Office of Research News & Notes

Office of Research News

The Office of Research Welcomes New Associate Director for Grants Management

Effective January 25, 2018, Erin Menzies, MBA, joined the Office of Research as the Associate Director for Grants Management. She will oversee the Grants Management Services Team, which processes proposals and grants for federal and nonprofit sponsors. Please join us in welcoming Erin to the Office of Research!

Webinar on Rigor and Reproducibility for the Research Administrator

Research Administrators are welcome to join the Office of Research in viewing a webinar from the National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA) on the topic of Rigor and Reproducibility geared towards the Research Administrator. The webinar will focus on how to create a training and communication plan to simplify the NIH policy for researchers.

Webinar Name & Details: "Part II: Rigor and Reproducibility for the Research Administrator"
When: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 2:00pm – 3:30pm
Where: Office of Research, B21 University Club, Conference Room A
Registration: Available here

PERIS™ *MyFunding* Tips

1. Email Functionality

   One of the main goals of the PERIS™ project is to increase transparency in the proposal preparation and submission process. As a result, the MyFunding module has incorporated a new feature allowing users to email ***within*** the MyFunding module. When in the MyFunding module, you can simply access the new activity, "Email Specialist" (located on the left-hand side of the screen) to send emails to a specialist in the Office of Research. When a specialist sends an email, you will receive a notification alerting you to log into MyFunding to view and respond to the message. Click here to view the Quick Guide on sending and receiving emails within MyFunding.

2. FAQs

   A list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) has been created to address the most common questions that the PERIS™ team receives about MyFunding. New FAQs will be added as they arise. Click here to view the MyFunding FAQs.

3. Adding a Division

   A Funding Proposal will default from the HR feed to the PI's primary appointment department. For departments that have divisions (ex: Department of Medicine), it is important to select the division (ex: Geriatric Medicine) from which the PI is submitting for proper routing and accurate reporting. Click here to view the Quick Guide on Assigning a Division in a Funding Proposal.

Additional guidance for MyFunding can be found in these quick guides, and additional information about the PERIS™ project can be found here. For any questions, please email the project team at perisproject@pitt.edu or call 412-624-7098 or the main Office of Research line at 412-624-7400.

Funding Agency Updates

Reminder: National Institutes of Health (NIH) Update Appendix Policy to Eliminate Clinical Trial-Related Materials

Effective for applications submitted to due dates on or after January 25, 2018, the NIH, Agency for Health Research and Quality (AHRQ), and National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) will no longer allow clinical trial-related materials to be included as Appendix materials unless other directions are specified in the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA).

Please see NIH Notice NOT-OD-18-126 for more details.

NIH Strengthening Enforcement of Timely Grant Closeouts

The NIH has announced that it will more strongly enforce its grant closeout requirements (Section 8.6 of the Grants Policy Statement). Failure to submit closeout documents in time will result in the NIH initiating unilateral closeout and can jeopardize current and future NIH award funding.

Please see NIH Notice NOT-OD-18-107 and the Open Mike post for more details.

Planned Updates to FastLane and Research.gov

Effective January 29, 2018, the National Science Foundation (NSF) will implement changes in FastLane and Research.gov to support the following policy updates in the *Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide* (PAPPG) and to run updated Budget Justification page limit automated compliance checks in FastLane.

Click here to learn more about the updates.

Other Updates

Registration Now Open: National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Regional Application-Writing Workshop

In collaboration with the NEH Division of Research Programs, Duquesne University's Office of Research will be hosting a regional application-writing workshop.

When: Friday, February 23, 2018 -from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with one-on-one consultations in the afternoon that can be scheduled by appointment

Where: Charles J. Dougherty Ballroom, Power Center, Duquesne University

Who: Jason Boffetti, NEH Senior Program Officer

This workshop will be open to all universities in the region. Registration is now available here.