FDP
Expanding the Expanded Authorities Task Force
Minutes
September 22, 2003

Attendees: Dan Nordquist, David Mayo, Bill Schulze, Howard Hanson, Kathleen Kozar, Tami Jenniskens, Dillard Marshall, Erica Kropp, Debi Galloway, Jim Casey, Robin Cyr, Brenda Truesdail, Jim Becker, Kaaren Downey, Sinh Simmons, Jeffrey Silber, Michele Goetz, Faye Cook, Connie Galanis, Deb Carmel, Kathy Page, Norm Hebert, Judith Dillon, Marianne Risley, Billy Covington, Millie Lee, Harry Haraldsen, Jim Collom, Michael Warnock, Lucille Marino, Paul Powell, Paula Means, Melanie Krizmadich, Laura Smith, Tom Egan, Diane Gilliland, Bruce Elliott, Kevin McKoskey, Sue Paulson, Robert Andersen, Lee Boozer, Kathleen Harris, Jane Youngers, Joe Ellis, Reata Busby, Susan Boone, Gunta Liders, Andy Rudczynski

Gunta Liders (University of Rochester) reminded the group of the objectives of the task force, namely to 1) attempt to expand the expanded authorities (EA's) to other award mechanisms, 2) assure that EA's are consistently applied within research grants and 3) possibly expand the A-110 authorities to allow grantees additional administrative authority for non-scope related activities.

Over the summer months of June-August, task force and FDP member institutions participated in a survey that logged administrative requests and agency responses. Dan Nordquist (Washington State University) provided a demo of the web site (http://www.ogrd.wsu.edu/fdp/) to show its overall capabilities. The task force was given a copy of the fully completed survey and the summarized results. Data was "scrubbed" in order to remove scope related requests (such as PI transfers, change in PI effort, etc). Summary data are attached to the minutes. The data clearly show that agencies approve the majority of administrative requests currently not included under the EA's.

Gunta asked for federal agency feedback. Joe Ellis, OPERA, NIH stated that no-cost extension requests (such as 3rd or 4th requests) could be problematic because of the 5-year appropriations rule whereby NIH funding must be spent within 5 years after the final budget period. Joe also reiterated that NIH had granted expanded authorities to all grant mechanisms except for fellowship and training grants, with the exception of carryforward in some award mechanisms. Granting further authorities in training grants would be problematic due to grantee commitment to trainee slots and the continued oversight of these commitments. Joe indicated that the data collected thus far would not be convincing with respect to expanding the EA's within NIH.

No other federal agency representatives commented.

Given the feedback received, the task force decided to "regroup" and discuss other options for data gathering. Some members felt that we could be most productive in focusing on the awards/agencies that grant NO expanded authorities. While this is a smaller population, data on approval/disapproval requests on this population may be more convincing to OMB and the

agencies. The new survey could focus on just the "original" administrative actions that may be delegated expanded authorities under A-110 (rebudgeting, initial no cost extension requests, preaward costs and carryforward) and would be conducted for the period October 1, 2003 to September 30, 2004. The task force will convene, however, at the January meeting to review preliminary data. It appeared from the show of hands that approximately 30 schools would be willing to participate in an alternate survey.

After the task force meeting, Sue Polmar (Yale) had further discussion with Joe Ellis. Joe indicated that a longer-based survey on carryforward requests (e.g., 5 years) on the P award mechanisms would be useful data for NIH in order to consider any expansion of this. During the general meeting report summaries, Gunta also suggested that this could be an information gathering exercise that may be viable and that more information would be coming via the list serv.

FDP SURVEY ON ADMINISTRATIVE REQUESTS
JUNE 1, 2003 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2003
Summary Data

Total Records (Requests): 120 | Records Reported On: 105

Unique Agencies Reported: 19

# Reported	Name
1	AHRQ
1	CDC
2	Dept. of Education
2	DHHS
1	DI/USGS
8	DOD
7	DOE
5	DOED
1	DOT
5	EPA
3	NASA
1	NEA
1	NEH
29	NIH
1	NOAA
3	non-fed
28	NSF
1	US FW
5	USDA

Project Types:

# Reported	Name
1	*UnKnown*
6	Fellowship
5	Other
84	Research
9	Training

Types of Requests:

# Reported	Name

5	*UnKnown*
12	Carryforward
73	No-Cost Extension
5	Other
2	Purchase of Equipment
6	Rebudgeting
1	Rebudgeting out of Training Costs
1	Subawards

Approvals:

# Reported	**Name**
38	*pending*
2	NO
65	YES

Institutions Reporting Data:14

# Reported	**Name**
2	California Institute of Technology
7	Columbia University
13	Duke University
4	Kent State University
21	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
9	San Diego State University Foundation
4	Texas A&M Research Foundation
1	Univ of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
9	University of Chicago
5	University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4	University of Rochester
4	University of Wisconsin - Madison
5	University of Kansas Center for Research, Inc
17	Washington State University