THE FEDERAL DEMONSTRATION PARTNERSHIP

Cindy Hope – Chair 2014-17
Assistant Vice President for Research and Director, Office for Sponsored Programs, The University of Alabama
Mission

• The Federal Demonstration Partnership (FDP) is an association of federal agencies, academic research institutions... and research policy organizations that work to streamline the administration of federally sponsored research. ... The **goal of improving the productivity of research without compromising its stewardship** has benefits for the entire nation.

• The FDP uniquely offers a forum for individuals from universities and nonprofits to **work collaboratively with federal agency officials** to improve the national research enterprise. At its regular meetings, faculty and administrators talk face-to-face with decision-makers from agencies that sponsor and regulate research. They... test the new ways of doing things in the real world before putting them into effect.
• Vision: *Researchers doing science, not administration*

• 155 institutional recipients of federal funds
  – Includes 38 new members
  – Includes 26 Emerging Research Institutions

• 10 Federal Agencies
  – NSF, NIH, ONR, USDA, AFOSR, ARO, AMRMC, NASA, EPA and DHS

• Faculty Co-Chair - Sandra L. Schneider, Ph.D
  – Professor of Psychology and Director of Center for the Study of International Languages and Cultures, The University of South Florida

• Executive Director, David Wright
  – DWright@nas.edu
HISTORY OF THE FDP

Phase VI: 2014-2020
Phase V: 2008-2014
Phase IV: 2002-2008
Phase III: 1996-2002
Phase II: 1988 *Federal Demonstration Partnership*
Phase I: 1986 *Florida Demonstration Project*
FDP Historical Initiatives

• Simplified Administrative Requirements
  – Expanded Authorities
  – FDP Terms of Award
  – Federal-Wide Research Terms and Conditions
• FDP Subaward Agreement
• Faculty Burden/Workload Surveys
• ARRA Statistics
• FDP Clearinghouse for FCOI Policies
• Current Areas of Focus Include:
  – Uniform Guidance Implementation
    • Research Terms and Conditions
    • Procurement
    • Subrecipient Monitoring
    • Effort Reporting – Relevance of Payroll Certification Pilots
  – Electronic Research Administration
    • DATA Act, SciENcv
  – Research Compliance
    • Export Reform, Human and Animal Subjects, COI
Researchers doing science, not administration

• Results of 2012 Faculty Workload Survey
  – Once again, PIs estimated 42% of their research time was spent on meeting requirements rather than on active research.
    • 15.4% Proposal preparation
    • 13.6% Post-award administration
    • 7.6% Report preparation
    • 5.7% Pre-award administration
  – 23 different pre- and post-award administration responsibilities identified.
  – Researchers reported an average of 8.67 different administrative responsibilities within one-year.
Results of 2012 Faculty Workload Survey

- We can use the survey results to identify burdensome regulations, policies and procedures to address.

- There are limitations to this approach.
  - Sources of burden are numerous and diverse.
  - Improvements have not kept up with new regulations and requirements.
FDP - Phase VI 2014-2020

Additional Information on the FDP homepage, thefdp.org, includes:

- Written statement of former FDP Chair, Dr. Susan Wyatt Sedwick, before the Joint Hearing of Subcommittee on Research and Technology and Subcommittee on Oversight Committee on Science, Space and Technology U.S. House of Representatives June 12, 2014

- Faculty Workload Survey Report and Executive Summary
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