

ROC Meeting Notes

Wednesday, October 2, 2019

9:00 – 10:00 AM

Multi-Purpose Room, Faculty Club

Angela Jordan, Research Communications, Development and Learning

Faculty Development Council Grant – program changes

- Any faculty who is interested in applying to the Faculty Development Council programs which consist of the traditional project based grant and the other is the new Fellowes program. The submission deadline date has been moved from the end of January to November 7th. Please share this with any faculty you may be interested in applying.
- The Fall Research forums which are where past awardees present on the work that they have done. The next forum will be coming up at the end of October. You can RSVP at the link provided on the RCDL web page. If you would like to RSVP for the next forum, please click on the link:
<http://bit.ly/fallforumrsvp>

Angela Williams, Research Compliance and Assurance

Responsible Conduct of Research Workshops

- There have been updates to the RCR training policy that requires faculty engaged in research and other sponsored and un-sponsored projects that receive RCR instruction. Specifically, the training plan includes both online and face-to-face RCR instruction. Details outlined in the policy found on the RCR Policy web page. The 2019-20 RCR Workshop Series Agenda can be found at the following link: https://www.southalabama.edu/departments/research/resources/2019-2020_rcr_training_series_agenda.pdf. The classes marked with an asterisk are designated as required classroom instruction. These particular classes are offered twice to accommodate everyone's schedule. Please disseminate to your faculty. All of the training sessions will be held at the Faculty Club.

Gina Hedberg, Sponsored Projects Administration

FY 2019 Annual Report

- FY 19 activity closed this past Monday (9/30) and the numbers look great. Karmen is in the process of sending out the Faculty Awards report to each unit for review. Please make sure that all awards are captured and the award amounts and project dates are correct. If you believe an award is missing, please contact SPA.
- 9/30 is a hard close. If an award was in process the final days of September, SPA may not have received it by the deadline. By the time we receive the award paperwork and go through the awarding process, including account set up, that late award may have missed the FY 19 deadline but it will be captured in FY 20. If you are concerned, please call us. If something else is missing, such as a supplement or an award that did not go through our offices, please let us know so that we can capture that activity also.
- We anticipate that our annual report data will be posted by the end of October. There will not be a big paper-copy distribution this year. A small number will be printed for the VPs, deans and for the University's Board of Trustees; otherwise, the report will be posted online. We are developing a new publication scheduled to come out around December. This will feature some of our sponsored projects and show some funding analytics, including some new analysis we have not featured in the past but are now able to produce thanks to Cayuse.

ROC Meeting Notes

**Wednesday, December 4, 2019
9:00 – 10:00 AM
Multi-Purpose Room, Faculty Club**

Angela Jordan, Research Communications, Development and Learning Research and Scholarly Development Grant – New Requirement

- For those of you who have faculty that apply for the Research and Scholarly Development Grant, this year, we are going to require a Letter of Intent (LOI) to be submitted one month in advance. With a March 1 deadline, that would mean the LOI will need to be submitted to the RCDL office no later than February 1. This does not mean that we will absolutely reject those who don't send an LOI, but they are at greater risk of not being accepted in the competition without it.

Dusty Layton, Research Compliance and Assurance

Announcements

- Danielle Miller will be taking over the IACUC/IBC approvals in the Compliance office, and will be the person to contact for any IACUC-related questions/issues.
- We will be going into a more in depth discussion concerning very specific issues regarding foreign influence and security concerns that will impact research administrators that we should be aware of that do impact the grants admissions and proposal that are related to disclosures and resources that involve foreign entities, government or organizations.
- New policies and procedures have been developed that impact via grants administrators of foreign gifts that are received on campus. We are also in the process of updating our Conflict of Interest and Conflict of Commitment policies and procedures that will be integrated into our policy and the COI forms.
- The Foreign Influence Committee is currently working to better the monitor the foreign delegations that are on campus for transparency purposes, and that those individuals that may be impacted by their visit in terms of who they may be speaking to and where and what they may be involved with to make sure there is not a negative impact on any issues that deal with high sensitive security areas or areas where sensitive research is being conducted.
- At the end of this term, David Furman will be taking over the duties of the Foreign Influence Committee and will be your contact person for any issues regarding this topic.

Mark Wilson, Information Security

Cybersecurity

- Cybersecurity affects everyone, which makes those who work in research a target. The free flow of information between academics and researchers and collaboration. With that comes the risk of sharing information with parties unintentionally.
- Since so many people depend on modern communication technologies, phishing threats have made researchers are a target by cyber attackers. By setting up a 2 Factor Authentication for email, this helps decrease the possibility of a cyber-attack.
- Malicious actors use social media (Facebook, university websites, et al) to target victims as well.
- Running updated software and Anti-virus software on your computer will also help deter cyber-attacks.
- Due to the increase of malicious threats across the nation, cybersecurity has become an increasingly important, and in most cases, required for government grants and data.

