Speaker

• Samantha Brewton Hunter
  ▪ Senior Grant Policy Specialist
  ▪ Policy Office, Division of Institution & Award Support Office of Budget, Finance & Award Management
  ▪ shunter@nsf.gov; policy@nsf.gov
Topics Covered

- PAPPG Proposed Significant Changes & Clarifications
- Proposed Changes to Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support
- Research Protection Policy Implementation
- NSF Policy FAQs
- Proposal Submission in Research.gov
- NSF Outreach
PAPPG Implementation Schedule

• Spring 2019 – Federal Register for public comment

• Comments were submitted by July 29, 2019 in response to proposed changes

• PAPPG is typically posted in October, with an implementation date in January
NSF and SciENcv

- In the draft PAPPG, NSF announced that it will only accept PDFs for the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support that are generated through use of an NSF-approved format.

- NSF announced that SciENcv was selected as an NSF-approved format for the biographical sketch and encouraged faculty to begin using the NSF template in SciENcv.

- NSF has been working with NIH to ensure that the biographical sketch template in SciENcv meets all NSF formatting and content requirements.

- NSF also is collaborating with NIH to develop a template for use in submission of Current and Pending Support information.
Biographical Sketch and SciENcv Resources

SciENcv: Science Experts Network Curriculum Vitae
A researcher profile system for all individuals who apply for, receive or are associated with research investments from federal agencies. SciENcv is available in My NCBI.

SciENcv FAQs
- What is SciENcv?
- Who operates SciENcv?
- How can our institutional systems interface with SciENcv?
- Where can I find the data schema for SciENcv?

What is SciENcv?
Science Experts Network Curriculum Vitae (SciENcv)

What operates SciENcv?
SciENcv is a cooperative project requested by the NCBI and sponsored by the National Library of Medicine. In collaboration with FDR, the product is being built in partnership with NCBI, the National Library of Medicine (NLM), The Health Information Network (HIN), the National Science Foundation (NSF), and The National Cancer Institute (NCI).

How can our institutional profile systems interface?
There is a plan to establish an interface with API to download and as an attachment of the PDF download.

Where can I find the data schema for SciENcv?
The SciENcv data schema is available here.
Proposed PAPPG Clarification: Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research (RECR)

- RECR involves not only a responsibility to generate and disseminate knowledge with rigor and integrity, but also a responsibility to:
  - Conduct peer review with the highest ethical standards;
  - Diligently protect proprietary information and intellectual property from inappropriate disclosure; and
  - Treat students and colleagues fairly and with respect.
PAPPG Proposed Significant Changes & Clarifications

• Submission of government-wide proposal representations and certifications

• Participant Support clarification

• Publication/Documentation/Dissemination Costs
Research Protection – Dear Colleague Letter

- Committed to maintaining strength of US research and engineering enterprise.
- Risks associated with foreign endeavors to benefit without upholding openness, transparency and reciprocal collaboration.
- NSF is taking steps to mitigate risks in convert with other agencies and stakeholders
  - Reminder of Federal ethics rules sent to NSF staff
  - Sources of support (both foreign and domestic) are required of all senior project personnel
  - Issued policy making it clear that NSF personnel may not participate in foreign government talent recruitment programs
If a postdoc is listed as a co-PI in a proposal and is committing 100% effort to the project, does the 2-month rule apply?
The two month rule applies to all senior personnel. As a general policy, NSF limits the salary compensation requested in the proposal budget for senior personnel to no more than two months of their regular salary in any one year. This policy does, however, allow for flexibility to request more than two months of salary per year, when applicable. If proposers request more than two months, the needed salary support should be put on the proposal budget and will need to be very well justified in the budget justification. If more than 2 months is approved by NSF, it will be included on the award budget.

Is the definition of a participant based on the primary purpose of the attendance or is it based on the length of conference attendance?
Speakers and trainers generally are not considered participants and should not be included in this section of the budget. However, if the primary purpose of the individual’s attendance at the conference is learning and receiving training as a participant, then the costs may be included under participant support. If the primary purpose is to speak or assist with management of the conference, then such costs should be budgeted in appropriate categories other than participant support. The determination of whether a person is a participant or not is based on the primary purpose of the individual’s attendance at the event. The length of time they are attending the event is irrelevant.
Recent Questions to policy@nsf.gov

Our institution has two branch campuses. How would NSF consider this when submitting proposals that limit the number of proposals an institution can submit? Let’s say the solicitation limits the number of proposals an institution can submit to three. NSF's long-standing stance on the definition of "organization" is that, in addition to having its own DUNS number and being registered in FastLane, organizations must have separate Sponsored Projects Offices that have the ability to submit proposals directly to NSF.

