

# GRADUATE FELLOWS INITIATIVE

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**EXECUTIVE DEAN OF ENGINEERING**



SCHOOL *of* ENGINEERING  
& APPLIED SCIENCE

**Initiative began with a question from  
our board:**

**“What are the greatest research needs  
expressed by faculty?”**

 **UVA ENGINEERING**

# **SAFETY NET FELLOWSHIPS**

## **FUNDS RAISED:**

**\$5 million through fundraising efforts of the UVA Engineering Office of Advancement and matching funds from the Office of the Dean**

## **OBJECTIVE:**

**Give faculty members the confidence to immediately extend offers to graduate applicants until grant funds are awarded**

## **SUSTAINABILITY MODEL:**

**The higher the transition rate of safety net recipients to grants, the larger the amount of funds that can be used in future years, and the more years these funds are available.**

# **SAFETY NET FELLOWSHIPS PROCESS**

- **Departments allocated a specific number of “slots” based number of Ph.D.-advising faculty**
- **Funds only made available to faculty with one or more proposals submitted**
- **Proposal IDs tracked for award status and available funds**
- **Safety net recipients manually moved to grant funds immediately upon availability**
- **Funding covers only “actual cost” of student (Since tuition is returned to the school in our RCM model, no tuition is charged to this funding source.)**

# EXPERIENCE WITH SAFETY NET FELLOWSHIPS

While the net transition rate for AY2017-18 was only 38%, we developed better tracking processes and enhanced understanding of the program, and then our projected transitions were surpassed:

