Federal Demonstration Partnership FACULTY NOTES – May 2015 Meeting

News

More than 440 people attended the meeting, which had many sessions of interest to faculty.

Federal Agency Updates

NSF New: 1) A new Proposal Award Policies and Procedures Guide (PAPPG) will be posted for 60 days for review and comments (see NSF website). 2) Automated compliance checking for specific sections is now in effect (started April 2015) for all solicited proposals. Error messages will stop a submission. PIs can check for warnings/errors before submitting to grants office. 3) Three new requests for uniform guidance (July 2015) include: a) administrative and clerical salaries, b) travel costs, c) additional categories. Transfer from FastLane to Research.gov continues - FAQ: http://nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/ There is ongoing engagement of NSF directors in pilot activities to reduce administrative burden, such as streamlining budgeting.

NIH New: NRSA stipends to increase, faculty salary cap to increase to $183K, new definition for clinical trial to distinguish it from clinical research applies Jan 25, 2015; there is a new genomic data sharing plan (human, nonhuman and model organisms); new 5-page biosketch in effect May 25, 2015 (see Sally Rockey blog for discussion and to provide feedback); SBIR/STTR due dates changing to Sept, Jan, and April 5th. Dual Use Research of Concern was discussed –IBC can help identify projects that fit this, Sept 24, 2015 institutions must e compliant.. NOT-OD-15-017. NIH is under continuing appropriations. Fiscal Policy for grant awards: NOT-OD-15-050.

NIFA (USDA) New: Working to align grant apps with other agencies. (new system being developed for USDA - ezFedGrants).

AFOSR (AirForce): Proposal solicitation/topic areas were released in May 2015. New policy - lay abstracts for awards will be publicly posted. PIs need to spend $ in a timely manner.

EPA: No specific updates. Noted that they are making changes similar to other agencies.

GUIRR: Involved in many projects including 1) a webinar series on a variety of topics (fostering collaborations; revisiting the post-doctoral experience). Next webinars: June 5 and July 17 (U54 grant mechanism). 2) Discussing the Smart-grid use and regulation of unmanned aircraft systems.

ONR: The existing "Pay web" invoice processing is being transitioned to new software; will be replaced by "wider work flow."

USAMRAA (Army): Pre-application needed for Broad Agency Announcements. eBRAP will be used for summary statements; submissions with errors will need to be resubmitted. Animal use or human studies must get a second approval <u>after</u> proposal is funded –can take up to 1 year!

Committee and Task Force - Sessions

Plenary Speaker - **Phillip Bourne**, **NIH first Associate Director for Data Science**, discussed many issues related to the future of science including what drives our strategic thinking, democratization of science (public data, data sharing), accountability and the role of NIH to enable major science discoveries, better use of data and establish a well trained and diverse workforce able to use and develop scientific data tools (e.g., precision medicine, genomic modeling therapy, application to cancer database). NIH is investing $32 M in "Big Data 2020" (BD2K), with centers of data excellence, data discovery index coordination, training awards, meetings, workshops and software development.

Faculty Lunch Forum – JR Haywood, FASEB President, discussed Sustaining Discovery in the Biological and Medical Sciences: A Framework for Discussion. Points for conversation included insufficient federal funding, the rising demand for research grants (increased opportunities, increased number of applications), and recommendations for further discussion: sustained predictable federal funding, oppose unnecessary regulations and reduce faculty burden.

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eRA setting priorities for Phase IV – Broad priority areas for discussion were grant lifecycle and roadmap, DATA act, integrated SAM tracking, streamline proposal submission (ie: SciENcv), 21st century tools to assist between working groups

Administrative Burden – Sally Rockey, NIH, sought input from FDP members on low hanging fruit in the area of burden.

UMETRICS is able to use a variety of data sets to determine federal money support in states. Also, linking into Census Bureau to determine, in general, where federally supported students/ postdocs/techs go after they leave the university (information is de-identified, no SS# needed, no specific data).

Faculty Session– Cindy Hope would be willing to work with faculty to get a sense of what would be helpful for them at the meetings. Ideas were brought up about developing links between administrators and faculty. ***Faculty work group summaries:*** In general, the faculty found the break out groups to be helpful. <u>Clinical</u> – discussed the wizard tool for IRB pre-submission, need for IRBs to cover multiple institutions and best models for institutional sharing; <u>Animal</u> – discussed DEA data collection and best practices; <u>eRIs</u> – discussed creating ERI interactions, develop ways to engage faculty at ERI institutes to be involved in research; <u>Faculty Burden</u>-discussed burden of needing to attend multiple meetings for certain program grants, need to redefine outcomes of success for students; <u>Work Burden</u> –the work group is developing an summary of burden survey results for public release. Participating institutions will be able to obtain customized work burden reports based on their data (if PI sample is large enough); institutions can receive their own specific report for $300-$800. <u>Outreach</u> – discussed building bridges between faculty and administrators, developing an annual FDP update/accomplishments for Universities and developing an FDP faculty handout/guide based on best practices. A survey will go out this summer to obtain information about faculty-administrator relations best practices.

SciENcv (Science Experts Network Curriculum Vitae) will support the new NIH bio-sketch. Can link via URL, eRA, SciEnCV. Youtube video: instructions: http://Youtube/PRWy-3GXhtU

Of Interest

Slides - presentations are posted on the FDP website:
http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/fdp/PGA_162458

The orientation presentation provides an excellent background of FDP and its accomplishments
http://sites.nationalacademies.org/cs/groups/pgasite/documents/webpage/pga_055773.pdf