

# Limericks

## **Joe Konstan - Minnesota**

There once was a research admin  
a little too fond of her gin  
To PI applause  
She flouted the laws  
With a devilish indirect grin!

## **Joe Konstan - Minnesota**

The IG said check A-21  
Your troubles have surely begun  
But I'm so glad to see  
Thanks to the FDP  
The audit was painless -- nay, fun!

## **Joe Konstan - Minnesota**

I go to each FDP meeting  
With joy thanks to the great greeting  
From admins and feds  
and fellow egg-heads  
Not to mention the really-good eating!

## **Joe Konstan - Minnesota**

Phase 4 of the FDP  
as seen by one faculty.

Much to learn; much confusing  
acronyms that all are using.

106-107  
climbing towards eRA heaven?

Student visas; deemed export;  
are we locked inside a fort?

Percent effort slices thinking;  
what were regulators drinking?

Change the rules--seems clear to me,  
but how to convince OMB?

Survey faculty -- measure the burden  
Write the survey; refine the wordin'

Seems like this idea's the one;  
easily said; less easily done.

Meanwhile faculty find their voice  
don't dictate; give us a choice!

An open mike – lay it on thick  
No one called us politic!

Marv hands me the great baton  
thankfully, he wasn't gone.

A Wray of Hope for FDP?  
Wait she wants some work from me!

Survey progresses, results come in  
we're overwhelmed by the burden

Spread the message; pass the word  
research at stake, we must be heard

Burdens double, never half  
List your agents, screen your staff

Some rules local, others national  
a few may even be quite rational

Each school and agency has its take  
the variation makes us quake

IRB and IACUC  
IG says that you're a crook

Get an admin hired gun?  
No! Go read A-21!

One more election; ballots don't fail  
We elect ourselves a chair from Yale

Where to focus; what to do?  
just-in-time budgets? peer review?

Both stem from faculty hollers  
too many proposals, not enough dollars.

Grants.gov moves towards perfected  
Find, apply, and get rejected.

Six years later; is life better?  
What's the message of this rhyming letter?

We may be light on demonstration,  
but achieved much through conversation

It feels like greater common grounding  
protecting us from rules abounding

Our mission is clear; let us teach and research!  
No details that leave us too far in the lurch!

We will fight the good fight; we have the drive;  
to carry our mission right into phase 5.

## **Diane Barrett    Margaret Cottam - Wisconsin**

In '86, an auspicious year  
Feds & Florida got into gear  
The feds liked the weather  
So south went together  
To collectively hear and drink beer.

The early successes excited  
But agreed in one way were blighted  
They found acronyms spare  
so they worked with great care  
and with thousands at last were delighted.

But stumped were they on one term  
With no acronym they could learn  
NO PI, No DARPA!  
No FIPSE! No FARTA!  
There simply was no place to turn

So they dropped the ideas they were courting  
Their mission forced to aborting  
At the end of the day  
Only a phrase could they say  
“Have you done your effort reporting?”

## **Joe Ellis – NIH**

There was a crafty administrator from Tallahassee,  
Who appreciated a researcher named Cassey,  
They had lunch and agreed red tape was not cool  
So they created a demo for the Florida Schools  
The feds bought the concept without major sass  
So the FDP was conceived with style and pizzazz

### **Sandy Schnieder – South Florida**

There once was an FDP committee for faculty  
That consisted of professors with alacrity.  
They worked very hard  
To prevent research retard.  
With success, they'll soon enjoy great celebrity.

### **Sue Ross – Northwestern**

There once was an American PI  
Who was a very frustrated guy.  
Had too many rules  
Instead of lab tools.  
"FDP to the rescue!" we cry.

### **Sue Ross – Northwestern**

There once was a group called the FDP.  
It gathered wise people from sea to sea.  
Reduced research regs,  
Some rules deemed the dregs.  
Thus boosting scientific productivity!