

**Mission Statement:** The sole purpose of Charleston Research Institute (CRI) is to advance the research mission of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and specifically the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center, in Charleston, South Carolina through the support of research related activities.

## CRI Summer Research Interns



**Pictured from left to right:**  
**Matt Newsome**  
(Mentor: Dr. Stephen Savage);  
**Shawn Shaji and Ellen Griffin**  
(Mentor: Dr. Valerian Fernandes);  
and **Cooper**.

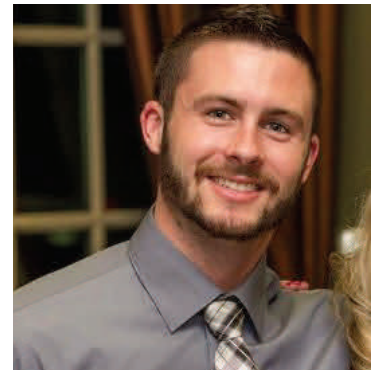
**Not pictured:** **Johnathan Elkes**  
(Mentor: Dr. Maria Lopes-Virella)

In collaboration with MUSC College of Medicine Careers in Medicine program, Charleston Research Institute is sponsoring 4 summer research interns at Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center. Applications from interested first year MUSC students were accepted through December 31, 2014 and selections were made in February 2015. These paid internships will run for approximately 10 weeks, allowing the students to gain critical laboratory and clinical research experience.

## CRI New Staff Member

Charleston Research Institute welcomed **Shane Kelleher** in March as its new Bookkeeper / Administrative Assistant. Shane relocated from Maryland and brings years of accounting experience and a nonprofit background gained from working with US Lacrosse Magazine Youth Development.

Come stop by CRI and introduce yourself. You'll likely be greeted by Shane's puppy, **Cooper**, pictured above.



## What is CRI?

Charleston Research Institute is a South Carolina 501(c) 3 non-profit corporation that is devoted to advancing Veterans' health research. CRI administers medical research at Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center that is *not* VA funded. In other words, CRI administers research that is sponsored by pharmaceutical and device companies, foundations, other non-profits, and federal agencies such as Department of Defense and National Institutes of Health (NIH).

CRI provides comprehensive research administration services including contract negotiation, budgeting, human resources, fiscal oversight, and purchasing.

## Contact us:

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**Executive Director**  
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[www.charlestonresearchinstitute.org](http://www.charlestonresearchinstitute.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/CharlestonResearchInstitute>

## When Do I Use CRI?

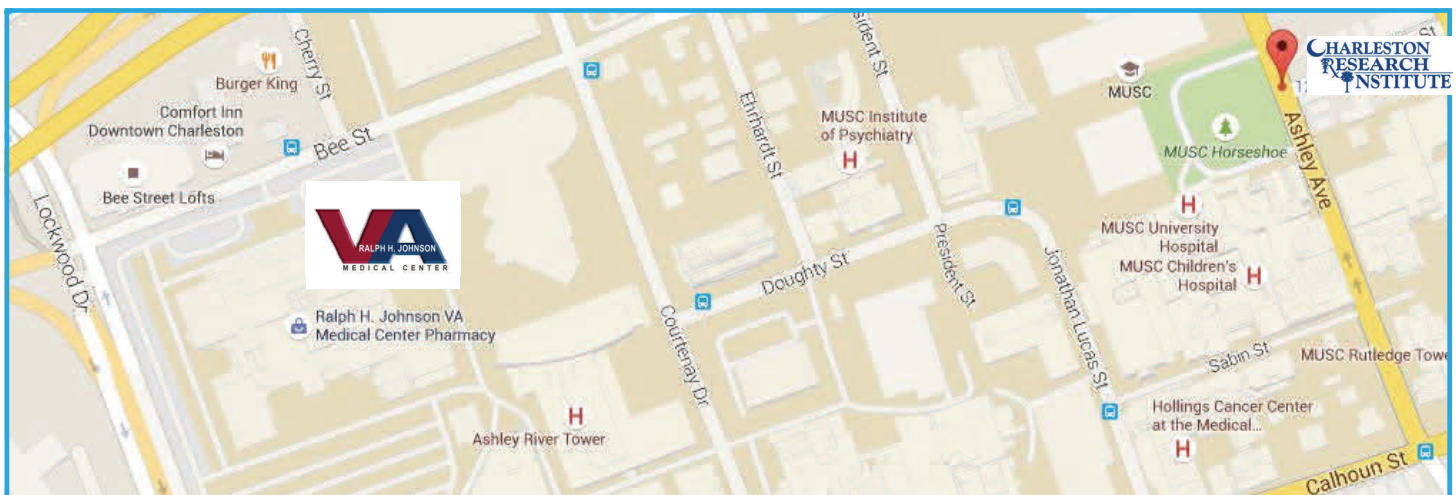
VA requirements mandate that any funds received from an outside entity in support of VA research, such as NIH grants or industry sponsored research funds, must be administered by the VA Medical Center or the VA non-profit corporation affiliated with the VA Medical Center.

