IT Modernization Initiatives at NSF

NSF Grants Conference – October 2014

Today’s Agenda

• Public Access
• Research.gov/FastLane Enhancements
  – ACM$
  – Usability: Homepage and Single Sign-On
  – Usability: Project Reporting
  – Notifications and Requests
• Proposal Submission Modernization
  – Automated Compliance Checking
  – ORCID
  – SciENcv
  – PI/SPO Input Opportunities
Public Access Implementation

- Expanding Public Access to the Results of Federally Funded Research (February 22, 2013)

- Open Data Executive Order (May 9, 2013)
NSF’s Approach to Public Access

- Who are awardees and investigators?
  - Diversity of science
  - Range of institutions and publishers
  - Multiple funding streams

- Scope: publications, data, and then?

- What are we already doing?
  - Data management plan
  - Biographical sketch: data citation
  - Allowable publication/data management costs

NSF Public Access Key Principles

- Focus on publications in the initial implementation
- Minimize burden on PI
- Protect PI autonomy
- Evolve incrementally
- Learn from one phase to inform the next
- Leverage existing practices and systems
- Honor NSF’s customer service standard
- Provide ways to communicate and petition for a waiver
- Requirement will follow standard procedures and be implemented as part of the NSF PAPPG
What should you expect?

- Approved plan, FAQs, guidance will be posted to www.nsf.gov
- Technical pilot will provide opportunity for feedback
- Changes to procedures will be announced with opportunities for notice/comment as required by Federal-policies
- NSF will retain existing requirements and practices to the extent possible
- Look for more specific guidance at the program/division/directorate levels
- ListServ – system_updates-subscribe-request@listserv.nsf.gov – Updates on Public Access, events, and enhancements to Research.gov and/or FastLane

Feedback and Questions
Research.gov / FastLane Enhancements

Financial Services

- Program income reporting (effective March 2014)
- Preparing for NSF’s new financial and accounting system
  - Financial services unavailable from September 19 to October 13
  - Last date to submit drawdowns for awards with cancelling funds is September 18
- Beginning October 1, NSF will make all payments using System for Award Management (SAM) banking information
Usability: Research.gov Homepage

- Merged “NSF User” and InCommon login
- Simplified left navigation
- Several functions moved to upper right corner
- Redesigned layout of major business functions

Usability: Single Sign-on

- Researchers and SPOs can use their university ID and password to login to R.gov via InCommon
  - As of August 2014, 67 institutions are connected with Research.gov
  - Approximately 30 more institutions are in the pipeline
- Goals
  - Convenience to research community
  - Integration opportunities with institutions
  - Lower support costs
- Single Sign-on between Research.gov and FastLane
Usability: InCommon Login

InCommon Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Logins</th>
<th>% of total</th>
<th>% change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 2014</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>↑ 41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2014</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>↓ 29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2014</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>↑ 29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2014</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>↑ 26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2014</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>↑ 6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2014</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>↓ 5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2014</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>↑ 38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 2014</td>
<td>558</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>↑ 99%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Top 10 InCommon Leaderboard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>University</th>
<th>Total Logins</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>U Wisconsin-Madison</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>U Cincinnati</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>U Alabama – Birmingham</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Georgetown</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Clemson</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Texas A&amp;M</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Carnegie Mellon</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>UC Berkeley</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Duke</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Usability: Project Reporting

- Users with the “view project reports” permission in FastLane may now view project reports in Research.gov
- FastLane will redirect users to Research.gov to view project reports
- Live Help available during business hours
  – 150 PIs per month are getting real-time help

Notifications & Requests

- Modernize and migrate to Research.gov
  – Planning activities to begin in FY 2014
  – Development and release of functionality in FY 2015
  – Implement OMB’s Uniform Guidance
Feedback and Questions

Proposal Submission Modernization
Introduction to Proposal Submission Modernization (PSM)

- PSM is a multi-year effort to modernize proposal system functions currently in FastLane.
- Modernization includes the migration of proposal preparation/submission functionality to Research.gov.
- Planning began in FY14 and will continue through FY15.
- Identifying process, data, and technology enhancements and phased approach to migrating functionality to R.gov.
  - New functionality will be released incrementally.

PSM in Context

- NSF launched FastLane in 1994.
  - Originally designed to translate a paper process to computer.
  - System design principles have evolved over the 20 years.
- FastLane’s rigid architecture precludes it from being easily adapted to meet evolving program needs.
  - Proposal form changes require extensive work, are expensive.
  - Limited data exchange/pre-population across systems.
- Related projects have commenced (e.g., auto compliance checks, SciENcv and ORCID pilot plans).
Automated Compliance Checking

- NSF auto-compliance checking activities will continue in FY 2014 - FY 2015
  - Solicitation-specific auto-compliance checking planning
  - GPG-specific page count and budget related auto-compliance checks
  - Funding Mechanism/Proposal Section auto-compliance checks

- Non-compliance findings:
  - Triggered when the PI checks the proposal, forwards it to the SPO, and when the SPO submits to NSF
  - Error or Warning Message

Open Researcher and Contributor ID (ORCID)

- Open, community-driven effort with two goals:
  - Create and maintain a registry of unique researcher identifiers
  - Link research activities to the identifier

- NSF use of ORCID could inform COI identification and program assessment, while reducing PI burden

- Potential voluntary pilot activities could include:
  - PI inclusion of ORCID as part of his/her FastLane profile
  - Collecting ORCID for GRFP applicants
SciENcv

- **Initiative Background & Objective**
  - SciENcv stands for Science Experts Network Curriculum Vitae
  - The SciENcv solution will reduce burden associated with creating and maintaining biographical sketches
  - Researchers will be able to easily assemble & update biographical information and maintain multiple online versions to accommodate varying agency requirements

- **ORCID Release**
  - Researchers will soon be able to import ORCID profile, citation, and grant information

- **NSF Pilot**
  - NSF-specific capability will be tested and piloted soon
  - Issues encountered will be addressed prior to full release

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NSF Biosketch Tool

![NSF Biosketch Tool Image]
NSF Biosketch Generation

A. PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

List undergraduate and graduate education and postdoctoral training. List the year the degree was received as well as inclusive dates of postdoctoral training.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSTITUTION</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>MAJOR/AREA OF STUDY</th>
<th>DEGREE (if applicable)</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wellesley University</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>CHEMISTRY</td>
<td></td>
<td>1980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Illinois</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>BIOCHEMISTRY</td>
<td></td>
<td>1971</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Oregon</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Biochemistry</td>
<td></td>
<td>1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Institute of Health</td>
<td>Bethesda, MD, USA</td>
<td>Postdoctoral training</td>
<td>Postdoc training grant</td>
<td>2002</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. APPOINTMENTS

List, in reverse chronological order, all academic/professional appointments beginning with the current appointment:

- 2010 - 2020: Professor and Chair, Department of Chemistry, University of Maryland
- 1997 - 2009: Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry, Tulane University
- 1992 - 1997: Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry, Texas A&M University

C. SELECTED PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Profile Information, Citations & Awards will be Retrievable from ORCID
Gathering PI/SPO Input

• There are opportunities for the PI/SPO community to identify improvements to proposal submission
  − Talk to us at the R.gov booth
  − Volunteer to be interviewed
  − Attend/encourage participation in future forums (e.g. survey, webinars, conferences)

• To ensure you keep up-to-date on PSM efforts, sign up for the R.gov listserv: System Updates-subscribe-request@listserv.nsf.gov

Feedback and Questions