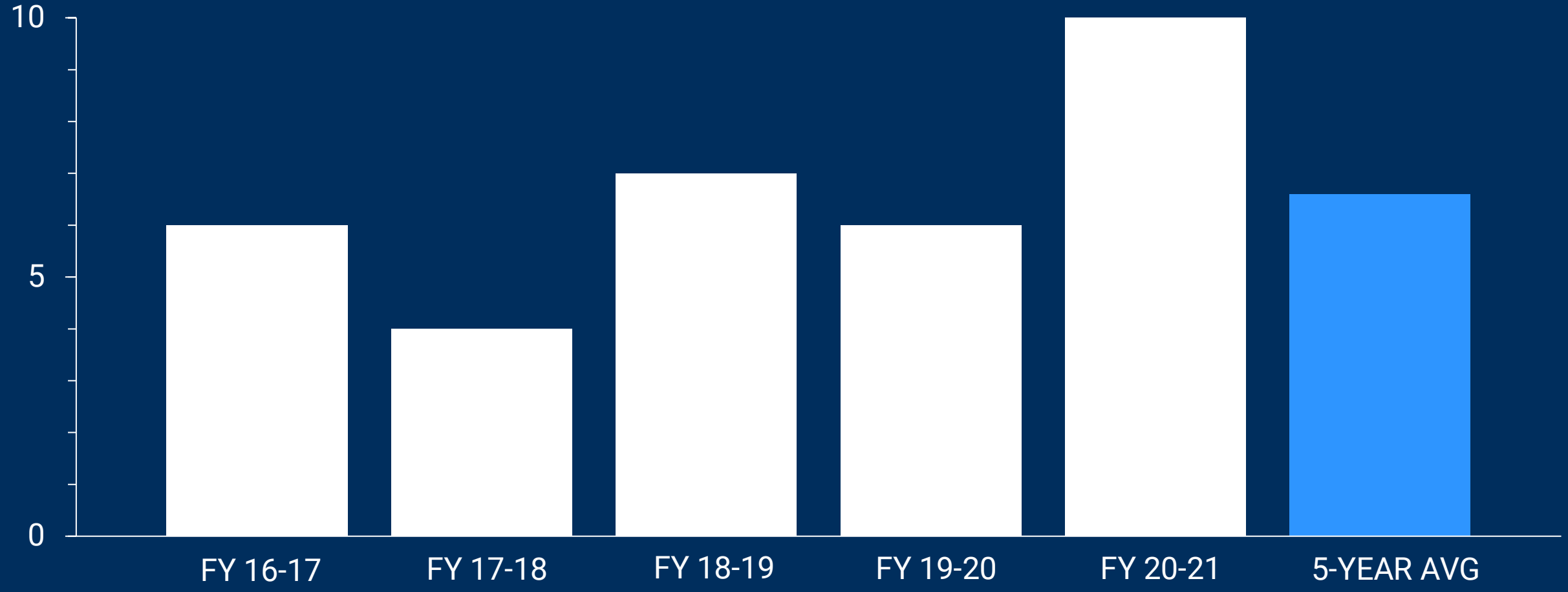
Mitra's team is studying the use of cranberry pomace, a byproduct of cranberry use, to improve the shelf life and texture of cookies. The pomace also is rich in fiber and antioxidants, which could appeal to health-conscious consumers.

The WiSys Spark Grant Program advances small-scale, proof-of-concept research projects that could lead to more in-depth research projects and funding in the future.

LEARN MORE: wisys.org/grants

INVENTION DISCLOSURES

UW-Stout inventions submitted to WiSys, 2016-2021



UW-SUPERIOR

WiSys Ambassador speaks at UW-Superior commencement

SUPERIOR—UW-Superior student Amber Heidenreich served as a top-notch WiSys Ambassador during the 2020-2021 academic year.

Heidenreich, who graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor of science degree, double-majoring in police science and legal studies, served as a student speaker at her university's commencement in May.

