

RAC Minutes 11/9/06

I. Sandwich making contest. Contests scurried through a line in order to see who could make the best sandwich. Winners were decided by a panel of three judges. The winner was Victor. He gets to move on to American Sandwich in Los Angeles.

II. SRA Meeting Quebec

Karen Sack & Co.

Karen gave highlights from her trip. No postcards. She left the rugala (sp) on her desk. Please see her exhaustive notes. Here are some of the good points:

A. NIH updates

07 budget not final; until then awards non-competing at up to 80% of the prior level. Some of the audience knew that the NIH budget had not changed and they even knew the NIH budget amount which I found truly amazing. They should go on Jeopardy.

1. Priorities

- Biodefense
- Enhanced support for the New Investigators. Average age of the first R01 is continuing to get increase to about 42 years old, *which is young for a governor, but, I'm not sure if that's old in research years.*

2. New Pilot Programs

- NIH is showing a focus on new investigators as everyone's getting old.
- Karen pointed out that the new NIH/CSR pilot is really great for those on the cusp of being funded, *like me*, but not for those previously unscored, *like you*.

3. Multiple PI Pilot Program

- NIH big into this. See the link in Karen's notes.

4. Pathways to Independence!

K99/R00

- Again, NIH wants to increase the talent out there. K99 has no citizenship requirement.
- Funding level policy- again, another Karen link will take you to a chart of new and old funding levels.
- Health insurance will now get F/A. See chart. *There was some technical discussion as to how this works. I was impressed by the jargon.*

5. SBIRS

Hefty amount of funding set aside for this. 2.5% of 2.8Billion. *You do the math. Go dog go!*

6. Best part: 9/10/07- NGA's will now be sent as PDF's! No more ugly text in email.

7. Electronic submissions- NIH wants us all electronic 9/10/07.

New deadlines.

- See Karen's attachment of a list of electronic submission deadlines and a list of updated deadlines. NIH is spreading out the deadlines.
- NIH is proud and pleased to be part of the Grants.gov interagency working group.
- April 2007- Pureedge files go away. This will be replaced by the Adobe Forms server. Adobe rules.
- Note: special Button has been added to NIH Guide Announcement which allows you to access grants.gov application directly from the NIH Guide.

I am so sorry, these are so boring. I can't find the humor tonight.

8. Special note re: forms- make sure you are always using the right one. Then, in grant speak: 2A and R01 required for ten thirty-one. You copy?

** Note to self: become more useful. Become a nurse.*

9. Key personnel now goes up to 40. *Why are the 40's magical this month?*

10. Grants.gov page limits changed. *Groan, goes the group.*

R03 10 pages is now 13

R01 25 pages is now 28.

Everyone gains weight.

11. Resources:

Karen's notes contain many useful resources for your weekend enjoyment.

12.

Special Distinction:

SRA vs NCURA

SRA has broad appeal beyond University institutions. Includes non profits and for profits.

NCURA limits its membership to Universities.

II. SRA part II

Vanessa Foreman- Compliance

Vanessa also went to SRA and came back full of love for compliance.

A. Overview

1. Always room for compliance as the addition of Lynne Kingsley's office shows.
2. Financial stewards- Vanessa reminded us that we must carefully manage something entrusted to us: money.
3. Compliance comes from a partnership with PI, procurement, ORD, finance- all layers ensure greater compliance.

4. Internal controls- having these in place ensures to the stakeholder that his investment is secure.
5. A sound financial system also ensures that reports can be run regularly and easily to ensure accuracy.
6. (Lots of state chuckles.)

B. Control; process; structure- do you have enough people in place?
Did you adequately train your management personnel?

C. Cost Transfer Justification handout (see attached)

- Please refer to this and use these when doing transfers.
- Rule of state: transfer must be reasonable, allocable and allowed.
- Auditors are at Yale. Yale quipped that there's talk of putting up a building just for the auditors. Shucks, is it a reasonable cost? How about a trailer?
- Auditors are at most of the top 25 institutions, so expect them here soon. (*Why? We have people soft. We're gold, Pony Boy.*)

Breaking news: Bill Hoffman is the new Admin Dir for the GCRC. He carried Karen's bags at the SRA event. He came back to work at UMB. They always come back.

III, IV, V COEUS!

Marjorie Forster introduction:

Dennis Paffroff- new ORD person. He's responsible for the date to mgmt of grant/contracts. Issue, problem, query? Go directly to him, then Janet, then Jim, then Marj, *then burn a candle, then pray, then drive in your car, then stop at a beach, then ditch the laptop, then sit in the sun. RAC will still be here next year when you, like Bill Hoffman, return.*

Dennis treated us to an overview of COEUS which by now, looks familiar.

1. COEUS is being rolled out on campus.
First, SOM, then NURSING, then others.
As each school is assimilated into the collective, a new person is added to the structure.
An executive level steering committee is driving the process.
2. Soon will come a power users meeting.
3. Proposal Development fist link on chain. Goad- system up and running Feb 07.
December training to understand roles. (Does it sound like déjà vu? What will we be trained on next December?)
4. Goal 2: support federal e-submission Oct 2007.

5. COeUS supports only some type of proposals, so we will mix and match how to get the full on shift to e-submits.

Yes, you build it and dept training will come.

6. Data Conversions will take the old system into COEUS.

1. There will be integration into people soft.
2. There will also be portal integration.
3. *My brain to your brain.*

7. COEUS – part of a consortium. So as one member adds a new e- form, we will have it. That's kind of like file swapping. Very cool.

You'll see an announcement "these forms are now available in COEUS"

Are you asleep yet? I know, these are very dry. But COEUS is good for the soul. Chant it. COEUS, COEUS, Coeus, coeus, go coeus, coeus. I dreamt I could talk to dogs and they could hear me.

8. COEUS –quick views- we saw some screens that we will see again related to proposal development.

- Click on a proposal view button and lift through the tables.
- It's cool because you can find your data. Everything fits via a bunch of logical pieces.
- Fill them as you need to.
- PA number- you'll need to this. Enter it in COEUS and it will pull from g.gov what forms are available.
- You can use COEUS to check NIH Commons.
- A cellphone rings.

9. CRUX: by filling out the fields, COEUS will complete the forms for you and at the same time store your data.

If only we had a requisition system that could do that.

10. The data in COEUS creates backup reports for the back of house.

11. Maintains data. A repository of information. You will never be asked to find anything. Restated: you'll be asked to find; you'll just look in COEUS.

Do I need a shadow system for COEUS?

12. P/Soft has award data, but COEUS has more data. COEUS will not replace p/soft so stop that rumor right now.

13. Once COEUS is alive, routing forms will be unnecessary. *Hmm. Another paperless system! Anyone miss the payroll entry form?*

14. Attachments will be allowed and this process will be decided in committee *while my people are suffering on the planet.*

15. COEUS cannot open records concurrently.

16. Gist: file- pi- coeus- ord- submits
There will be a means to track submissions.

17 .Big feature: if your proposal comes back, you don't have to retype! *Just copy and past because you know you can't do that in Word.*

18. Keep thinking about improving this process. More on COEUS to come!!!

VIII. Effort report

Training is out there

Admins have been trained

Faculty communication coming.

Faculty will enter and complete their own effort. *Right.*

FINISHED! Finally! Finally! Yah! Yahoo! Weekend!