GPAC Notes – July

Data on PHS Submissions
Tracy reviewed a list of reasons for errors in processing awards. The group discussed the value of the data ongoing, and while the list of usual issues is nice to have, there wasn’t an overall need for the statistics. The Grants Office will likely discontinue the use of the report.

Presentation Material: Transferring grants in and out of the Institution
The grants office is putting together a presentation on transfers of grant for this fall. GPAC was asked for any areas that might need to be addressed.

Suggestions:
- Biospecimens – and the UMMS policy regarding biospecimen ownership and transfer
- Material transfers
- IP issues
- Decommissioning labs
- Equipment for grants that have ended (belong to U, not to PI)
- Budgetary allocations: including how the first year activity should be structured regarding directs and indirects
- HR RIF notices, vacation payouts (and their timing, e.g. if the employee ends after the grant ended, then the U, not the grant, must pay.)
- For incoming PIs, there may be purchases of equipment needed from another institution, which requires an unusual sort of procurement sole-sourcing
- Graduate students coming in but retaining ties to their old institution

It was noted that Pat Ward has been working on post-transfer access to IT and data systems and has an Offboarding checklist. This is not (yet) on the Regulatory Affairs webpage, but Pat can send it to any team on request.

Electronic Budget Reallocation Form (7471)
This will soon be tested and is expected to go live Oct. 1. Departments will need to decide what their business process is regarding signatures – the system will only require the signature of the SAPOC. It is up to the unit if they want the PI agreement documented and uploaded to the system.

Research Administrator Network & RAAC Committee Volunteers
RAN meetings are being changed from 4 to 3 times per year. A request has been made that they stream these meetings. They are developing a set of suggestions about communications methods and when different ones should be use. UMMS volunteers are still needed for participants on the communication and training committees. If you are interested in a RAAC Subcommittee, contact Heather.
Visibility of All Projects in eRPM
There is a discussion about a change in access to seeing projects in eRPM PAF projects, which would potentially allow any department approver to see any grant. No one expressed a concern or problem with this proposal.

Other Support for NIH
Project Teams have been receiving rejected Other Support documents back from the NIH. Generally, do not use 0% or 0 Calendar months listed for a project. These have been sent back for “clarification” on why no effort is listed. Use explanatory phrases such as: Effort supported by / concurrent with K-award grant #... This will direct NIH how to review the effort. Mentoring can also list up to 5% effort as long as it is concurrent with ongoing effort.

Partnership Level Agreements
ORSP is trying to capture useful metrics. One metric to potentially measure is the “Project Team Request ORSP Action”; but, that might not be the most useful metric to capture as it may not represent the real areas of concern/pain that administrators feel.

Staff Changes
Mike Yiu and Kate Althouse have left the office. Positions will be posted. April Miller starts next week as the Pre / Post award administrator for MSA / HHC / EVPMA.

There will be no meeting in August.