

From the Desk of the Director

OSR-Evanston Quarterly Network

Tuesday, October 28th

Elizabeth Adams, Executive Director



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Staffing Announcements & What's New

- Lauren Keating, Grants Assistant
- Luke Miller, Grants Assistant
- Kristina Oberly, Intern

- Wrapping up Proposal Development brown bag series



Fiscal Year 2014 Close

- 3,313 proposals submitted, with a value of \$2.34B (12% increase in dollar value)
- 2,849 awards received, with a value of \$593.9M (8% increase in dollar value)
- Proposal and award complexity not captured in the above metrics
- Proposal and award complexity will continue to increase, particularly in the nonfederal arena



International Collaborations

- Consistent with the Northwestern Strategic Plan
We will, through strategic partnerships, engage locally, nationally, and internationally to heighten our global impact for the greater good.
- An “international collaboration” may include foreign...
 - Governments
 - Companies (sometimes with subsidiaries in the US)
 - Not-for-profits
 - Subcontractors
 - Vendors
 - Performance sites
 - Personnel on campus



International Collaborations

- Can present challenges
 - English is the operative language
 - Budget and payment is ideally in USD (\$)
 - Different financial, legal and cultural conventions
 - Governments around the world use research and research investments to further national interests
 - OSR-Evanston will work to provide the best possible agreement terms, but risks (and mitigation plans) should be well understood by cognizant parties at the outset of collaboration

- “Horizon 2020”

(<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/>)

- Name of the strategic plan for research and innovation in the European Union from 2014 to 2020



- Many different funding opportunities are and will be available

Uniform Guidance (or OmniCircular) Refresher

- 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 had a deadline of June 26, 2014 to submit to OMB *draft* regulations conforming to the new requirements
- No agency complied except NSF!
- The effective/applicability date is (still) December 26, 2014



Uniform Guidance (or OmniCircular) Update

- Northwestern (and the rest of the American research community) continue to wait for federal agency implementation plans
- We may not see these plans until late December
- It does not yet appear that day-to-day research administration will be profoundly impacted at Northwestern
- The definition of what constitutes an allowable cost will remain essentially the same (i.e., reasonable, allocable, allowable, and consistently treated)
 - Administrative and clerical salaries should still not be direct charged in most cases
 - Direct charged administrative and clerical staff must be “integral” to the scientific/programmatic conduct of the funded project, and receive prior approval from the agency



Recent Highlights in Our Sponsored World

- Nanyang Technological University (NTU)-
Northwestern Institute for Nanomedicine
- Center for Journalism Excellence (CJE)
 - Department of State/International Center for Journalists
(Pakistan)
- NSF-funded consortium – Chameleon
 - Cloud computing and the next generation of clouds



Questions?



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