

## News and Notes

### Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) News

#### PERIS™ MyFunding Upgrade and Scheduled Downtime Alert

Per the [4/26/23 announcement](#), the PERIS™ team is excited to announce that [PERIS™ MyFunding](#) is being upgraded and therefore **will be down and unavailable from Tuesday, June 6th at 5:30pm through Monday, June 12th**. The site will be available for all users on Tuesday, June 13th at 8:30am.

**Please note:** No work will be completed in MyFunding during this downtime, including proposal submissions, award activations, award modifications, and any other proposal or award activities. *Please plan and coordinate your work accordingly.*

The MyFunding upgrade will include functional and visual changes. Changes include:

- New visual features such as slide-in windows, left-hand navigation, and more. [MyRA](#) has these updates already implemented.
- Streamlined smartforms and questions
- Improved performance – redesigned Award Personnel page and reviewer notes
- New features – new activities such as ‘Send Email’ and ‘Manage Access’ that allows users more options and flexibility

The PERIS™ team will continue to provide updates on the upgrade, training documentation, and downtime.

If you have any questions, please email Natalie Kaczmarek [nem44@pitt.edu](mailto:nem44@pitt.edu) or the PERIS™ team [peristeam@pitt.edu](mailto:peristeam@pitt.edu).

#### OSP Faculty and Staff Development Program (FSDP) Sessions

OSP is offering Faculty and Staff Development Program (FSDP) workshops this Spring through the [Research Administration track](#). There is still time to register for the following OSP workshops:

Introduction to Fee-For-Service in OSP	Thursday, May 4, 2023	10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Introduction to Grants Management Services in OSP	Friday, May 12, 2023	10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Introduction to PERIS™ MyFunding Proposals	Tuesday, May 16, 2023	1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Introduction to MyRA for Non-Financial Agreements	Wednesday, May 24, 2023	1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Basics of Federal Contract Administration	Thursday, June 1, 2023	10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Introduction to Subaward Administration	Tuesday, June 6, 2023	1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Introduction to PERIS™ MyFunding Awards	Wednesday, June 14, 2023	10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Workshop descriptions and registration information can be found on the Office of Human Resources (OHR) [FSDP website](#).

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## New Assistant Director for Research Development

Dr. [Tobias \(Toby\) Rodriguez](#) joins the Office of Sponsored Programs as the new assistant director for research development. Toby will lead the research development team and the [expansion of research development services and offerings](#) for the Pitt research community. He holds a PhD from the University of Michigan and has experience in teaching, conducting research, faculty development, strategic planning, and student research efforts. Most recently, Toby served as vice president of a higher education consultancy where he was responsible for leading institutional-level initiatives in research and program development for more than 100 higher education and corporate clients.

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## Funding Agency Updates

### National Institutes of Health Update to Funding Opportunity Terminology

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) will now be using the term “Notice of Funding Opportunity” (NOFO) to refer to what was previously called a “Funding Opportunity Announcement” (FOA).

For more information, see [NIH Notice NOT-OD-23-109](#).

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### National Science Foundation Decommissioning FastLane

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is continuing its plan to decommission FastLane.

FastLane letters of intent, proposals, and supplemental funding requests will remain accessible until **Friday, September 29, 2023**.

#### *Additional Notes and Reminders:*

- Last day to submit proposal file updates and budget revisions in FastLane is Friday, September 29, 2023 (5:00 PM submitter’s local time).
- Last day to access FastLane submitted or in-progress letters of intent, proposals, and supplemental funding requests is Friday, September 29, 2023 (11:00 PM Eastern Time).
- Proposal file updates and budget revisions must be submitted in the same system as the proposal was submitted (i.e., all in FastLane or all in Research.gov).
- Supplemental funding requests can be submitted in Research.gov regardless of the system used (Research.gov, FastLane, or Grants.gov) for proposal submission.

For more details, see the [NSF FastLane System Decommissioning website](#).

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## NSF Frequently Asked Questions

On April 3, 2023, NSF issued revised [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) On Proposal Preparation and Award Administration Related to the NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide](#) (PAPPG) ([NSF 23-1](#)).