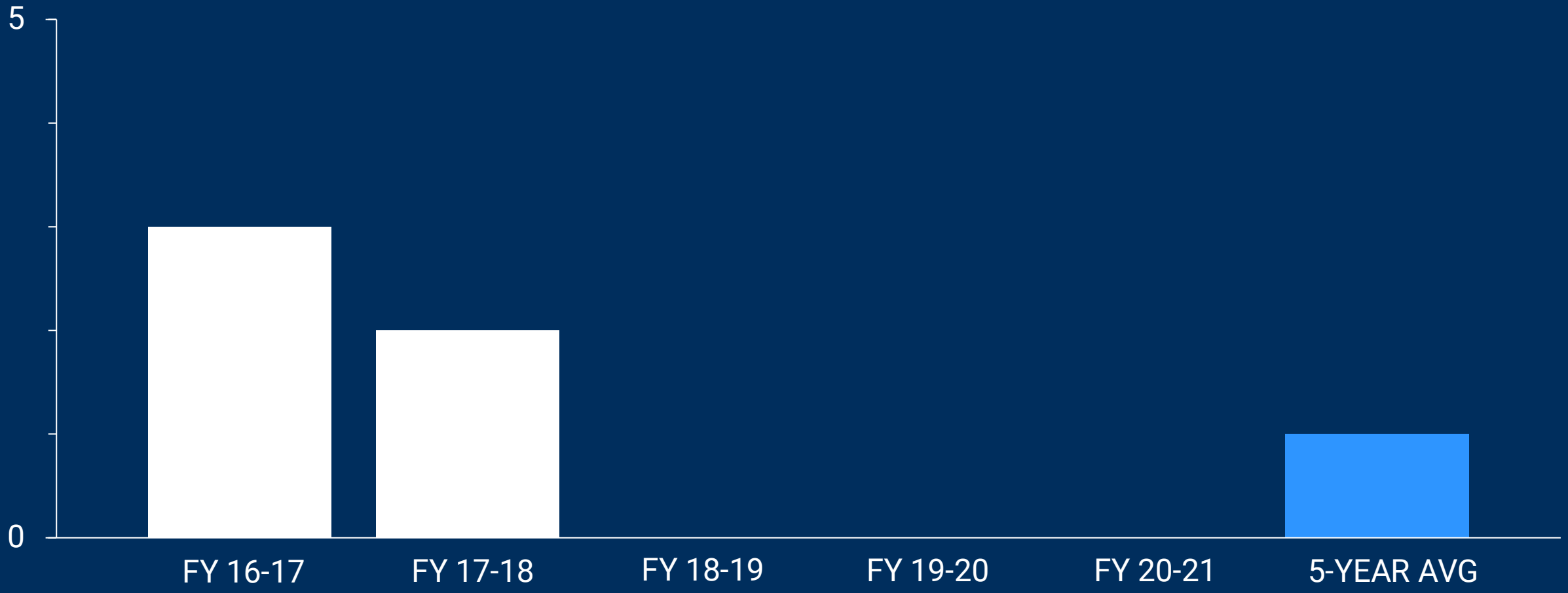
WiSys Ambassadors serve as a vital connection between WiSys and the campus research, innovation and entrepreneurship communities.

They also receive training in intellectual property, the technology transfer process and how to access resources offered by WiSys.

LEARN MORE: wisys.org/ambassadors

INVENTION DISCLOSURES

UW-Superior inventions submitted to WiSys, 2016-2021



UW-WHITEWATER

CAMPUS SNAPSHOT

3 INVENTION DISCLOSURES

1 PATENT AWARDED

61K GRANT FUNDS

Professor patents science education tool

WHITEWATER—WiSys helped Ozgur Yavuzcetin, an associate professor of physics, receive a U.S. Patent for inventing a modified form of a Newton's cradle to visualize and test mechanical impedance.

