

# FDP-NCURA TASK FORCE ON FOUNDATIONS AND PUBLIC CHARITIES

## REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

(May 20-21, 2004 - September 20-21, 2004 FDP meetings)

### Prepared and Submitted by

**John “Jay” Walton - Johns Hopkins University**

**And**

**John M. Carfora - Boston College**

- May 2004 – 3 hour meeting with Albert O. Shar, *Vice President* (IT) and Richard Toth, *Director, Office of Proposal Management* of *The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)* to ask The Foundation to consider providing leadership and assistance to enable The Task Force to continue our efforts to full fill our charge. The discussion covered most of the challenges which may impede successful electronic application and grants management systems, both pre and post award. Special emphasis was placed on the peer review process via electronic means.

They “have just started an overall quality initiative and ... suspect that a lot will be uncovered in that process.”

Plans to have Mr. Toth participate in a video conference during the breakout sessions unfortunately did not materialize. But a productive dialogue has been started with the Foundation that will continue into the future.

- A request to begin a dialogue with *The Gates Foundation* and *The American Legacy Foundation*, have been sent to program officers and executives of these organizations.

### Future Activities (now till January):

- We have invited *The Gates Foundation* to participate in the January meeting and are awaiting a reply.
- Will continue to seek participation from *RWJF* in a future FDP or NCURA meeting as well.
- Participating on a panel presenting at session in October at the *SRA International Annual Meeting*. T70: *Health Research Funding - 100 grant programs - One Stop Shopping*.
- Will also seek during the SRA meeting to expand our partnership and task force.
- Are conducting a session at the NCURA Annual Meeting in November, with mostly biomedical public charities represented on the panel.
- Have been invited to participate in the *proposalCENTRAL* users group meeting in January 2005, again representing the applicants’ perspective.