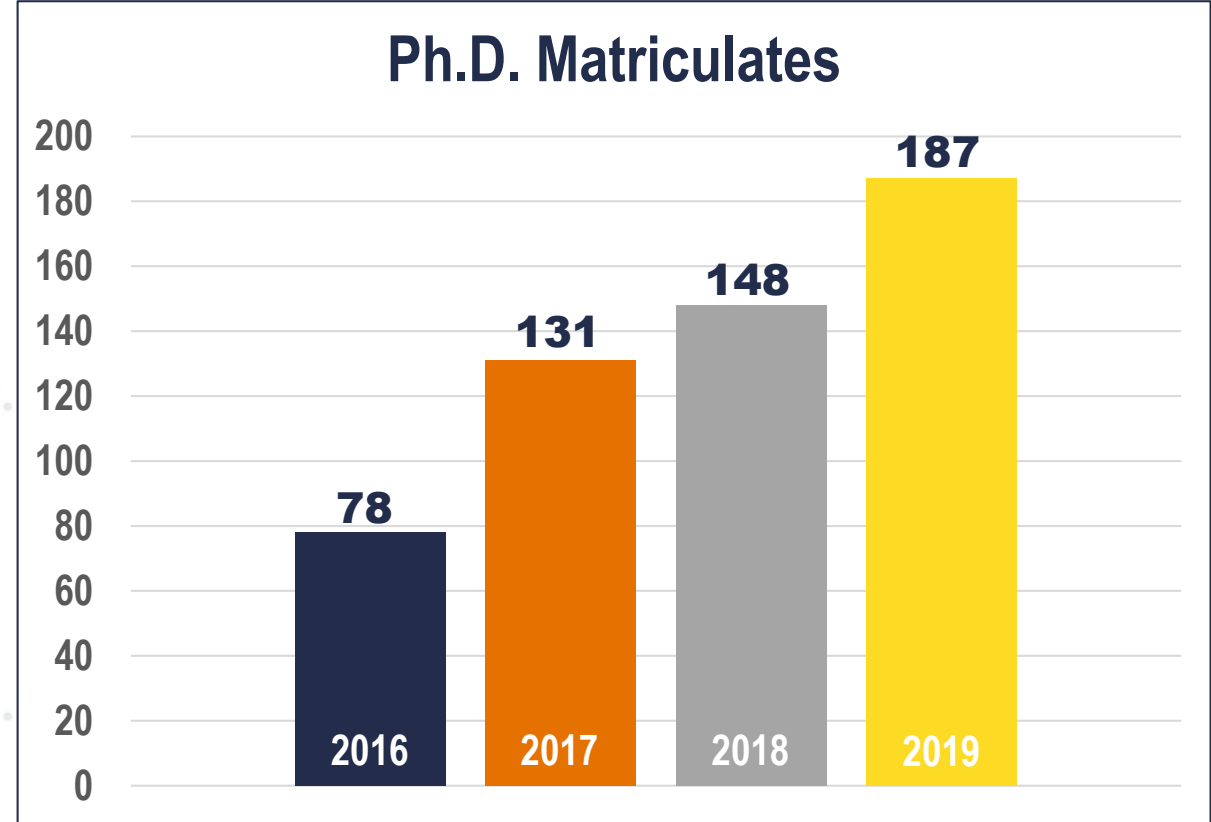
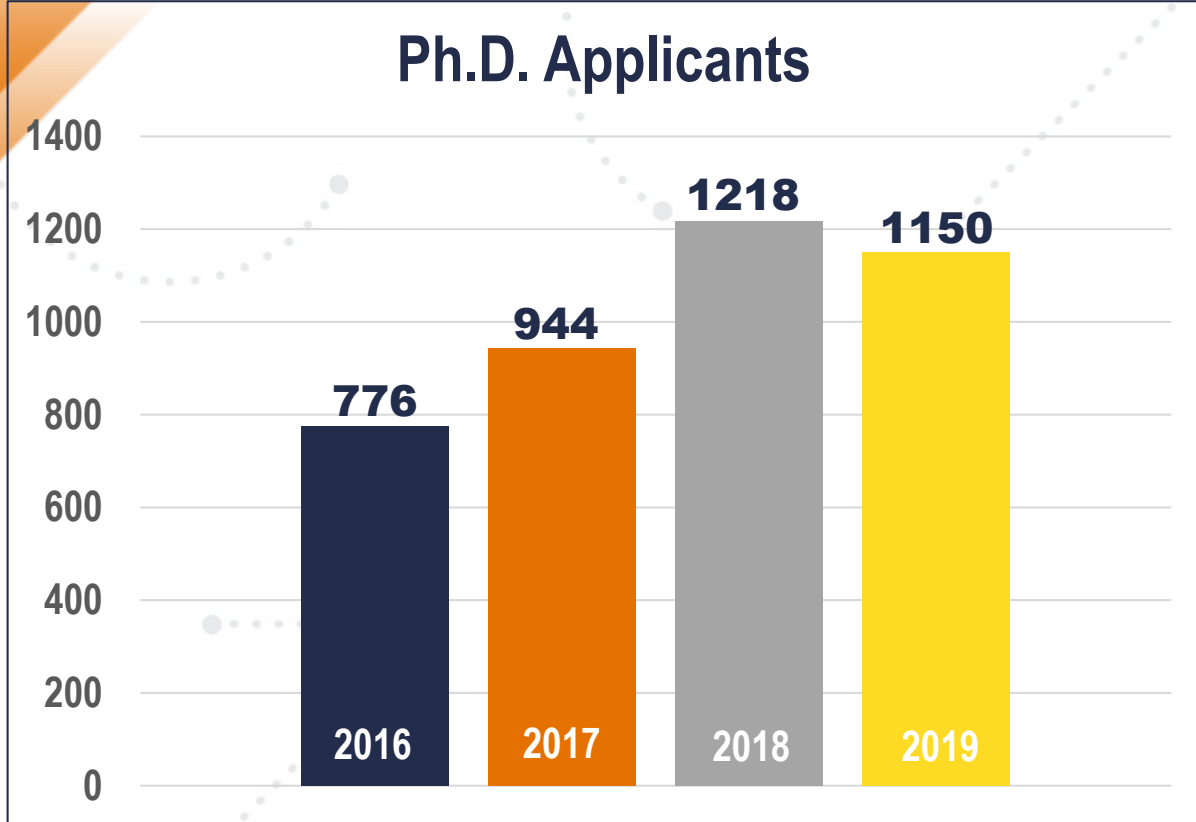
- 50% net transition rate for AY2018-19 (actual rate was 71%)
- Increase to 60% AY2019-20 and 65% AY2020-21 (since then have updated to 70%)
- Steady state of 70% by AY2021-22 once behaviors become ingrained