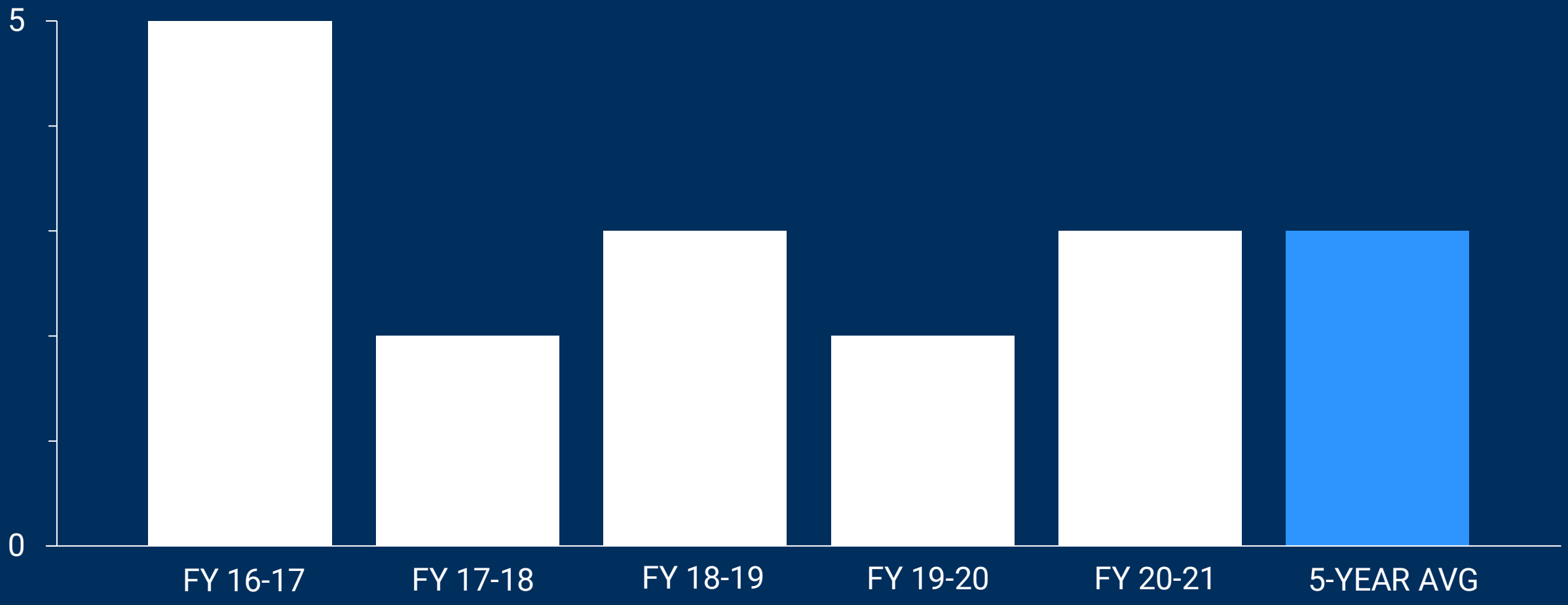
A typical Newton's cradle uses suspended identical balls in a line to demonstrate the concepts of conservation of motion and energy. Yavuzcetin's concept lets users vary the mass and elasticity of the balls to demonstrate changes in mechanical impedance, momentum and energy conservation.

WiSys is committed to protecting and advancing intellectual property that is being developed by students, faculty and staff across the UW System.

