

RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION UPDATES AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH / OFFICE OF SPONSORED PROJECTS

This newsletter is produced by the Office of Sponsored Projects to provide agency updates, sponsor policy and procedural information, and guidance and training in all aspects of sponsored project administration for Researchers and Research Administrators. Please visit <http://www.brown.edu/research/newsletters> for archives.

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OSP / OVPR UPDATES

➤ Recovery of Indirect Costs (F&A) is Prohibited on Participant Support Costs on REU Awards

The National Science Foundation has released a revised [Research Experiences for Undergraduates \(REU\)](#) Program Announcement (NSF 13-542). Effective with this REU Program Announcement, NSF no longer permits the recovery of indirect costs on Participant Support Costs on REU awards. NSF states:

“Indirect costs (F&A) are not allowed on Participant Support Costs in REU Site or REU Supplement budgets. Note that the REU solicitation's longstanding “administrative allowance” of 25% of the participant support stipend amount in lieu of indirect costs has been discontinued.”

Note: The Coeus Cost Elements for Participant Costs have been updated to not calculate F&A. Please See the [Coeus Update](#) section in the Newsletter for details.

➤ Preparation of NIH Non-Competing Continuation Proposals Due May 1st and Beyond

As has been reported previously in this Newsletter, the National Institutes of Health released [Changes to Public Access Policy Compliance Efforts Apply to All Awards with Anticipated Start Dates on or after July 1, 2013 \(NOT-OD-13-042\)](#):

There are new and serious consequences for PIs with non-competing continuation grant awards with a start date of July 1, 2013 or beyond:

- NIH will delay processing of an award if publications arising from it are not in compliance with the [NIH Public Access Policy](#). At Brown, this will prevent the addition of continuation year funds and prohibit any actions associated with the processing of subaward modifications in continuation years.
- Investigators must use [My NCBI](#) to enter papers onto progress reports. Papers can be associated electronically using the RPPR, or included in the PHS 2590 using the My NCBI generated [PDF report](#).

Detailed information is available at [Upcoming Changes to Public Access Policy Reporting Requirements and Related NIH Efforts to Enhance Compliance \(NOT-OD-12-160\)](#) and [Update on NIH’s Public Access Policy](#)

➤ Important Notice About a Significant Change in Patent Law

Last month, TVO Director Katie Gordon communicated with Brown faculty on the changes to patent law which occurred this month. The following is a copy of the announcement:

*I would like this opportunity to remind you that the "America Invents Act" becomes effective on March 16, 2013. The principle provision in the new law that affects investigators in academia is the change from current law, which gives rights to the "first to invent", to the new law, which gives rights to the "first inventor to file." This change will apply to all patent applications **filed on or after March 16, 2013**. Generally speaking, this change also puts the US in harmony with laws in the rest of the world.*

As a practical matter, investigators need to be aware that public disclosures of any sort can make even a valuable "invention" non-patentable, because even your own publications or public presentations will be considered prior art. Before the AIA, there was a one year grace period in the United States, meaning that even if there was a public disclosure one could still get coverage in the US.

I am greatly simplifying things for this brief overview, but the bottom line is:

- *Investigators need to be vigilant about reporting their inventions to TVO or their licensing office as soon as practical, and*
- *Investigators need to be vigilant not to publicly disclose their inventions prior to any patent filing.*

This does not mean that the criteria and rigor of the filing process will change - we just need to be aware that we can no longer rely on being first to invent as staking out a priority date in the US going forward.

You can read up on the law and its full scope on the US Patents and Trademark Office's website at – <http://www.uspto.gov/news/pr/2013/13-10.jsp>

For more information, please contact the [Technology Ventures Office](#) at TVO_patents@brown.edu or [\(401\) 863-7499](tel:4018637499).



➤ Grant Finding: Library Services and Support

Brown University Library (BUL) has created a [resource page](#) for finding grant opportunities with a special focus on [Pivot](#) (formerly COS Funding Opportunities). *Pivot* is a frequently updated database of funding opportunity announcements from across the disciplines (including the humanities and social sciences). It contains information on awards, fellowships, and grants from federal/non-federal, corporate/private foundation, and international funding sources. Includes *COS Funding Alert*, a weekly e-mail notification with a customized list of funding opportunities based on specified criteria provided by the individual COS member.

- For more details on the BUL Grant Finding guide, see <http://libguides.brown.edu/grants>

Sign up for [Grant Finding with Pivot/COS training](#):

Upcoming Sessions in the Rock Library Hecker Training Center (1st floor):

- April 4, 5-6pm (Thurs.) drop-ins welcome (for credit sign-up using the link above to the LearningPoint system)
- April 15, 12-1pm (Mon.) drop-ins welcome (for credit sign-up using the link above to the LearningPoint system)

AGENCY UPDATES

NIH
UPDATE➤ **NIH Regional Seminars on Program Funding and Grants Administration**

Each year, the Office of Extramural Research (OER) sponsors the NIH Regional Seminars on Program Funding and Grants Administration. These seminars are intended to help demystify the application and review process, clarify Federal regulations and policies, and highlight current areas of special interest or concern. The seminars serve the NIH mission of providing education and training for the next generation of biomedical and behavioral scientists. NIH policies, grants management, review and program staff, provide a broad array of expertise and encourage personal interaction between themselves and seminar participants. The seminars are appropriate for grants administrators, researchers new to NIH, and graduate students.