# SAFETY NET FELLOWSHIP PROJECTIONS

Year	Academic Year	# Allotments	Net Transition Rate	Funds Utilized	Balance
	16/17				\$5,000,000
1	17/18	48	0.38	\$921,830	\$4,078,170
2	18/19	48	0.71	\$356,588	\$3,721,582
3	19/20	42	0.7	\$334,341	\$3,358,003
4	20/21	45	0.7	\$368,969	\$2,987,317
5	21/22	45	0.7	\$380,038	\$2,605,511
6	22/23	45	0.7	\$391,439	\$2,212,250
7	23/24	45	0.7	\$403,183	\$1,807,192
8	24/25	45	0.7	\$415,278	\$1,389,982
9	25/26	45	0.7	\$427,736	\$960,255
10	26/27	45	0.7	\$440,568	\$517,637
11	27/28	45	0.7	\$453,786	\$61,740

Projections made in 2019-2020

# PH.D. PROGRAM GROWTH



**PH.D.  
APPLICANTS**

**48%**

**SINCE  
2016**

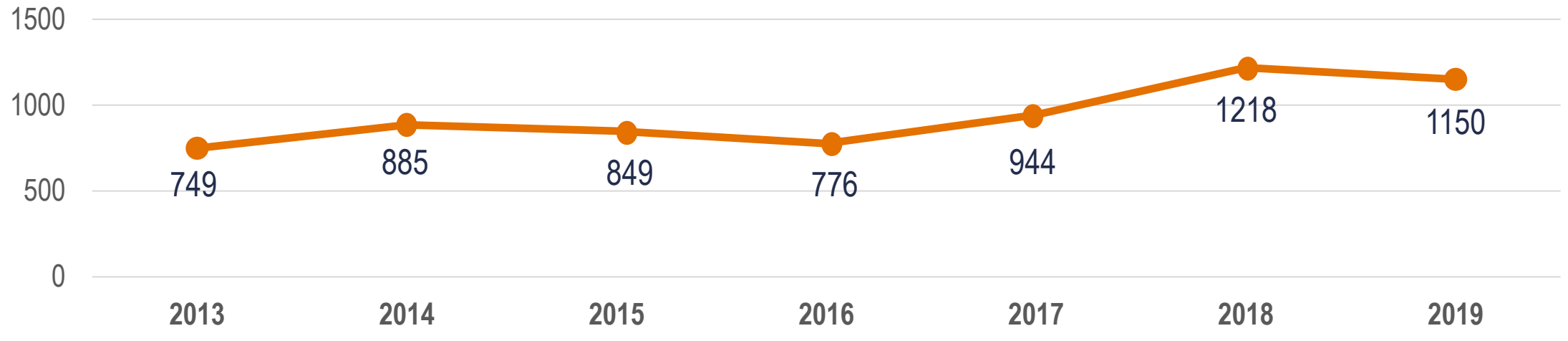
**PH.D.  
MATRICULATES**

**140%**

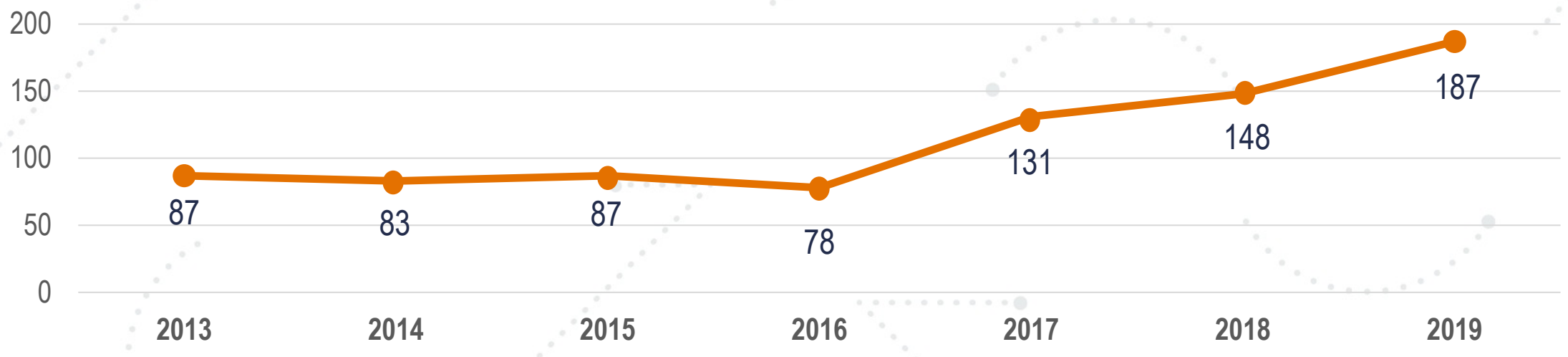
**SINCE  
2016**

# PH.D. PROGRAM GROWTH

## Ph.D. Applications Over Time



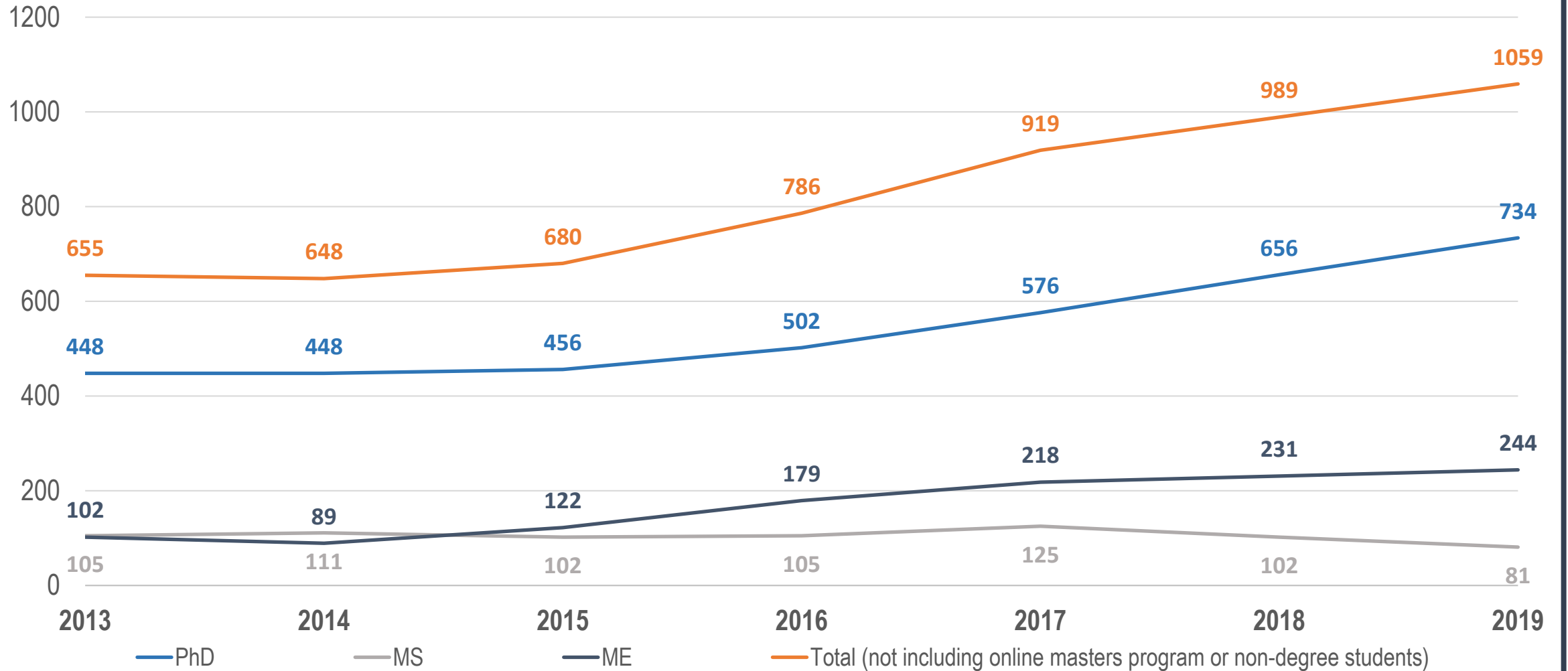
