

## News and Notes

### Office of Sponsored Programs News

#### OSP Holiday Schedule

Due to the University holiday schedule and closures, the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) will be closed Monday, December 21 through Friday, January 1, 2021.

All proposals with deadlines that fall within the holiday break should be submitted to OSP at least 4 business days before the first day of break. Additionally, proposals with due dates that fall within the first 3 days after a holiday break should be submitted prior to the break to allow at least 4 business days for review and submission to the Sponsor.

**Example:** A proposal is due to the Sponsor on Tuesday, December 22. The proposal should be routed to OSP and certified by the PI in MyFunding no later than Monday, December 15.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation.

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### University News

#### From Purchasing and Campus Mail: Lab Supply Ordering

Campus Mail manages the collection and delivery of all University correspondence to the Pittsburgh campus, a service available to all departments. Since many University buildings have not completely reopened or are not regularly staffed, mail for the Pittsburgh campus continues to be redirected to the campus mailroom on Thomas Boulevard. Please review the [updated instructions for package deliveries, in effect only during the COVID-19 crisis](#), before you place any orders. Please note, this information only pertains to the Pittsburgh campus, as instructions for the regional campuses differ.

Specifically, the following information is critical for any areas purchasing **lab supplies**:

- It is **recommended** that all lab supply orders be shipped directly to 7500 Thomas Boulevard so that Campus Mail can receive them centrally and process them for same day delivery to Pittsburgh campus buildings (note: same day delivery is contingent on Campus Mail receiving the package by 12pm). The ship-to address code to be used in the PantherExpress System for Campus Mail is THOMS.
- For **shipments of refrigerated or frozen items** (i.e., time sensitive), the researcher or the person requesting the supply should inform the person placing the order that the item is refrigerated or frozen and it is important that the purchaser complete these steps:
  - Ensure that someone from the department is available to receive the delivery from Campus Mail on the scheduled delivery date;
  - Contact Campus Mail at [mailserv@bc.pitt.edu](mailto:mailserv@bc.pitt.edu) with the following information once an order has been placed for refrigerated or frozen items: Package carrier, tracking number, confirmation of where the package will be delivered on campus, confirmation that someone from the department will be there to accept it, and a phone number for this contact. This advance notice will assist Campus Mail in expediting the same day delivery of these supplies.

For more information from Campus Mail including how to contact them or instructions on picking up your mail, visit [their website](#). For questions related to purchases and the PantherExpress System, contact [PantherExpress Customer Service](#).

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## Funding Agency Updates

### National Institutes of Health Modernize RePORT Website

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) are debuting a new website for Research Portfolio Online Reporting Tools (RePORT) that will replace the existing website on December 13, 2020. The RePORT website “provides access to reports, data, and analyses of NIH research activities, including information on NIH expenditures and the results of NIH-supported research.” The new RePORT website includes the following new features:

- Quick Search
- Filterable Results
- New Data Visualizations
- Single Page Project Details
- Advanced Project Search
- No Need for Bulk Downloads Anymore

The new [RePORT website](#) is live and available to use. For more information about the enhancements, see the [Open Mike post](#).

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### National Science Foundation Adds New Proposal Types to Research.gov

The National Science Foundation (NSF) added three new [proposal types](#) to Research.gov: RAPID, EAGER, and RAISE.

NSF encourages applicants to use Research.gov for proposal preparation and submission as it eventually phases out FastLane. [Read more](#) about the benefits of using Research.gov, and become familiar with it through the [demo site](#).

Similar to submitting NSF proposals in FastLane, MyFunding users would mark proposals submitted in Research.gov as “Other (Submitted by Office of Sponsored Programs)” in the Funding Proposal (FP).

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