NSF Update: Clue in to the revised PAPPG 18-1

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National Science Foundation

- NSF is the funding source for approximately 24% of all federally supported basic research conducted by America's colleges and universities
- NSF is the only federal agency whose mission includes support for all fields of fundamental science and engineering
- NSF primarily issues grants with limited terms and conditions
In FY17, Northwestern submitted proposals to NSF totaling more than $184 million.

In FY17, Northwestern received grant awards from NSF totaling over $48 million.

The NSF represents the second largest source of federal grant support to the University.
Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide

- NSF recently issued an updated PAPPG which must be used for proposals submitted or due on or after January 29, 2018
- Significant Changes: https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappg18_1/sigchanges.jsp
Overview of Changes

• Collaborators & Other Affiliations
• Project Description
• Results from Prior NSF Support
• Budget/Justification
• Prior Written Approvals
• Formatting
• Helpful Reminders
Collaborators and Other Affiliations

• Must be separately provided for each senior project personnel
• Provided through the COA template
• The names of postdoctoral scholars sponsors should not be reported
• Information in the tables is not required to be sorted, alphabetically or otherwise
• .xlsx or .xls format only
COA Template Tables

• Table 1: Individual’s last name, first name, middle initial, and organizational affiliation
• Table 2: Personal, family, and business relationships
• Table 3: Individual’s Ph.D. advisors and all individuals Ph.D. thesis advisees.
• Table 4: Co-authors and collaborators (48 months)
• Table 5: Editorial board and co-editors (24 months)
Project Description

- New “Intellectual Merit” section
- “Broader Impacts” section
- Do not include URLs!
- 15 pages maximum
- Don’t forget the Results from Prior NSF Support Section
Results from Prior NSF Support

• Required for any PI or co-PI
• Any award with and end date in the past 5 years or current funding including NCEs
• Support means salary support, as well as any other funding awarded by NSF, including research, Graduate Research Fellowship, Major Research Instrumentation, conference, equipment, travel, and center awards
• Info to include:
  – NSF award number, amount, period, title, summary (Intellectual Merit & Broader Impacts), list of publications (if none, so state), evidence of research projects and their availability
  – If proposal is for renewed support, a description of relation of the completed work to the proposed work
Budget & Justification

- New 5 page limit, including for each subaward
- Remember proposed costs must be considered necessary, reasonable, allocable, and allowable
- Remember travel must be justified and itemized by destination and cost
- Salaries: no more than 2 months for key personnel for all NSF funded grants
- Amounts for indirect costs should be specified in the justification
Formatting

• Approved Fonts:
  – Arial, Courier New, or Palatino Linotype at a font size of 10 points or larger
  – Times New Roman at a font size of 11 points or larger
  – Computer Modern family of fonts at a font size of 11 points or larger

• No more than six lines of text within a vertical space of one inch

• Margins, in all directions, must be at least one inch

• Each document should be separately paginated
Prior Approval Matrix

• Can be utilized to determine prior approval requirements for award/post-award requests

Helpful Reminders

• Give SRO access to view/submit in FastLane
• Correctly identify participant support costs
• No longer deadlines for the BIO and GEO directorates, but OSR still requires sufficient time to review and submit.
• Remember to include “This Proposal” in C&P
• All authors must be listed in References
• Submitting the final project reports communicates to NSF that no further admin actions are anticipated
Questions?