LEARN MORE: uww.edu

INVENTION DISCLOSURES

UW-Whitewater inventions submitted to WiSys, 2016-2021

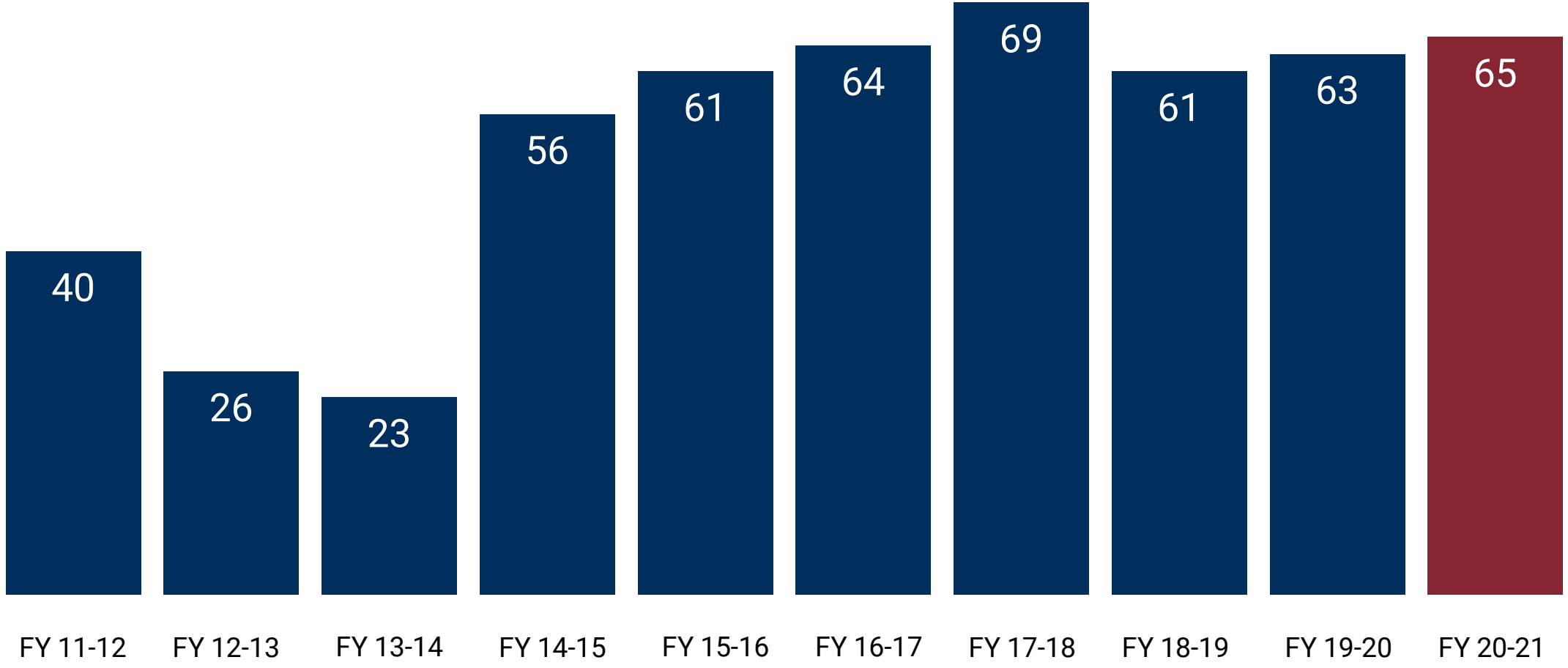


MEASURING SUCCESS

- Evaluated 65 inventions submitted to WiSys for intellectual property protection
- Filed 26 patents, received 9 patents
- Facilitated $801,557 in grants to further UW System ideas

INVENTION DISCLOSURES

Inventions submitted to WiSys, 2011-2021



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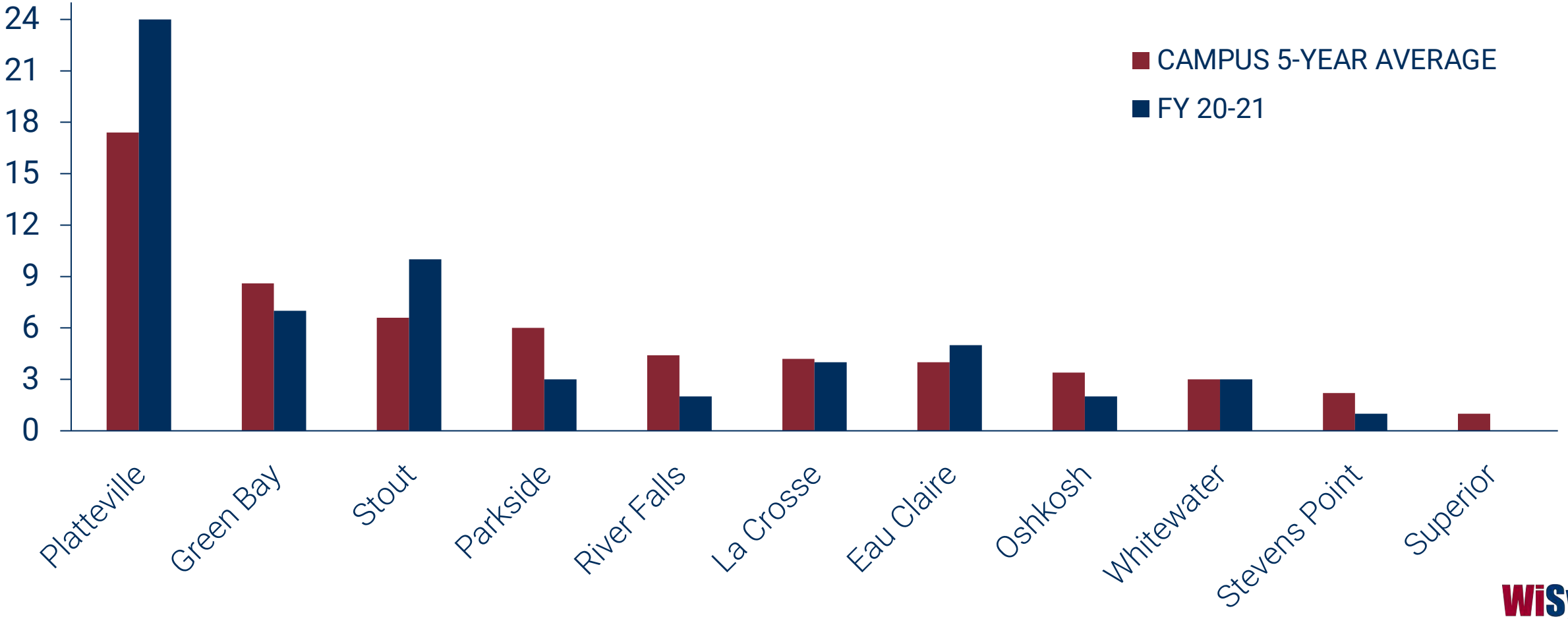
INVENTION DISCLOSURES

