



National Science Foundation Update

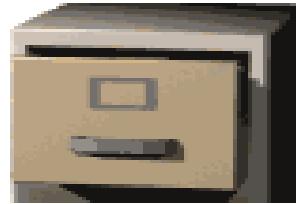
**Federal Demonstration Partnership
Meeting
May 4-6, 2011
Washington, DC**

Ask Early, Ask Often

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Topics Covered



- Merit Review Update
- Upcoming Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG) Update
- Research Terms Update
- NSF Sessions of Interest

NSB Task Force on Merit Review

- Established Spring 2010, charged with “examining the two Merit Review Criteria and their effectiveness in achieving the goals for NSF support for science and engineering research and education”
- Focusing on:
 - How criteria are being interpreted and used by PIs, reviewers, and NSF staff
 - Strengths and weaknesses of criteria
 - Impact of criteria on how PIs develop projects
 - Role of the institution

Sources of data for Task Force

- Input from stakeholders
 - Interviews of NSF senior leadership, sample set of institutions
 - Surveys
 - NSF POs, DDs, Advisory Committee members
520 responses, 61% response rate
 - NSF PIs and reviewers
4174 responses, 52% response rate
 - NSF website
 - Open for comments from January 21 through March 15
 - Over 600 people provided responses to one or more questions
- Analysis of 195 Committees of Visitors reports (from 2001-2009) for issues related to the merit review criteria
- Topic modeling analysis of Broader Impacts in ~100,000 proposals submitted between 2006 and 2009

Current Status

- The Task Force is currently analyzing the various inputs, and is developing a set of principles to guide the description and implementation of the merit review criteria
- It is anticipated that draft recommendations will be presented at the May 10-11 NSB meeting
- NSF will report to Congress by late June on policy and implementation plans related to the Broader Impacts Review Criterion, as required by the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act

NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG) Update

- Published in the Federal Register NSF's intent to modify the PAPPG
- Issuance date will greatly depend on time necessary to implement results from the Merit Review Task Force
 - Working issuance date remains October 2012 with January effective date

Anticipated Changes

- Merit review coverage in Chapter III
- Completion of implementation of NSB's cost sharing recommendations
 - Format of Facilities, Equipment & Other Resources format in FastLane
 - Exceptions to Limitation on Indirect Costs
- Biographical sketch coverage relating to Publications
- Proposal compliance checking

Research Terms and Conditions Update

- New Research Terms were posted to the NSF website:
 - Research Terms, dated June 2011
 - Appendix B: Subaward Requirements, dated June 2011
 - Appendix C: National Policy Requirements, dated June 2011
- NO changes were made to the Research Terms document; however since the Appendices are formally part of that document, it was re-dated
- Will necessitate a change NSF's RTC Agency Specific Requirements

NSF Sessions of Interest

- ERI Lunch Forum (Thursday 11:45-1:00)
 - Charisse Carney-Nunes (BFA/OAD)
- STAR Metrics working Session (Thursday 11:45-1:00)
- NSF Implementation of the Research Performance Progress Report (Thursday 1:00-2:15)
 - Jean Feldman (BFA/DIAS)
 - Erika Rissi (BFA/DIAS)

NSF Sessions of Interest (Cont'd)

- eRA – Grants.gov/JAD/NSF Research.gov Update (Thursday 2:20-3:35)
 - Adrienne Deitemeyer (OIRM/DIS)
- Membership Standing Committee (Wednesday 8:00-9:00)
 - Joanna Rom (BFA/OAD)

Questions??

