Research Community Update

From the Office of Sponsored Programs

JANUARY 3, 2017

The Research Community Update informs campus administrators about research-related topics of interest and importance. Staff in the Office of Sponsored Programs are here to help you with navigating the changing and challenging world of research administration.

To unsubscribe, or to request that someone be added to this newsletter distribution list, please contact Ron Fleischmann, Associate Director of Pre-Award Administration (fleischm@uwm.edu).

This issue features:
- Sea Grant College Program Releases Request for Proposals;
- Use of Final Research Performance Progress Report Began January 1, 2017;
- NIH Revises its SF424 (R&R) Application Guide and Supplemental Instructions;
- PCORI will Offer a Free Workshop in January;
- NIH to Host Two Regional Seminars;
- NSF Releases Recordings of its Fall Grants Conference; and
- The Final $5.00 Question.

SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM RELEASES REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The University of Wisconsin Sea Grant College Program invites proposals for its next two-year grant period that begins on February 1, 2018. Research proposals of up to $100,000 - $120,000 per year are solicited in the following areas:

Wisconsin Targeted Focus Areas, including:
- Green Bay Interdisciplinary Research;
- Bluff, Beach, and Nearshore Sediment Dynamics; and
- Great Lakes and Water Literacy Assessment.

Wisconsin Base Focus Areas, including:
- Health Coastal Ecosystems;
- Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture; and
- Resilient Communities and Economies.

Special Joint Calls for Proposals with other state Sea Grant programs, including:
- Minnesota – Wisconsin Joint Call for Proposals; and
- Illinois/Indiana – Wisconsin Joint Call for Proposals.

Additionally, the Wisconsin Sea Grant Program solicits education proposals for up to $25,000 per year to address **Environmental Literacy and Workforce Development**.

Applications are submitted in two phases: a pre-proposal, due by 3 pm on January 24, 2017 and a full proposal due by 3 pm on April 28, 2017. Applicants MUST submit a pre-proposal by the deadline in order to submit a full proposal.

Please note that since the pre-proposals require a line-item budget, **a WISPER record is required for the pre-proposal**. Please share this information with researchers in your division/department that have research interests that align with these initiatives.

Questions? Please contact your Pre-Award Specialist.

USE OF FINAL RESEARCH PERFORMANCE PROGRESS REPORT BEGAN JANUARY 1, 2017

Effective January 1, 2017, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) **transitioned to a [Final Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR)](#) to replace the current Final Progress Report for Closeout**. The new Final RPPR will extend the format of the annual RPPR to the Final, except for a few key sections that will not appear:

- Section D: Participants;
- Section F: Changes; and
- Section H: Budget.

Information for the Final RPPR must be uploaded into RPPR-like screens, not uploaded as a PDF. Additionally, a new Section I: Outcomes will be added to the Final RPPR.

The January 1, 2017 Final RPPR implementation date is firm. If a PI has started their Final Progress Report prior to January 1, 2017, but did not submit it, the PI will be required to start the reporting process over utilizing the new format. Please remind PIs in your division, department, and/or unit with projects ending in 2017 about the upcoming change to the final report format.

NIH REVISES ITS SF424 (R&R) APPLICATION GUIDE AND SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTIONS

NIH has updated its [SF424 (R&R) Application Guide and Supplemental Instructions](#) to reflect minor revisions in layout and style of the instructions, as well as incorporate clarifications to the current FORMS-D instructions. Key modifications include:

- Updates to the Blank Biosketch Format pages to include the required headings for Sections A through D;
- Utilizing plain language edits to the instructions to provide greater clarity and ease of understanding throughout;
- Clarifying instructions for Biosketches used in research, institutional research training, institutional career development, research education, fellowship, dissertation awards, and diversity supplements;
- Clarifying that figures, tables, or graphics are not allowed in the Biosketch;
- Updates to the budget instructions to plan for future updates as well as the use of proper lettering for the Budget Justification section, depending on the version of forms used for a particular opportunity; and
- Referencing the new NIH Appendix Policy in the instructions for the PHS 398 Research Plan, PHS 398 Research Training Program Plan, and the PHS Fellowship Supplemental Form.

Additional information related to the modifications to the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide may be found in NIH Notice [NOT-OD-17-023](#).

PCORI WILL OFFER A FREE WORKSHOP IN JANUARY

The [Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)](#) is hosting a free interactive workshop January 23-24, 2017 in Washington, D.C., to provide applicants with the tools and strategies to develop a successful application. PCORI is an independent nonprofit, nongovernmental organization authorized by Congress to improve the quality and relevance of evidence available to assist patients, caregivers, clinicians, employers, insurers, and policy makers in making informed health decisions.

Led by PCORI staff, workshop topics include priority topics for research, funding announcements, the application process, large pragmatic clinical studies, and research partnerships and engagement. Participants will be able to meet PCORI staff, ask questions, obtain resources, and network with other participants. [Registration is required](#). Please share this information with PIs in your division, department, and/or unit with research interests that align with [PCORI funding priorities](#).

NIH TO HOST TWO REGIONAL SEMINARS

In 2017, **NIH will host two regional seminars**—one in New Orleans, LA on May 3-5, 2017 and another in Baltimore, MD on October 25-27, 2017. Regional seminars are intended to assist in demystifying the application and review process, clarify Federal regulations and policies, and highlight current areas of special interest or concern. These seminars are appropriate to grants administrators, researchers new to NIH, and graduate students.

NIH staff will be available to provide a broad array of expertise and encourage personal interaction between themselves and seminar participants. [Registration and lodging information is now available online](#) for both seminars.

NSF RELEASES RECORDINGS OF ITS FALL GRANTS CONFERENCE

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has **released video recordings from its Fall 2016 Grants Conference at Carnegie Mellon University**. Topics covered at the conference include types of NSF funding opportunities, proposal preparation and submission, award management, the Merit Review process, and the Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program. The associated handouts/slides from each of the presentations are also available to supplement the video recordings.

THE FINAL $5.00 QUESTION

Our $5.00 Question feature series ended with our December 13, 2016 edition. Recognition goes to **Erik Solita, Accountant in the College of Letters and Science**, for properly calculating the previous edition's fringe benefits, tuition, and Facilities and Administrative costs (denoted in **red** below).

Q: A principal investigator requires assistance in reconciling his project account. The award began on December 1, 2016 and is sponsored by the National Science Foundation. Below are the expenses, by category:

A:

Monthly Expenses for December 2016

Salary – Research Assistant	$1,667.00
Fringe Benefits – Research Assistant	**$391.75**
Supplies	$3,475.65
Travel – Foreign	$856.00
Tuition	**$416.75**
Equipment	$6,000.00
Subaward	$40,000.00
Facilities and Administrative Costs (49.5% MTDC)	**$15,538.25**

Congratulations, Erik!