Upcoming Seminars:

DATES	LOCATION	AMBASSADOR	PROGRAM INFO
June 26-28, 2013	Baltimore, MD	N/A	Registration Now Open! Note: There is only one NIH Regional Seminar this Year - Be a Part of It!

NIH/NSF
UPDATE➤ **National Science Foundation – National Institutes of Health NSF-NIH Interagency Initiative: Smart and Connected Health**

[NOT-OD-13-041](#)
[NSF 13-543](#)

The Institutes and Centers of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF) have identified **Smart and Connected Health** as a program focus. In particular, the present initiative covers the need to develop the next generation of health and healthcare research through advances in the understanding of and applications in information science, technology, behavior, cognition, sensors, robotics, bioimaging, and engineering.

Collaboration between academic, industry, non-profit and other organizations is strongly encouraged to establish better linkages between fundamental science, clinical practice and technology development, deployment and use.

Two classes of applications will be considered in response to this solicitation:

1. **Exploratory Projects:** One or more investigators spanning 1 to 3 years and may receive NIH support up to \$170,000 per year in direct costs.
2. **Integrative Projects:** Multi-disciplinary teams spanning 1 to 4 years and may receive NIH support from \$170,001 and \$370,000 direct costs per year.

For both types of projects, scientists from **all disciplines** are encouraged to participate.

The applications are submitted to the National Science Foundation. Following a jointly conducted initial peer review of these applications, likely NIH awardees applications will be forwarded for NIH processing.

For more information please visit: http://obsr.od.nih.gov/scientific_areas/smartconnect_health.aspx

For the funding opportunity announcement ([NSF 13-543](#)) please visit:
<http://nsf.gov/pubs/2013/nsf13543/nsf13543.htm>

NSF
UPDATE

➤ **NSF has posted Presentations from the recent NSF Grants Conference hosted by Howard University [March 11-12, 2013]**

The presentations from the March 11-12, 2013 NSF Conference hosted by Howard University are now available on the [NSF Outreach Activities](http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/outreach.jsp#present) website (<http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/outreach.jsp#present>).

The presentation topics include:

- Proposal Preparation
- NSF Merit Review Process
- NSF Policy Update
- Research.gov
- and many others

Please visit the above mentioned website for more information and to download the available presentations.



Agency Tip

Subscribe to the NIH Extramural Nexus

The [NIH Extramural Nexus](http://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/) (<http://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/>) provides regular updates on NIH grants policies and activities that impact the entire grants community.

In addition to providing the community with news, events and resources, the Nexus is the home of [Rock Talk](#)—the blog of Dr. Sally Rockey, who serves as NIH's Deputy Director for Extramural Research and directs the Office of Extramural Research.

To subscribe, please visit: <http://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/subscribe/>

COEUS TIP OF THE MONTH

SPECIAL CHARACTERS, GRANTS.GOV AND COEUS

- Grants.gov **does not** permit special characters (accent marks, commas, @, #, %, ^, &, *, etc.) to be entered within any of the application form fields.
- Since we use Coeus for majority of our applications being routed via Grants.gov, the restriction on special characters applies to the information entered in Coeus.
- **Coeus can NOT validate Rolodex entries for special characters at the time of creation. Departments must be diligent about not adding special characters to Rolodex entries.**
- As a best practice in Coeus:
 - Do not enter special characters in any of the fields in the **Rolodex entry**

- Do not copy and paste data into the fields as that may bring over proprietary fonts and/or special characters that are not supported
- Restriction on special characters also applies to file names being used for attachments uploaded as part of the application (*especially important to keep in mind for those attachments in Coeus that require the user to enter the name that will be used as the file name – e.g. ‘Attachment’, ‘Other’, etc. Narrative Types*)
- Review the Grants.gov package/forms in Coeus to verify that no special characters are present

Example:

The 'accent' mark on top of the letter 'e' will cause the application to be rejected by Grants.gov

PROFILE - Senior/Key Person

Prefix	So, even though you are able to pre-view the Grants.gov form in Coeus with the 'accent' mark, it does not mean that it is error free. Grants.gov will reject the application once it is submitted - that is why it is essential to review the Grants.gov forms!!!	* Last Name	Suffix
Position/T		Pettre	
Organization Name:	Universit� Rennes 2 - ENS CACHAN	Division:	COEUS Training
* Street1:	Laboratoire M2S	Street2:	ave Rober Schuman
* City:	Bruz	County:	

COEUS UPDATE

UPDATE TO COEUS COST ELEMENTS FOR NSF PARTICIPANT SUPPORT

With the recent announcement from NSF prohibiting recovery of Indirect Costs (F&A) on Participant Support Costs on REU Awards, the Participant Support Cost Elements in Coeus have been updated.