Fiscal Year 20-21 Compared with 5-Year Average (By Campus)



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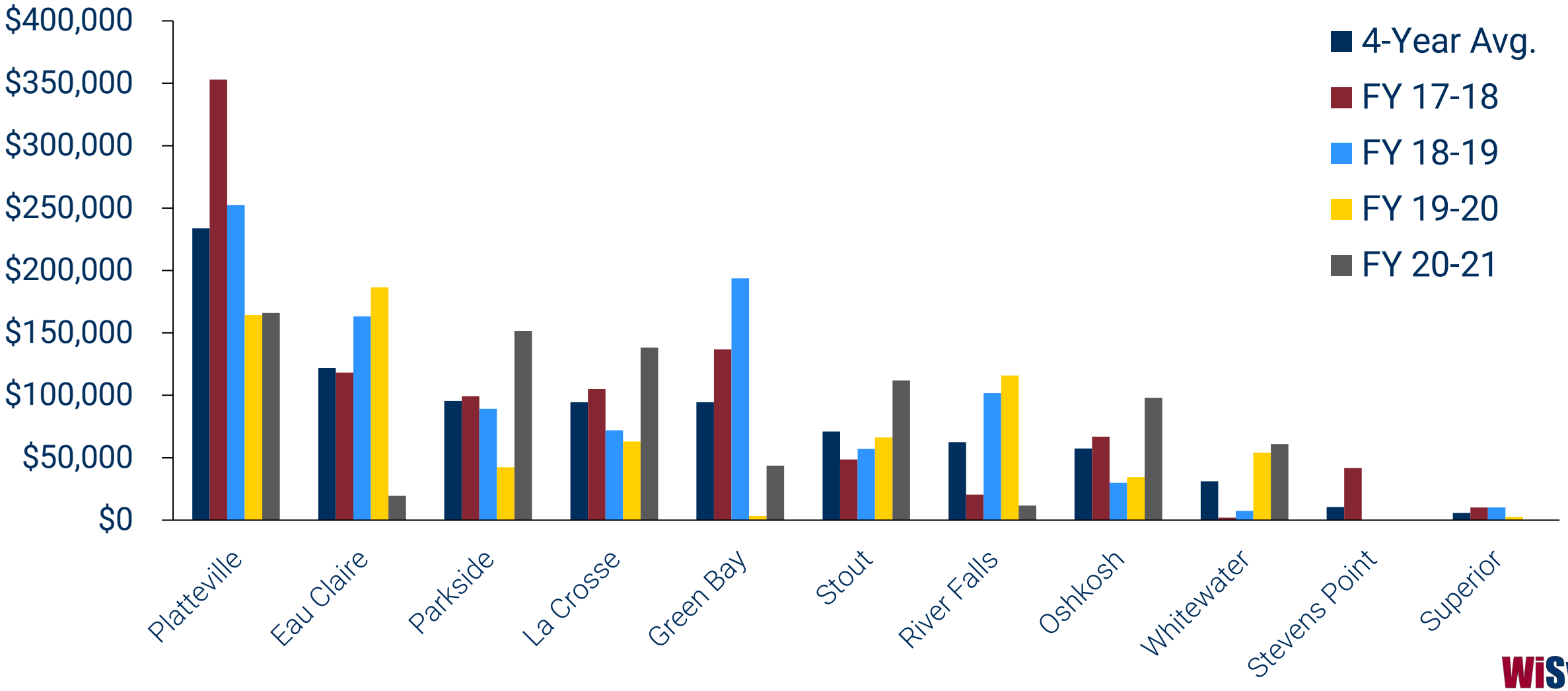
GRANTS BY CAMPUS



WiSys®

Eureka isn’t a moment. It’s a process. ®