## Ph.D. Matriculation Over Time





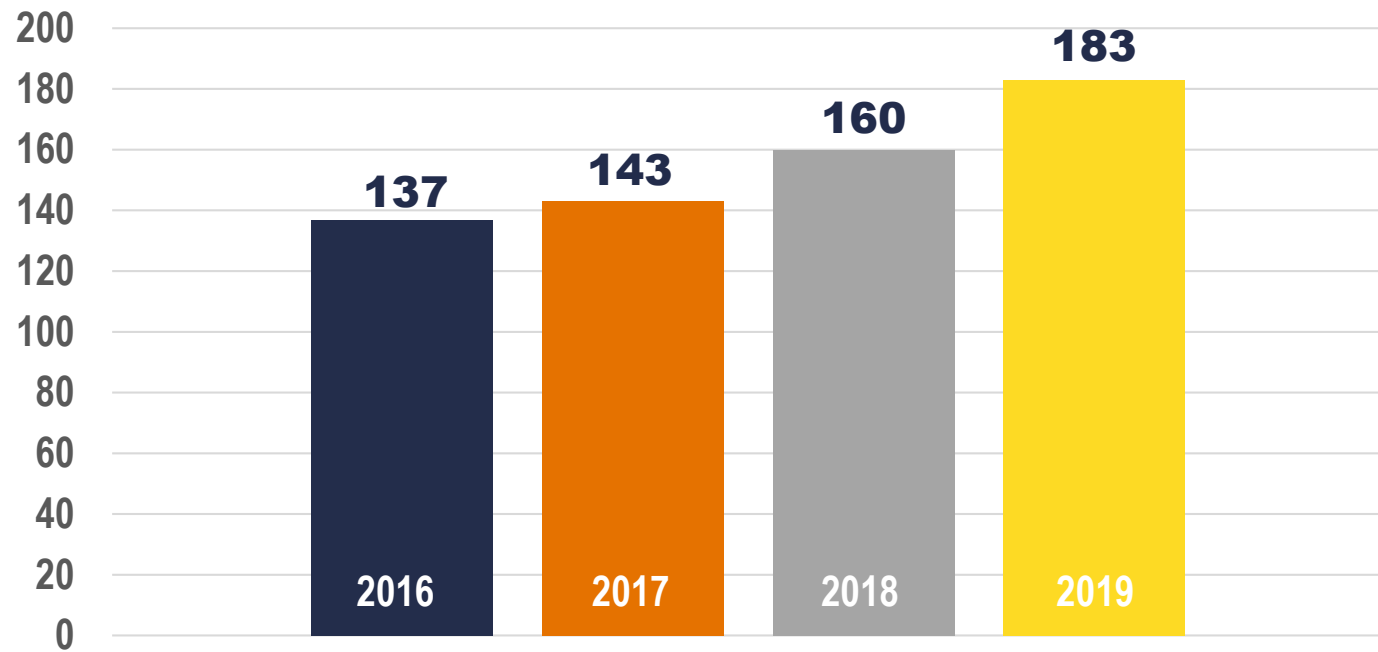
# PH.D. PROGRAM GROWTH

## Graduate Enrollment (2013-2019)



# RESEARCH PROGRAM GROWTH

UVA Engineering Tenured and Tenure-Track Faculty Growth

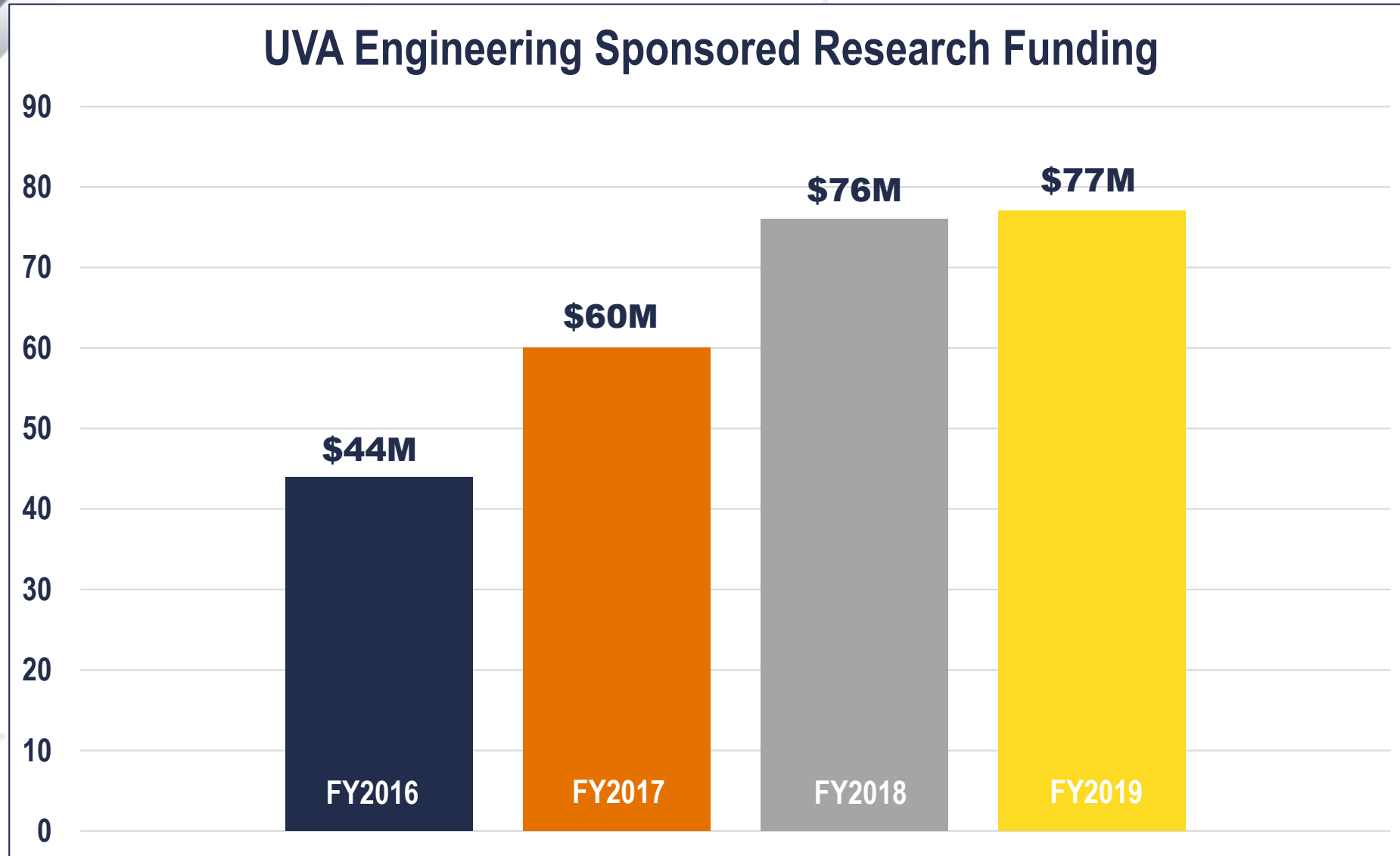


*“We offered six safety net fellowships and three accepted our offers. Because of these fellowships, we made ten more offers of admission than we would have otherwise. These fellowships allowed us to be competitive to our best prospective students but control our long-term funding risk at the same time.”*

*“Faculty offered safety nets were able to be more aggressive in pursuing students. We have matriculated five new outstanding Ph.D. students we would not have gotten otherwise.”*

**1:4** T3 Faculty to Ph.D. Student Ratio

# RESEARCH PROGRAM GROWTH



**75%**  
FY16-  
FY19

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