

Federal Demonstration Partnership FACULTY NOTES – Sept 2015 Meeting

News

Guidebook app – You can download this app to your device and download and view the FDP meeting (enter FDP-Sept2015 in redeem section). FDP wants to know if you like the app.

Faculty workload survey misquoted in Science - FDP is working on writing a letter to correct this.

Data Act Activities – in data gathering stage, no pilot to participate in yet; FDP, COGR, AAU are working with OMB/Treasury to learn what specific data elements are burdens; Open government group has taken a lead on developing a matrix for all that needs to be reported. There is a national dialog site for individuals and organizations to make comment (<https://cxo.dialogue2.cao.gov>).

General: Several retirements were noted in the federal agencies.

Federal Agency Updates

NSF: *Just in time pilot* for 6 programs - researchers will submit a 0\$ budget, but budget justifications will be needed. *Improving the IACUC process* with standardized assurance across NIH and NSF. This means that institutions will report non-compliance on NSF awards to NIH Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (see NIH NOT-OD-15-139). Will help fund an IACUC institute to develop training of IACUCs across country to understand the regulations in an effort to minimize burden. Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR) is in its near final version and there is an opportunity for us to submit comments by September 21, 2015. *Proposal Award Policies and Procedures Guide (PAPPG) revision* will be out soon and in effect Jan 2016 includes proposal certification at time of submission to fastlane; proposals due at 5pm submitter's local time (based on institution zipcode) for ALL submissions; greater clarity regarding what is needed for vertebrate animals; dual use research concern has been incorporated; public access implementations; switch from final reports from 90 to 120 days for consistency in reporting!!! *Research terms and conditions documents* – made it through many committees and are at the committee on science...approval will allow publishing and further working on them with FDP. *Reminder that automated proposal compliance checks that yield errors mean that you cannot submit it!*

NIH: Request for information to simplify instructions can be found at:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-14-134.html>; subaccounts will begin October 1.

EPA: Implement uniform grant guidance; final COI policy in effect Oct1. Complying with dual use research of concern and there will be a flow chart to determine if there is a DURC issue.

NIFA (USDA): In 2017 *the new capacity award system* will allow PI access to application when it is submitted. Submit through grants.gov as usual and integrate with ASAP. *Farm bill update* includes language allowing commodity boards to submit RFA topics. Center of excellence in 2015 to continue; guidance on NIFA website...NIFA policy guide will take comments at nifa.gov. Turn in progress reports on time, if you fail to submit there will be consequences. Note: many RFAs come out this month.

AFOSR (AirForce): 3 solicitations including a young investigator research awards

USAMRAA (Army): FY2015 funding – 1.375 billion; programs are wide in scope and worth looking at; PAs are very narrow...look on grants.gov via the CFDA number 12.420; 2016 will be out shortly. Working on OMB uniform guidance reform; using RPPR format; effort to post award info (recipients, contract, cost).

Speaker: Sally Rockey In Dr. Rockey's last talk as deputy director of NIH she supported FDP's role in building relationships between faculty, administrators and feds to make a successful triad that talks in one voice with common interests. She recommended ideas to reduce admin burden – especially stepping back and assessing why rules are in place (what are we gaining in accountability to justify increase burden?). An additional burden is different agency rules...so collectively RPPR etc...is helpful for reducing burden. Rocky felt that FDP should grow to be seen as the authority of admin burden, so when it comes to admin burden it should come through FDP. She suggested FDP consider a name change and use data to make their case on issues such as faculty burden. Rocky has been to more than 50 FDP meetings!

Information from Committee & Workshop Sessions Attended by faculty, admin & feds!

Laboratory Safety – In an excellent lunch and faculty session, the results of APLU task force on laboratory safety were presented. Twenty-two recommendations were made the committee and include a toolbox for institutions to use. The goal is to be proactive and head off federal regulations by instituting a culture of

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safety in our home institutions. Data gathering will support best practices that could be tested in 3-5 institutions.

Animal Subjects: Created a FAQ on wildlife research that has been reviewed by the USDA and OLAW – soon to be published and sent out to societies. Brainstorming next meeting on protocol process and minimizing burden. This is area where new approaches to convey required information might be helpful. DEA seems to have uneven policies around the country concerning required individual registration. Survey will gather data on what is being required around the country. Reminder of new requirement that OLAW Assurance required for NSF funded institutions. If institution already has OLAW Assurance new one not necessary, but will need to report NSF non-compliance to NIH.

Human Subjects: The notice for proposed rule changes to the Common Rule are out – make sure you share with faculty and make suggestions and comments. There is a 90 day comment period. The committee is considering how long it will take and cost for the proposed changes. The cost may be grossly underestimated. There are a number of issues that the subcommittee is discussing for response including: time and cost for IRB review, development of templates for consent forms that would be a proactive approach (collecting template examples), definition of exempt and excused protocols, single site review for multiple site research, and requirements for biospecimen use and review since specimens can't truly be deidentified because of DNA analysis

Outreach - Publicizing FDP: Goal: identify who needs to know about FDP and how/what to inform them about. Ideas: VPR/SPO: Send annual FDP accomplishments/progress; Faculty Governance (senate, research subgroup): annual 10-15 min talk about FDP (we can develop 10 or so slides identifying past FDP accomplishments); University Faculty: Have a link to FDP on VPR/SPO website that the Institution is a member of FDP (link to FDP webpage for faculty with concise points about what FDP is, what it has done, faculty notes, link to meeting info and agendas) ...also include Institute's FDP faculty representative name. We are also considering informing professional societies and federal institutes that aren't part of FDP.

Emerging Research Institutions: Considering an inter-institutional complementary consortium to link small schools to larger institutions in the area (that have facilities in place) to handle some of the compliance/regulation issues.

Faculty Workload Survey: Looking to potentially develop a survey with particular generic Plans for 2017 survey unclear. If a survey goes out it will be more focused and detailed than past ones. Some goals would include identify burdens that are disproportional to task and determining if the burden is due to the institute vs federal agencies.

Outreach – Supporting FDP faculty: Goals are to provide faculty with ideas/ways to distribute FDP information and build bridges between faculty and administrators. Results were in from the committee survey on faculty distribution of FDP information following FDP. Synthesizing the Faculty survey to put together a draft of best-practices that will include OPTIONS since each institute is different. Ideas include: faculty interaction with institutes admin pre and post FDP, 10 min talk annually with faculty senate or a similar group of faculty; links from university to FDP.

Research Pipeline: 1) Develop a report based on the survey of best practices at FDP institutions with respect to work-life balance policies. The aim is to circulate an outline for feedback and draft language prior to the next meeting. 2) Discussions related to potential demonstration projects related to a focus on burden to faculty connected with administering STEM pipeline funding programs. The decision was made to pursue this more fully once the report is complete.

Of interest: Slides are posted on FDP website: http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/fdp/PGA_051651 The orientation presentation provides an excellent background of FDP and its accomplishments, http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/fdp/PGA_054588. Click on the following link to download the orientation presentation: [Newcomers Orientation Presentation](#)