# EMERGING RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS (ERI) and the Federal Demonstration Partnership (FDP)

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ERI Lunch Purpose & Outcomes

- To review outcomes from August ERI luncheon discussion, to plan next steps for ERI engagement, and to get any needed volunteers

- Outcomes
  - Shared understanding of planned next steps for ERI engagement.
  - A list of any needed volunteers
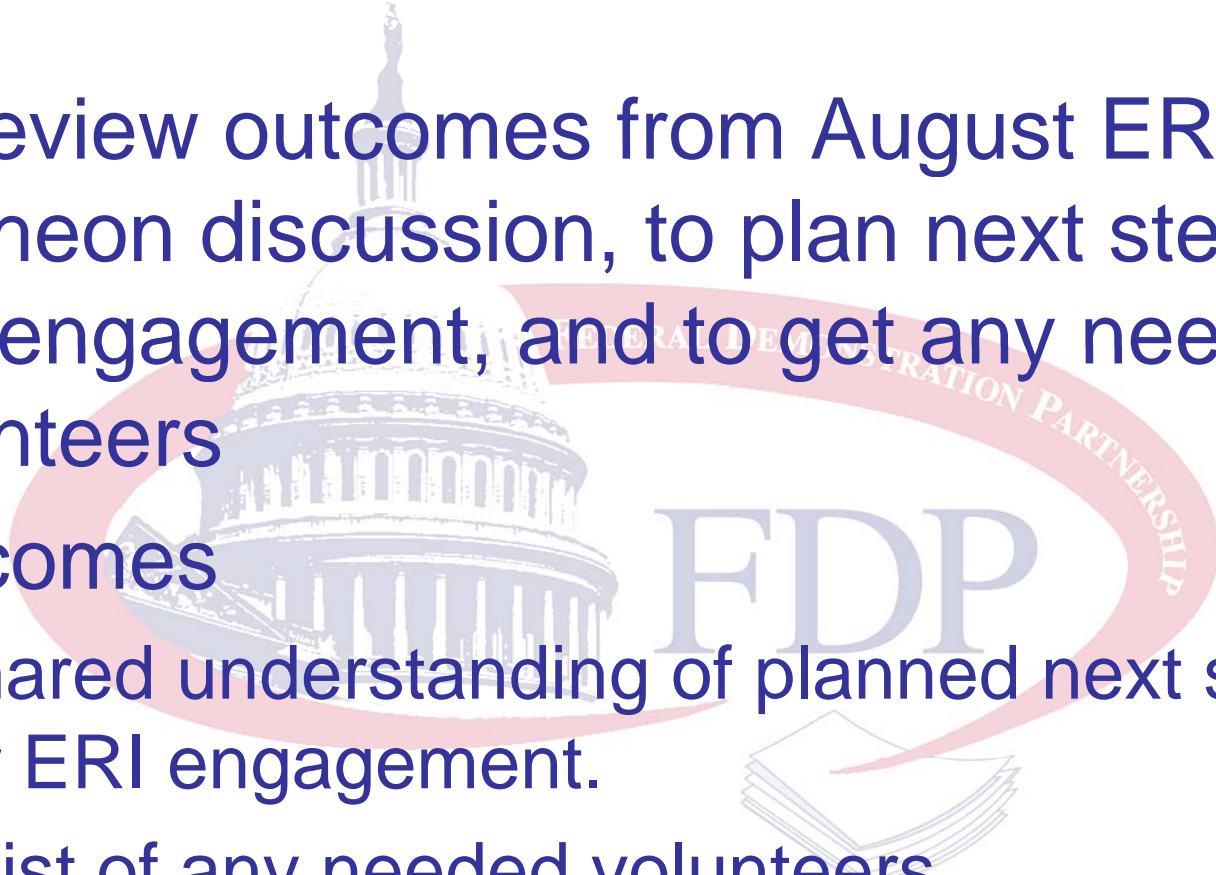
ERI's: What we learned in August

- 13 ERIs, defined as institutions with $20mil or less in research at time of FDP application; interviewed 9 of the 13

- ERIs included: MSIs, an integrated health system, small campuses of larger systems

- Most ERIs never or rarely missed FDP meetings

- ERI challenges include the "usual suspects": Small staff, administrative burden, faculty burden, IT development needs. "Federal agency rules and regulations have a different and overwhelming impact on ERIs"

- We talked about creative solutions that some ERIs have implemented to navigate these challenges, such as partnerships, hiring IT specialists, hiring research administrators, training

- FDP benefits, such as communications (listserv, networking, having a voice), pilots, special award terms.

What ERIs report to have learned from FDP thus far…

- Learned to streamline subrecipient monitoring process.

- Learned to streamline post award fiscal management.

- Learned to improve effort reporting procedures.

- Learned to improve ARRA reporting

- Benefitted from FDP contract templates, ARRA Reporting, and help incorporating FFATA requirements into to subcontracts;FSRS processes

- Benefitted from ERI group discussion valuable when talking about some less complex systems appropriate for smaller institutions that do not have the same infrastructure and support (such as IT) to implement more complex solutions that are used by the large institutions

- Benefitted from research administration partnerships

Recommendations

Present to FDP Leadership?

- FDP should ensure that ERI meetings do not conflict with other FDP topics (lunches with a set agenda!!)
- FDP ERI day pre- or post-FDP meeting to discuss, plan, implement. Follow up on Earnestine Psalmonds work.
- FDP should help communicate value of membership to faculty at ERIs
- FDP should list ERIs on website (done)
- FDP should ensure ERI representation on committees
- FDP should ensure representation of ERI perspective on broad, national science issues discussed during meetings
- FDP should strongly encourage senior leadership representation by agencies and institutions so we can commit to ACTION vs. mere policy talk

Ideas for Pilots/Next Steps

Also reviewed your annual reports to cull information

- FDP policies/forms library across institutions.
- FDP support ERIs do a better job of communicating FDP benefits to faculty. Brochure or communication tool.
- FDP action to help to get the F&A cap lifted. It penalizes ERIs.
- FDP action to help address cost-sharing. Penalizes ERIs.
- Encourage grants management certification programs.
- Research capacity building at ERIs.

Next Steps… (more ideas)

- FDP encourage creation of a Program for Teaching Faculty (researchers who never step foot in classroom win; hurts ERIs)
- FDP encourage NIH to promote collaboration like NSF does
- FDP should encourage sharing strategies on ARRA reporting and on meeting FFATA requirements. Research administration collaborations
- Pilot around building evaluation components into grants
- Pilot encouraging research administrators doing sabbaticals and exchanges at ERIs
- Implement pilots already in the works: effort reporting & federal-wide PI

Ideas early, ideas often (Implementation??)

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