ROC Meeting Notes

Wednesday, January 29, 2020
9:00 – 10:00 AM
Multi-Purpose Room, Faculty Club

Bubba Sheffield, Grants and Contracts Accounting

Updates

- If the salary cap goes up again this year, you will be able to date your PA the date of notification. If it goes down, we will have to go back to the effective date.
- PAR forms for the Fall will be coming out over the next couple of weeks. Jonathan Bowden will now oversee all PAR forms that come through our office. It is not the easiest job so, if you could help him out by getting the PAR forms to him sooner rather than later.
- Every year, UG comes out with proposed changes that you can review online and comment on/make suggestions through March 20th. Mostly terminology changes that should not affect us too much.

Dusty Layton, Research Compliance and Assurance, David Furman, Information Technology and Risk Compliance

Research Compliance Updates

- The revised Conflict of Interest of Commitment policies have been reviewed by the Dean's Council and seeking review by the Faculty Senate. After any concerns are addressed, we will be able to develop new disclosure forms. Also, the Office of Compliance is evaluating an electronic COI system for submission, review, approval and tracking of all COI disclosure forms. **Example:** The chair of the department of chemistry at Harvard University was indicted and arrested because of the lack of disclosure on some grant applications and receipt of foreign support. He had received over \$15 million dollars in grant money from DOD and NIH since 2008, he also became a participant of China's Thousand Talents Plan where, as part of the contract, he received about \$50,000 a month, plus living expenses and setting up research facilities. It is not illegal, but a significant COI issue. This example provides the importance of ensuring all financial conflict of interest are disclosed to the University, as well as foreign support in grant applications
- A draft policy on foreign influence and responsibilities regarding reporting and disclosure was provided. We are sharing this draft policy because of its importance in helping communicate to the research community reporting requirements to ensure compliance with mandatory reporting for all types of research and research related projects that deal with support or any type of financial interest or relevant affiliations with foreign engagements or activities.
- Additionally, the most recent Research Compliance Newsletter – contained information researching guidance involving international shipping and export controls. Specifically, we are concerned with making sure what is being shipped is okay to send abroad, where it is going, who it is going to and what it is being used for. An online review worksheet has been developed for the shipper to complete so we can assess any restrictions regarding foreign shipments associated with export controls.
- Here is the link to the Research Compliance & Assurance 2020 Spring Newsletter:
<https://mailchi.mp/3aa42b531ee8/spring-2020-research-compliance-newsletter>

Gina Hedberg, Deborah Musgrove, Sponsored Projects Administration

NSF PAPPG, SciENcv and ORCID

- NSF just released the new PAPPG, effective June 1, 2020. Just released, it is not in PDF form yet. We will post it on the ROC web page when it does. Two of the significant changes are current and pending support and biosketches for proposals submitted June 1 and beyond. An NSF-approved format will be required for both. Both NIH and NSF have been very clear about the importance of the information provided by current and pending support and lack of transparency has led to investigator arrests.
- SciENcv is a researcher profile system for all individuals who apply for, receive or are associated with research investments from federal agencies. This platform will help researchers put together professional information needed to participate in federally funded research. There is lots of information on SciENcv including tutorials and YouTube videos on how to get started. Information will be provided on the ROC web page.
- There is a webinar on Thursday, February 6th from 1-2 p.m. CST on the new PAPPG. Here is the link to register <https://nsfgrantsconferences.com/>. The webinar provide update on all changes in the PAPPG for the upcoming year.
- Three Cayuse SP/424 training sessions for spring semester are on the calendar. One was held yesterday and had very low attendance. The room holds 20 people and we would like to fill that up. Please help get the word out to your faculty. Even if someone needs a refresher course, the class itself only takes about an hour plus you can get personal assistance from SPA staff while at the training session.
- This is a friendly reminder that we need to help our faculty to be mindful of starting a Cayuse proposal file early. We have seen a return to proposals coming in later and later. If proposal files can be started well in advance of the deadline, this will be a cue for SPA. Working together well in advance will be an advantage for the investigator, the grant administrator and SPA.

Here are some additional links:

- **NSF PAPPG June 2020** - https://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf20001
- **SciENcv** - <https://hsls.libguides.com/SciENcv> and <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>