The PI of a declined proposal left our institution. We would like to submit a similar proposal, however, we cannot access the reviews of the declined proposal. Does the intellectual property in this situation belong to the PI or the submitting institution? The institution would need to look at their employment contracts with their professions/employees. Our understanding is that usually institutions allow the employee to own the IP with respect to things the employee has written, such as articles, etc., so that may apply to a funding proposal as well, but the contract could provide that funding proposal submissions belong to the institution. It’s a question the institution would need to answer.

If a grad student is appointed to an NSF funded grant, is it required that they are a US Citizen?
Some solicitations may establish eligibility restrictions for students participating on NSF-funded projects and if so, the guidance in the solicitation must be followed. As a general rule, however, unless otherwise stated in the solicitation, NSF grantees are allowed to provide grant funds to non-U.S. citizens who are working on an NSF award.
Proposal Submission in Research.gov – Current and Upcoming Capabilities

- **April 2018**: Full Research Non-collaborative Proposals
- **Sept. 2018**: Enhancement
- **Feb. 2019**: Collaborative Full Research Proposals with Subawards
- **June 2019**: Enhancement
- **Aug. 2019**: Enhancement
- **Sept. 2019**: Enhancement
- **Oct. 2019**: Collaborative Full Research from Multiple Organizations
- **FY 20**: Future Development and Eventual FastLane Retirement
Why Prepare Proposals in Research.gov?

You are helping to build Research.gov.

Here are some of the features that proposers are enjoying:

• Integrated compliance checks for fonts, margins, and line spacing
• Real-time compliance feedback and alerts, so proposers know a proposal section is compliant before moving on to another section
• Specific checks on the budget screens and for Collaborators and Other Affiliations (COA) uploads
• A few seconds to upload documents versus 30-90 seconds for each document upload in FastLane
• Embedded relevant sections of the Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG) and video job aids, so proposers don't have to go to multiple sites to access guidance and tools
Getting Help When Preparing Proposals in Research.gov

Project Description Upload Screenshot

**Project Description** *(Including Results from Prior NSF Support)*

Instructions to upload Project Description:

- Please refer to the [Format of the proposal (PAPPG)](#) for all margin and spacing requirements and the [Proposal Preparation Site Document Upload FAQs](#) for font type and size requirements.
- File cannot exceed 15 pages total, and the Results from Prior NSF Support section must be 5 pages or less. (Please note: Certain solicitations may provide different guidance to follow. In these cases, please follow the solicitation and use FastLane to prepare the proposal)
- Maximum file size permitted is 10 MB
- Only 1 document can be uploaded
- Accepted file types include: Adobe PDF
- Your file must include separate section headings for Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts. If applicable, the section heading Results from Prior NSF Support must also be included. To be valid, a heading must be on a new line with another text on that line.
- Guidance should be followed on when to include Results from Prior NSF Support
- Hyperlinks (URLs) must not be used in the Project Description
- Your document should not contain page numbers, as they will be added automatically by the system.

Additional Resources and Information

- [Research.gov About Proposal Preparation and Submission webpage](#) – Includes links to instructional videos and FAQs
- [Automated Proposal Compliance Checks for Proposals Submitted via Research.gov](#) - Effective June 24, 2019
- NSF Help Desk: 1-800-381-1532 (7:00 AM - 9:00 PM ET; Monday - Friday except federal holidays) or via email to [rgov@nsf.gov](mailto:rgov@nsf.gov)
- Sign up for Research.gov and FastLane listserv updates. Send a blank email to [system_updates-subscribe-request@listserv.nsf.gov](mailto:system_updates-subscribe-request@listserv.nsf.gov) to be automatically enrolled
Upcoming NSF.gov, FastLane, and Research.gov Extended Outage

- Systems unavailable **Friday, November 8 at 8:00 PM EST until Tuesday, November 12 at 6:00 AM EST** (Veterans Day weekend)
  - No access to NSF website, FastLane, and Research.gov
  - Proposals cannot be prepared or submitted in FastLane or Research.gov
  - Project reports and cash requests cannot be submitted in Research.gov

- NSF is migrating its business applications to a modern and flexible platform, and making updates to correct text errors (e.g., special characters displaying as question marks in proposals and project reports)

- Subscribe to our System Updates listserv to stay in the know! Sign up by sending a blank email to: **system_updates-subscribe-request@listserv.nsf.gov** to be automatically enrolled
NSF Outreach

- NSF Grants Conference
- PAPPG Update Webinars
- NSF Grants Conference Video Library

https://nsfgrantsconferences.com
For More Information:

Ask Early, Ask Often!

policy@nsf.gov