**Ask yourself this question:**

**“Will VA resources be used to conduct a study?”**

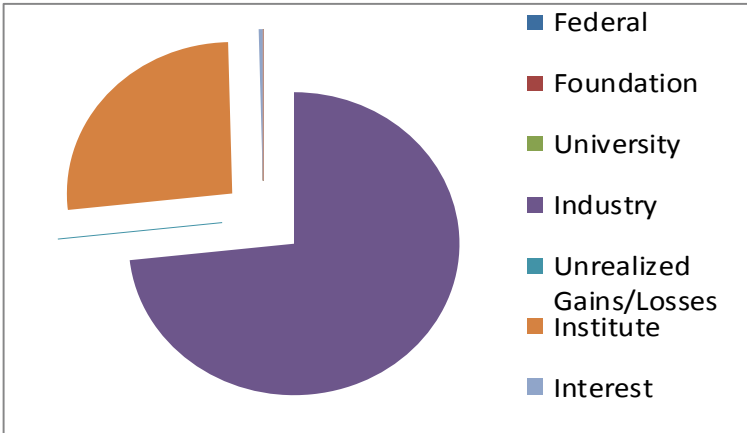
Examples of VA resources are VA patients, VA space, and/or VA time. If you answer “yes” to any of the above, please contact CRI and we will assist you.

**Shane Kelleher**  
**Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant**  
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**T: 843-277-2671**



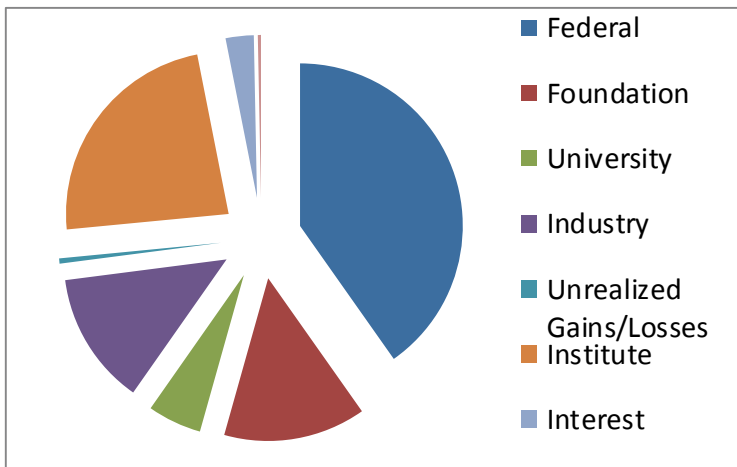
# FY2014 Financial Highlights

## 2004



**CRI continues to grow and diversify its grant portfolio. Sponsors include industry, federal agencies, and foundations.**

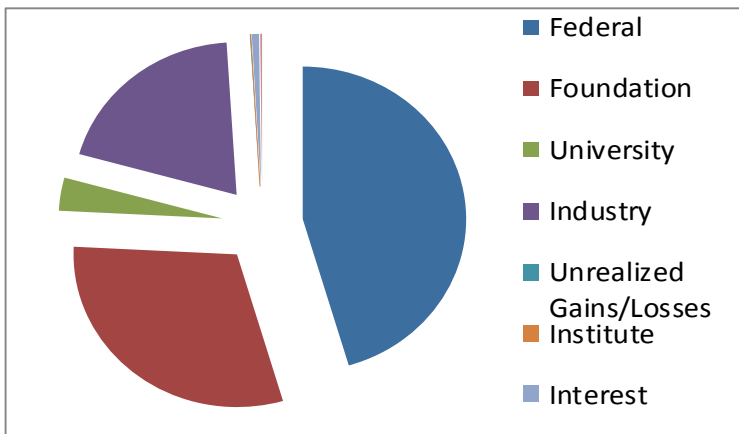
## 2009



### Special points of interest:

- Incorporated in 1997
- Servicing over \$1 million in grant revenues annually
- 26% IDC rate for all federal grants
- 25% IDC rate for industry-sponsored grants
- Employee benefits including health insurance and 401k matching contributions

## 2014





# Ralph H. Johnson VAMC Student Research Awards

For the past 9 years, CRI has sponsored Ralph H. Johnson VAMC Student Research Awards in collaboration with MUSC on its annual Student Research Day in November.

In addition to cash prizes, an oversized check, and framed award certificate, each winner's name is engraved on a perpetual plaque on display at CRI Headquarters.

Students must have a VAMC mentor, present VA R&D committee-approved research, and acknowledge VAMC in their presentation in order to be eligible for these awards.

For the first time ever, CRI created a Rehabilitation Award to recognize the many rehabilitation entries this year.

## And the Winners Are...



### Poster

1<sup>st</sup> Place: **Ryan Kelly**

Title: "Role of the Hematopoietic Stem Cell During Osteogenesis and Fracture Repair"

Mentor: Amanda LaRue, Ph.D.

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: **Craig Kutz**

Title: "Novel 1,2,4-triazole scaffolds as drug candidates to prevent cardiac ischemia-reperfusion injury"

Mentor: Don Menick, Ph.D.

### Oral

1<sup>st</sup> Place: **Ludvine Renaud**

Title: "HDAC2 Regulates miR-133a Expression in Left Ventricular Pressure Overload Hypertrophy"

Mentor: Donald Menick, Ph.D.

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: **Aarti Narang**

Title: "Targeted complement inhibition improves recovery in murine spinal cord injury model"

Mentor: Stephen Tomlinson, Ph.D.

### Rehabilitation Research

Winner: **Kelly Callahan**

Title: "The Relationship Between Upper Extremity Quality of Movement and Patient-Reported Hand Use And Perceived Recovery After Stroke"

Mentor: Michelle L Woodbury, Ph.D.

### SAVE THE DATE

Friday, November 13, 2015

for this year's **Ralph H. Johnson VAMC Student Research Awards!**