Prior to this announcement, there were 4 NSF Participant Support Cost Elements & 4 NSF REU Support Cost Elements set up in Coeus. With this new change, these cost elements have been merged into only 4 cost elements for **NSF Participant/REU Support**: *[These Cost Elements are programmed NOT to calculate F&A].*

Code	New Cost Element Description
F099999	f) NSF Participant/REU Support - Other
F109999	f) NSF Participant/REU Support - Stipend
F149999	f) NSF Participant/REU Support - Subsistence
F119999	f) NSF Participant/REU Support - Travel

The (old) NSF REU Cost Elements have been re-named with '**DO NOT USE**' in front of the description to clearly indicate that they are not to be used in the budgets and will be listed towards the bottom of the Coeus Element List window:

Code	New Cost Element Description
F222510	z) DO NOT USE - NSF REU Stipend
F249999	z) DO NOT USE - NSF REU Support - Other (F&A Applied)
F259999	z) DO NOT USE - NSF REU Support - Subsistence (F&A Applied)
F269999	z) DO NOT USE - NSF REU Support - Travel (F&A Applied)

You may come across the following scenarios when viewing or copying a proposal using the old NSF REU Cost Elements:

- When viewing a proposal already created **prior** to the change, you will see the new Cost Element Description name change in the Budget Display window:

Line	CE	Cost Element Description
1	F222510	z) DO NOT USE - NSF REU Stipend
2	F099999	f) NSF Participant/REU Support - Other
3	F099999	f) NSF Participant/REU Support - Other
4	C229000	c) Other Charges-exclude from base

- Proposals that were '**In Progress**' or '**Approval in Progress**' status prior to making the modifications to the Cost Elements will need to have the '**DO NOT USE**' Cost Elements deleted and replaced with the correct NSF Participant/REU Support Cost Elements.
- When **COPYING** an older proposal that had Cost Elements that had the names/description modified and/or originally had F&A Applied to it:
 - the new Cost Element Description [e.g. **z) DO NOT USE – NSF REU Support - ...**] will feed into the copied proposal and the F&A will still be applied to those Cost Elements
 - the user will need to delete the '**DO NOT USE**' Cost Elements and add the correct NSF Participant/REU Support Cost Elements
- New Validation** has been added to the system that will prevent you from submitting a budget with the '**DO NOT USE**' REU Support Cost Elements:

Line	CE	Cost Element Description
1	F222510	z) DO NOT USE - NSF REU Stipend

TRAINING

OSP TRAINING SPOTLIGHT

Coeus - Viewing Proposal & Award Information

This hands-on workshop will explore the Institute Proposal and Award Modules in Coeus. Participants will become familiar with relevant Coeus terminology. Specific attention will be paid to teaching participants how to effectively search for and access their department's sponsored research activity that is stored within the Coeus database.

Topics covered in this class:

- Navigating Coeus
- Institute Proposal Module Walkthrough
- Award Module Walkthrough
- Grant Lifecycle - Medusa Function

Instructor: Jeremy Cox, *Grants/Contracts Accountant & eRA Administrator*

Feedback from participants who have taken the class:

- ✚ *"The step-by-step walkthrough of each tab was really helpful."*
- ✚ *"Contained valuable information that pertains to my work that I previously had not known about."*
- ✚ *"The small group setting provided the opportunity to ask questions which I felt were extremely helpful."*

Click [HERE](#) to register for **Coeus - Viewing Proposal & Award Information**

ABOUT OSP TRAINING

The Office of Sponsored Projects is pleased to offer numerous training opportunities for faculty and staff. Topics Include:

- **Coeus Training**
 - *Learn how to use the University's sponsored projects management system.*
- **Pre-Award Training**
 - *Learn best practices in Pre-Award management. Sessions range from preparation of proposals and budgets to negotiation of award terms & conditions.*
- **Post-Award Training**
 - *Learn best practices in Post-Award management. Sessions ranging from travel on sponsored projects to allocation of costs.*

Sponsored Projects Training Sessions are now on [LearningPoint](#), Brown's new Professional Development System.
~ To register for classes, please navigate to www.brown.edu/learningpoint and log in using your Brown User Name and Password.

~ The training classes can be found by clicking on the "*Sponsored Research Related Training*" from your homepage.

GRANT CONFERENCES & NCURA EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

2013 NCURA Region 1 Spring Meetings

New Castle, NH

April 30-May 2

- Over 40 Sessions spanning 3 days
- Topics address all areas of research administration
- For more information and registration, click [here](#)

2013 SRA Northeast/Midwest Sections Meeting

Biltmore Hotel, Providence, RI

May 5-8

- Topics focused on Professional Development, Financial Management, Clinical Trials, and more
- For more information and registration, click [here](#)

NCURA 55th Annual Meeting

Washington, DC

August 4-7, 2013

- Registration and hotel block will open in Early April, click [here](#)

Questions or comments about the Newsletter should be directed to the editors:
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