From the Desk of the Director

OSR-Evanston Quarterly Network
Tuesday, October 28th
Elizabeth Adams, Executive Director
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?