

panel presentation “Best Practices on Managing Funding Opportunities” will provide you with many new and successful strategies. For those tasked with motivating faculty and expanding your research enterprise, you will find the sessions “Encouraging a Research-Active Faculty” and Quality over Quantity: Developing, Incentivizing, and Showcasing Good Works” to be very valuable and full of proven ideas. Lastly, be sure to attend “Working in Perfect Harmony: Sponsored Programs Offices and Development Offices” to help overcome common obstacles in working with our fundraising colleagues.

Federal Track

The Federal track will bring you the latest from Washington, DC. We have agency updates by NSF, NIH, and ARPA-E officials, the latest news on public access, insights from the Council on Governmental Relations (COGR), and Gil Tran will enlighten and entertain us with “same/same but different” news on the Uniform Guidance. We are especially excited

that Sally Rockey will brief attendees on her new role at the Foundation for Food and Agricultural Research (FFAR) in a combined session with USDA. To augment the information from the federal representatives, we have planned follow on discussion groups to allow institutions to share strategies for complying with public access requirements and the special challenges faced by predominantly undergraduate institutions in implementing the Uniform Guidance.

As you can see, the 10th Annual PRA Conference is shaping up to be an outstanding meeting with offerings for everyone in a city no one can resist – New Orleans! So, register early for your opportunity to learn something new, enjoy great food, and connect with friends – new and old. You are sure to return from the conference recharged, re-energized, and ready to take on *Change, Challenge, and Opportunity*.

*Yours in Building for the Future,
Robyn and Laurianne*

National Academies Report on Federal Research Regulations and Reporting Requirements

The National Academy of Sciences Committee on Federal Research Regulations and Reporting Requirements recently released Part 1 of a two-part report entitled, *Optimizing The Nation's Investment in Academic Research: A New Regulatory Framework for the 21st Century*.

Among the overarching recommendations, the report suggests that the “regulatory regime” governing federally funded academic research should be critically reexamined and recalibrated. Specific to congressional action, the report recommends addressing a lack of uniformity in regulations, policies, forms and requirements; a risk stratified system of human subject protections; single IRB for multisite studies (with a standard set of policies and procedures and “a nationally uniform work-flow-based informatics infrastructure”); a unified approach to the care and use of research animals; several recommendations related to inspector generals (e.g., audit cost versus recovered costs, reexamining the methodology for identifying institutions for audit and reporting only audit resolution findings); and that OMB affirm that institutions may take advantage of the flexibility provided in the Uniform Guidance in documenting personnel

expenses. The report includes favorable recommendations specific to OMB related to subrecipient monitoring, the DS-2 and procurement and to federal agencies (e.g., greater use of just-in-time; a central repository for assurances and streamlining reporting).

Recommendations specific to research institutions include reviewing for excessive or unnecessary institutional policy created in response to federal regulations, and that universities foster a culture of integrity among academic leaders, faculty, post-docs, students, staff and administrators and “mete out appropriate sanctions” when behavior deviates from ethical and professional norms. The committee also recommends the creation of “a new mechanism, to include an active public-private forum and a designated official within government, to foster a more effective conception, development and harmonization of research policies”. The committee recommends that Congress create a self-funded, government-linked Research Policy Board (RPB) composed of 9-12 members from academic research institutions and 6-8 liaisons from federal agencies to serve as the “primary policy forum for discussions relating to the regulation of



federally funded research programs in academic research institutions” and an Associate Director, Academic Research Enterprise, within OSTP to serve as a principal contact point for the RPB; oversee the government-academic research partnership; work in partnership with OIRA to manage regulatory burden; and issue an annual report to congress related to the research partnership.

You can read Part 1 of the report here: <http://www.nap.edu/read/21803/chapter/1>

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