Update from the Director

OSR Quarterly Network
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Staffing Update

- **Kim Griffin, new Director of Electronic Research Administration**
- Starting Wednesday, March 12
- Significant number of systems supporting research at NU...and beyond
- Significant internal and external interest in organizational transparency, and metrics
  - InfoEd
  - NU Financials
  - OnBase
  - FASIS
  - Effort Reporting
  - ESPR
  - Grants.gov
  - Research.gov
  - Fastlane
  - Et cetera
Northwestern Sponsored Research
In the News

- Digital Manufacturing and Design Innovation ("DMDI") Institute
- Consortium of universities, corporations and government entities in the region, including NU
- $70M Department of Defense award
- Significant cost sharing ($250M)
- Lab to be located on the northern end of Goose Island
- Digital manufacturing is a method of production in which computer technology manufactures products in a desired style or quantity with little or no involvement from humans
The “Omni” is Still In the News

• The OMB “Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards; Final Rule” was released on December 26, 2013
• The “Omnicircular” consolidates the federal circulars that govern financial assistance (grants), including A-21, A-110 and A-133
• Meant to ease administrative burden and strengthen oversight over Federal funds to reduce risks of waste, fraud and abuse (possible to do both at the same time?)
• Federal agencies have until June 26, 2014 to submit to OMB draft regulations conforming to the new requirements
• The effective/applicability date is December 26, 2014
The “Omni” is Still In the News

• Northwestern partnering with peer institutions and the government (via FDP, COGR, etc.) in interpreting the guidance
• Not yet clear how the Omni will change day-to-day research administration at Northwestern
  – Assignment of costs
  – Effort reporting
  – Cost sharing
  – Conflict of interest
• More soon
NIH Payment Management System changes

- NIH is amid the implementation of the transition to “subaccounts” (i.e., award-by-award cash requests) in the Payment Management System (PMS)
- NSF also recently transitioned from a “pooled” method to a “fund account” method
- The idea is for NIH to have greater visibility over the expenditure of funds and greater control over closeout
- This not simply a “billing” or “cash flow” issue; it will have major impacts on the management of NIH awards in the short term, as the change is implemented
More from the NIH

- A series of fiscal notices from NIH were released on February 10, 2014
- Salary Limitation, NOT-OD-14-052
  - NIH cap increased from $179,700 to $181,500
  - Effective January 12, 2014
- Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA), NOT-OD-14-046
  - Predoctoral stipends are increased by 2 percent
  - Entry-level postdoctoral stipends are increased by 7 percent
  - Other postdoctoral stipends are increased by 4 percent
  - Tuition and Fees, Training Related Expenses for trainees, and the Institutional Allowance for individual fellows are unchanged
  - Next NRSA deadline: April 8
Questions?

Thank you!